

Avoiding repetition



Using pronouns

Derek Foster worked in advertizing after the war. **He** became a professional painter in the early 60s.

-Use **they/them** for people in the singular when you are talking generally about males/females: *If you ask an artist how they started painting, **they**'ll frequently say their grandfather and grandmother taught them.*

-Use **himself/herself/themselves**, etc. when the object is the same as subject: ***He** poured **himself** a glass of water.* (Compared with: **He** poured **him** a glass of water, when him refers to a different person)

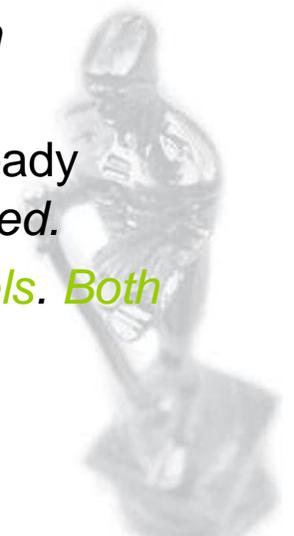
-Use **it, this, that, these, those** to refer to the things last mentioned: *Artists now have a vast range of materials at their disposal. **This** means that they can be much more versatile than in the past.*

-That is often used when giving reasons: ***The artist's my cousin** and **that's** why I'm here.*



One, another, the ones, the other (s), both, neither, all, none:

- Use *one* to refer to singular countable nouns from a group. Use A(n)... one with an adjective: *There are several excellent exhibitions on in London at the moment. I strongly recommend the one at the National gallery. I've bought a lot of new shirts recently, but for gardening I prefer to wear an old one.*
- Use *another* to refer to the second, third, etc. singular countable noun from a group: *One picture showed a girl combing her hair. Another was of the same girl dancing.*
- Use *ones* to avoid repeating a plural noun: *I enjoy romantic films, especially sad ones.*
- Use *the other* when referring to the second of two things/people already mentioned: *Pablo has two houses. One is in Sao Paolo and the other is in Singapore.*
- Use *the other* when referring to the res of a number of things/people already mentioned: *Most of the actors went to a party. The others went home to bed.*
- Use *both and neither* to refer to two things/people: *He's written two novels. Both became bestsellers almost immediately. Neither is autobiographically.*



- Use *all* and *none* to refer to more than two things/people: *He's written **twenty-three novels** and I've read all of them. Mariella invited **all her friends** to a party but **none of them** came.*



Using auxiliary/modal verbs

- We can avoid repeating words by using an auxiliary verb: *A year ago I **couldn't speak any Turkish**, but now I **can**. Not many people **have read** 'The Dungeon' and I'm one of the few that **have**.*
- Use a form of do to replace a verb in the present or past simple. *I really **enjoy good comedy films**, but then I think everyone **does**. In contrast, not everyone **likes science fiction films**, although I have to admit that I **do**.*



Using so

- Use so to avoid repeating a sentence: *Do you think **Real Madrid will win the championship again?** – I guess **so**.* (=I guess they will win the championship again.)
- Use *do so* to avoid repeating a verb + the words which follow: *I told my students to **hand in the writing task on Monday** and nearly all of them **did so**.* (=handed in the writing task on Monday)



Omitting words

-It is sometimes possible to use *to* instead of a phrase beginning with *to* and to omit the rest: *Kate suggested **going to the ballet**, but I didn't want **to**. Do **call me** if you are able **to**. I'd like to be able to **solve your problems** but I just don't know how **to**.*

- Source: Guy Brook-Hart, Simon Haines, CAE, Student's Book

