

A Study on One Compound Complex Sentence for Constructive Learning Platform of L₂ Learners

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ABSTRACT

This study is about the one compound complex sentence for constructive learning platform for the L₂ learners to construct the sentences in a meaningful way and also it would facilitate the L₂ learners while writing reports which are essential for the informants in their higher studies and also at their career to lead convenient style by writing effectively for good platform.

For this study, the data has been collected from the first year Mechatronics Engineering Students to identify their problems and their difficulties experienced by the second language (L₂) learners. The total target of the first year engineering students for this study is 35.

KEY WORDS: Difficulties in sentence construction, Less Practice, compound complex sentence structure, structural formation.

1. INTRODUCTION

Language is one of the wonderful creations of man. Language plays a vital role in everyone's life and serves a number of purposes on an everyday basis. With language at his side, man can do wonderful things in life - send an artificial satellite to Earth's natural satellite and record its voice, or travel back thousands of years to understand the cultures of Greek and Indus valley civilization and the way they communicated, or to create a rich literature which impart legacies, or even to fulfill the regular day to day things such as thinking, creating ideas, convincing, cajoling, negotiating, motivating, etc.

2. WRITING SKILL

Writing as a skill can be defined in various ways. It can start with the mechanics of writing which need to be taught at the primary stages as the holding of the pen, positioning of the paper, the proper way to illuminate the desk, and other similar features. This further leads to the production of single letters of the alphabets, their combination to form words and sentences, and the use of punctuation. But we are concerned with this. What we are concerned is writing as total.

3. SYNTHESIS OF SENTENCES

3.1 SIMPLE SENTENCE:

A simple sentence expresses a complete thought and contains a subject and a verb. An example would be: “Kannan went to the library to study”. A simple sentence may have a compound subject, meaning more than one, but it is still considered as simple sentence. An example is: “Ravi and Mala are getting married”.

3.2 COMPLEX SENTENCE:

A complex sentence has one independent clause (sentence) and at least one dependent clause. A dependent clause has a subject and a verb, but is not a complete thought, so it cannot stand alone. These two clauses are joined by a Marker word, like: after, although, as, as if, because, even, while.

An example is: “He went to the party after he did his chores”.

3.3 COMPOUND SENTENCE:

A compound sentence has two simple sentences, or two independent clauses. The clauses are connected with a coordinator or coordinating conjunction, or with a semi colon. Two examples are: “Murugan waited for the bus, and it arrived on time” and “You have waited very patiently; finally, the day has arrived”.

3.4 ONE COMPOUND COMPLEX SENTENCE

A compound complex sentence contains a coordinating conjunction and an adverb or relative clause.

Eg. I would like to read the books which were written by Thomas Hardy, but they are not available.

4. SAMPLE COLLECTION DATA

Combine the sentence to make one compound complex sentence.

In this exercise, I would like to discuss two questions out of ten which were taken as samples for discussing the performance of the students

4.1 QUESTION NO.1

Sheila loves red. The mustang is red, but she might wait a few months.

Expected answer: As she loves red, Sheila wants to buy the mustang, or she wants to wait for a few months.

RECEIVED ANSWER:

1. Sheila loves red that mustang is red but she might wait a few months.
2. Sheila loves red and wants to buy the mustang so she waits a few months.

4.2 QUESTION NO.2

We will miss our father greatly. He taught us many lessons. Those lessons have helped us succeed in life

EXPECTED ANSWER: Our father taught us many lessons which helped us succeed in life, and we will miss him greatly.

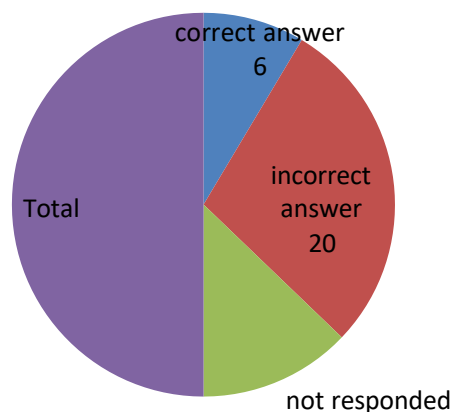
RECEIVED ANSWERS:

1. My father taught us many lessons to succeed in life and we miss him greatly.
2. We will miss our father that he taught us many lessons have helped us.

