



November 21, 2023

## Common English Errors for Korean authors

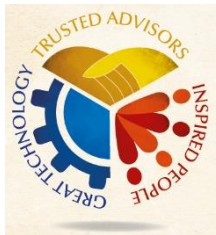
**Eu, Jinseung**

Editage Academic Trainer & Consultant

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- 시카고대 철학 학사
- Editage Academic Trainer & Consultant
- 옥스퍼드 출판사 영한사전 컨설턴트
- 능률 한영사전 선임연구원
- 서울대학교 영작문 강사

## AHCI 학술지 논문

- English Language and Linguistics,  
**Cambridge University Press**
- Language Sciences, **Elsevier**
- Corpus Linguistics and Linguistic Theory,  
**Mouton de Gruyter**

Encyclopedia of Language and Linguistics,  
**Elsevier**



사전

유의어사전

영어사전

사람



고급 검색

전체 | 단어·속어 | 뜻풀이 | 예문 | 영영사전

T

T

연관검색어 **사람들** people 인간 person 친구 human man 생각 존재 옷 가족  
men 자연 문제 선물 집 왜냐하면 다른 학생 모습

단어·속어 3,014

글로벌 발음듣기

**사람** +

1. (인간) person (pl. people), human (being), soul; (집합적) man (pl. men)
2. (인격체)
3. (뒹뒹이, 성질) personality, character

ET-house 능률 한영사전

# Direction

My lectures will be about:

Advanced English writing for Korean academic writers.

- Words, phrases, constructions, and style
- Difference between Korean and English

# Workshop Outline

## 1. Confusing words and constructions

1. Active voice vs. passive voice

## 2. Clear, natural and elegant style of writing

1. Conciseness (간결함)

2. Parallel construction (대칭구문)

# 1. Confusing words and constructions

## Active voice vs. passive voice



Korean and English use the voice very differently.

Passive Korean sentence → active English sentence

- 갑자기 문이 열렸다      The door **opened** suddenly.
- 책이 잘 팔린다.      The book is **selling** well.
- 계약은 곧 만료된다      The contract will **expire** soon.

So let's learn how English uses the voice.



## Korean

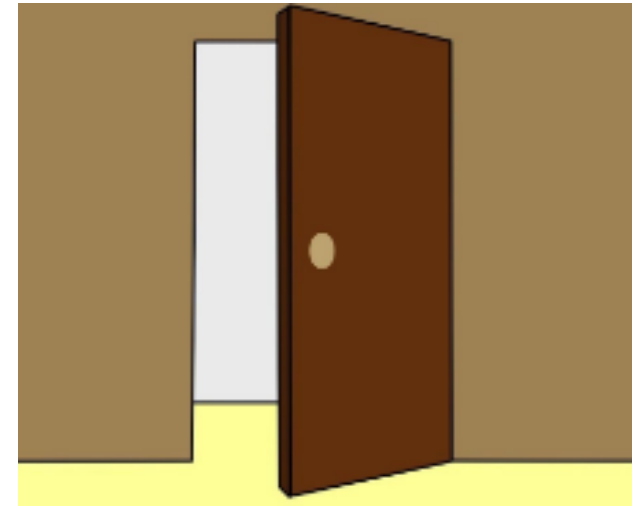
## Importance

## English

문이 열렸다

동생이 문을 열었다

환기를 위해 문을 열었다



- The window **broke** suddenly.
- My driver side back window **broke** and now I am looking for a replacement for it.
- In each trial, the window **was broken** with a crowbar by an individual standing 0.5 m away.
  
- The book is **selling** well in Ethiopia, and there is even talk of exporting copies to the USA.
- The book used to be free, but 1992 marks the first year that the book is **being sold**.
  
- In March 2010, an emailed rumor **spread** through Hong Kong's Western expatriate community describing an attempted kidnapping of a Caucasian boy by two Chinese women.
- Though the rumor **was spread** through email, people's reactions were very much like responses to oral rumors.
  
- The contract will **expire** soon.
- The contract will **be expired**. **✗** / The contract will **be terminated** soon. **✓**

“The window **broke** suddenly” 177 results

“The window **was broken** suddenly” 0 results

“The book is **selling** well” 28,500 results

“The book is **being sold** well” 5 results

“The contract will **expire** soon” 10,600 results

“The contract will **be expired** soon” 0 results

“The contract will **terminate** soon” 881 results

“The contract will **be terminated** soon” 5,390 results

The Google logo is displayed in its characteristic multi-colored font (blue, red, yellow, green, red) against a white background.

