**Sentence Combining**  
(Preparing for Advanced level)

**Context**  
Story in a film

**Function**  
Narrating a story

**Purpose**  
To help students link simple propositions into more complex sentences. In sentence-combining activities, a set of simple sentences or propositions are consolidated through the embedding of words, phrases, and clauses so that the meaning of the whole set is conveyed in one sentence.

For example, the following list of simple propositions is combined below:

1. The man is tall
2. The man has dark hair.
3. The man is standing by the counter.
4. The man looks suspicious.

Combination: *The tall, dark-haired man standing by the counter looks suspicious.*

Exercises in sentence combining can be used at the sentence, paragraph, or composition level. Students produce a story several paragraphs in length. They are given an authentic prose paragraph describing the events in a Spanish film, broken down into simple propositions. Students then try to combine those propositions into more complex sentences and compare their combinations to the original. This technique can be used to teach principles of sentence and paragraph construction and to help students recognize the importance of connectors, qualifiers, and other discourse features.

**Student Task**  
In the following exercise, the clusters of sentences are related. Combine each cluster into a single sentence, varying the length and structure of each of your sentences to avoid monotony.