5.10 Summary

In this chapter we have distinguished:

(a) In addition to the clause elements *P* (predicator), *S* (subject), *O* (object), *C* (complement) and *A* (adverbial), the peripheral elements *Voc* (vocative), *cj* (conjunction) and *ij* (interjection); also *Od* (direct object) and *Oi* (indirect object), *Cs* (subject complement) and *Co* (object complement).

(b) Main clauses (MCl) and subordinate clauses (SCl), which are parts of other clauses.

(c) Declarative, interrogative and imperative as categories of MCl.

(d) Clause patterns $[S\,P]$, $[S\,P\,O]$, $[S\,P\,Oi]$, $[S\,P\,C]$, $[S\,P\,O\,C]$, $[S\,P\,A]$ and $[S\,P\,O\,A]$.

(e) Three kinds of non-finite clause: infinitive (Cii), -*ing* (Cing), and -*en* (Clen) clauses.

Exercises

Exercise 5a (answers on p. 205)
Identify the *clause structures* (in terms of *P, S, O, C, A*) of the following:

1. [(My wife) (always) (has) (a good cry) (over a wedding)].
2. [(That story about live alligators in the canal) (has been denied)].
3. [(All of them) (were worrying) (about their own problems)].
4. [(The police) (caught) (the thief) (red-handed)].
5. [(We) ('ll release) (Reggie's act) (once again)].
6. [(On wages policy), (the leader of the opposition) (is being) (extremely cautious)].
7. [(No doubt) (they) (will tell) (us) (the same old story) (tomorrow)].

Exercise 5b (answers on p. 205)
Now identify the *phrase classes* of the clause elements in the above sentences.

Exercise 5c (answers on p. 205)
Distinguish the clause structures of these pairs:

1. The porter called me a taxi.
   The porter called me a blackguard.
2. Max was ogling a girl with red hair.
   Max was ogling a girl with brazen audacity.
3. Lesley sounds an interesting girl.
   Lesley knows an interesting girl.

4. He found his secretary a reliable typewriter.
   He found his secretary a reliable typist.
5. Most of us are working this evening.
   Most of us are dreading this evening.

Exercise 5d (answers on p. 205)
Identify the *clause patterns* (see Table 5.3, p. 85) of the sentences in Exercise 5a, by deleting optional adverbials.

Exercise 5e (answers on p. 205)
Grammatical ambiguities play a part in some (often rather feeble) jokes. Explain how the following jokes exploit ambiguities of clause structure and/or word meaning:

1. 'The police are looking for a man with one eye.' 'Typical inefficiency!'
2. 'How do you get down from an elephant?' 'You don't - you get down from a duck.'
3. 'You've been working in the garden for hours. What are you growing?' 'Tired.'
4. 'Job cursed the day he was born.' 'They must have grown up early in those days.'

Exercise 5f (answers on p. 206)
Parse fully the following sentences, by drawing tree diagrams as recommended in 5.9:

1. [(No man) (is) (an island)].
2. [(You) (have been eating) (too many green olives) (recently)].
3. [(Dad) ('s given) (the carol singers) (a cheque (for a thousand pounds))].

(In labelling constituents of the verb phrase, restrict yourself to *Aux, Mv, v* and *V*.)