4.3 PERFORMANCE OF THE STUDENTS FOR THE FIRST QUESTION:

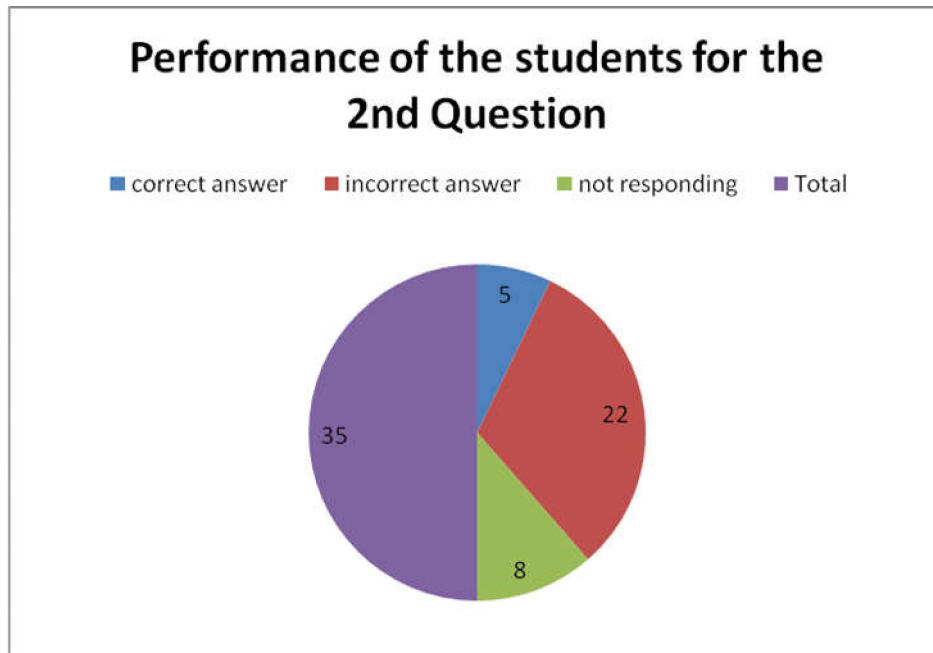
SL. NO	CORRECT ANSWER	INCORRECT ANSWER	NOT RESPONDED	TOTAL
1	6	20	9	35

Performance of the students for the 1st Question.



4.3 PERFORMANCE OF THE STUDENTS FOR THE SECOND QUESTION:

SL. No	CORRECT ANSWER	INCORRECT ANSWER	NOT RESPONDED	TOTAL
1	5	22	8	35



For the above questions from this exercise (one compound complex sentence) only a few students were able to combine the sentence correctly because the students did not know the rule and its function of this topic. In question no. 1 only 6 were able to give the correct answer while 20 got wrong answer and 9 not responded out of 35. In question no.2, only 5 were able to give the correct answer whereas 22 got wrong answer and 8 not responded.

5. LEARNERS' KNOWLEDGE IN THE ONE COMPOUND COMPLEX SENTENCE

The data was collected from the first year Mechatronics Engineering students. The total target of the informants was 35 for this study. The study reveals that the learners were not ably practicing the use of certain parts of grammar like complex and compound sentences, phrasal verbs etc., in the English class room during their school days. When the learners move to the college level they found it difficult to frame the sentences with correct structural formation in English. Therefore, the learners were expected to expose themselves to practice certain parts of grammar in English which is necessary to improve their writing skill.

6. DIFFICULTIES FACED BY THE STUDENTS TO COMBINE THE SENTENCES INTO ONE COMPOUND COMPLEX SENTENCE

This study enumerates that the informants found it very difficult to combine sentences into one compound complex sentence because the students were not aware of the rules and its functions of simple, compound and complex sentences. This is due to less practice and also the learners were not focused in learning certain parts of grammar in the English class room. Therefore, grammar should be taught with interest by the English teacher by using real life examples and also the teacher has to modify his/ her teaching according to the level, capacity and what the students expect from the teacher to make interesting to learn English language happily.

REMEDIAL MEASURES

The following remedial measures would help the learners to perform well.

1. English teacher should teach the grammar topic with interest by explaining with more real life examples.
2. The teacher should teach according to the background of the learners in the classroom.
3. The English teacher should drill the learners to be thorough in grammar by making the learners do the exercises independently once the topic was completed.
4. Teaching methodology in teaching grammar is to be modified by teacher according to the expectations of the learners.

7. CONCLUSION

This study has identified the problems and difficulties among the learners of L₂ in combining one compound complex sentence through samples collected from first year Mechatronics Engineering students. Hereby, the study reveals that the learners of L₂, even the students studied in English medium background in their schools were not up to the expected level, where the teacher anticipated good responses from them. So, this should be taken care of by the English teacher and moreover, it is their responsibility. Hence, only through effective practice and training the learners would be able to enhance their use of English.

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