# Exercise

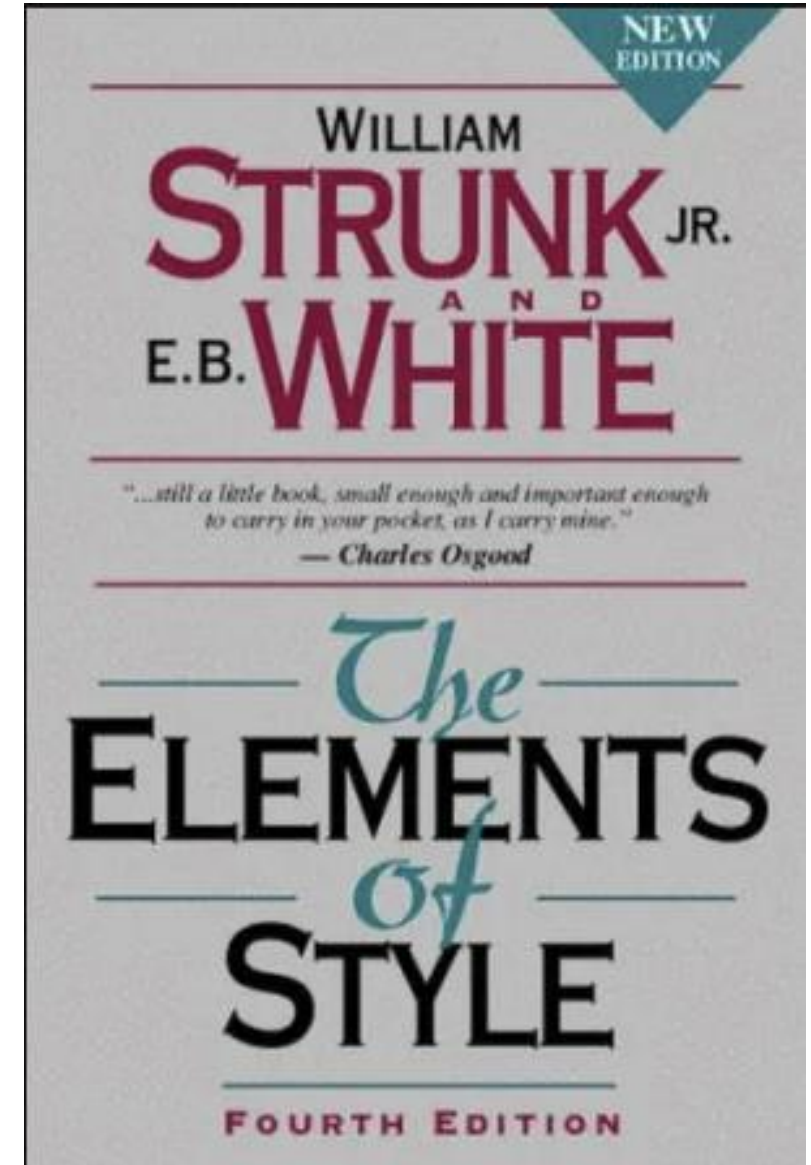
1. The test room was pressurized to a specific level and then the door **opened / was opened** to observe the trail of the smoke. (*PLOS One*)
2. Something has **changed / been changed** in the culture of academic science over the last decades. (*Science in the private interest: Has the lure of profits corrupted biomedical research?*)
3. In order to make the data anonymous, we edited some answers from free text fields. We marked the corresponding parts with <> to indicate that something **changed / was changed** . (*A Survey on the Relevance of the Performance of Model Transformations*)
4. No matter how hard you try, it is almost inevitable that your car will **scratch / be scratched** .
5. Nerves are continually remaking their connections and injured nerve cells can **regenerate / be regenerated** . (*Capitalism Nature Socialism*)

## 2. Clear, natural and elegant style



*The Elements of Style* by Strunk & White is widely acclaimed as a classic guide for writing.

Among the style elements the book introduces, we will today discuss **conciseness** (간결함) and **parallel construction** (대칭구문).





## 2. Clear, natural and elegant style

Conciseness (간결함)



“**Omit needless words.** Vigorous writing is **concise**. A sentence should contain no unnecessary words, a paragraph no unnecessary sentences, for the same reason that a drawing should have no unnecessary lines and a machine no unnecessary parts”. (Strunk & White, p. 23)

Examples from the book include:

- |  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| ➤ used for fuel purposes               | → used for fuel     |
| ➤ in a hasty manner                    | → hastily           |
| ➤ call your attention to the fact that | → remind you that   |
| ➤ in spite of the fact that            | → though (although) |
| ➤ the fact that he had not succeeded   | → his failure       |
| ➤ the fact that I had arrived          | → my arrival        |

Korean writers frequently err in conciseness because a literal translation of Korean often produces wordy or wrong English:

영어**실력**: improve my English ability → improve my English.

청취**력**: improve my listening ability → improve my listening.

상상**력**: imagination (imagination power X, imagination ability X, imagination skill X)

집중**력** concentration / 분별**력**: discrimination / 관찰**력**: observation

- Use your **imagination**.
- Train your **concentration** like a muscle.
- Color **discrimination** declines with age. (*Science Daily*)
- He has a sharp **observation** of life and people and sees humor in almost everything.  
(*Strand Theatre*)

표현력: expression, expressiveness, expressive power

- The purpose of this course is to develop your **expression** and your oral **comprehension** in a professional context. (*Université de Montpellier*)
- Her voice is remarkable for its purity and emotional **expressiveness**. (*Cambridge*)
- Humanities will be part of your studies, with a view to enriching your **expressive power** and improving your **communication skills**. (*Istituto Europeo di Design*)

When there is a possibility of confusion, a full specification is required.

- improve your **communication skills**: 소통력  
Improve your **communication**: 통신 경험, 편의성
- Improve your **driving skills**: 운전 기술  
Improve your **driving**: 운전 경험

인문학 humanities (humanities science X)

경영학 business administration

회계학 accounting

건축학 architecture

의학 medicine

가치관 values

간호학 nursing (science)

사회학 social **science**

정치학 politics, political **science**

생물학 **biology**, 지리학 **geology**

수학 **mathematics**, 정보학 **informatics**

인생관 view of life

결혼관 view of marriage

- **Information Systems** is a relatively young discipline, compared to more traditional disciplines such as the natural sciences. (정보시스템학) (*ICB research report*)
- Students who have a specialized interest in the food industry would have the option for a major in **food and nutrition**. (식품영양학)
- We have different **values / views of life / views of marriage**.

합의사항 agreement(s) (agreed items X, agreement items X) = 합의서  
성과(물) achievement(s)  
개선사항 improvement(s)  
통지사항 notification(s) = 통지서  
권장사항 recommendation(s)  
변경사항 change(s)  
제출물 submission(s)

- The **changes** are marked in red in the revised manuscript.
- Your **submission** needs to convince readers that your concerns are important.
- How do I manage **notifications** on my phone? (*Cambridge*)



# Exercise

1. The execution of the Jerusalem trial was just another chapter in the long history of **유대인들의 정치적 판단력의 결여**. (*Alternatives*)
2. **법치주의** is an ideology designed to limit the power of government. (*An Interpretation of 'Law in Context'*)
3. What is often lost in the debate between **자유시장주의와 정부개입주의** is that competitive markets require centralization of the governance structure in order to establish the prerequisites for unhampered bilateral exchange. (*Specialization, and the Coevolution of Agricultural Institutions*)
4. Participants pressed a submit button to enter **선택한 것** and received feedback on whether **입력한 것** was correct or not. (*Proceedings of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Annual Meeting*)
5. The company issued a statement saying the sale was prompted by his need to pay **이혼 합의금**  
(*UCF Theses and Dissertations*)

## 2. Clear, natural and elegant style

Parallel construction (대칭구문)



“**Express coordinate ideas in similar form.** This principle, that of parallel construction, requires that the expressions similar in content and function should be **outwardly similar**. The likeness of form enables the reader to recognize more readily the likeness content and function”.  
(Strunk & White p. 23)

➤ Formerly, science was taught by the **textbook method**, while now the **laboratory method** is employed.

→ Formerly, science was taught by the **textbook method**; now it is taught by the **laboratory method**.

➤ My objections are, first, the **injustice** of measure; second, that it is **unconstitutional**.

→ My objections are, first, that the measure is **unjust**; second, that it is **unconstitutional**.

➤ It was both a **long** ceremony and very **tedious**.

→ The ceremony was both **long** and **tedious**.

# Exercise

**Revise the following sentences as parallel constructions.**

1. We conclude that the main factors include: legislation implementation, government support, and how aware the society is.
2. We plan to collect data by either using an online survey or phone interviews.
3. The edge devices should be autonomous, which will require radically different hardware—hardware that is much lighter and consumes much less power than cloud computing is.

# Concluding remarks



# Why study English writing?

*Why should we train our writing skills when we can use AIs and editing services?*

- We need to be good writers to be able to use these services well.
- Studying English writing is like learning a musical instrument.
- Books and lectures will give you a higher awareness and direction but won't raise your writing skill.
- It is you who must turn this knowledge into skill through continuous training—reading and writing English.
- Your studies will give you a guide for a more effective training.



# Thank you

**Eu, Jinseung**

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