"Ellipsis" is the omission of certain parts of speech or sentence constituents in expression. It is a widely used but ignored technique in Mandarin Chinese. In Chinese linguistic research, ellipsis is rarely dealt with in depth. Furthermore, views about this linguistic quality vary greatly.

This seven-chapter Academic Exercise attempts to establish the validity and function of ellipsis and consolidate its patterns in modern Chinese. It also aims to differentiate this peculiar method of expression from other apparently similar yet fundamentally different sentence patterns in the Chinese language.

The present research shows that ellipsis occurs in a variety of syntactic patterns. In addition, it is an essential and popular rhetorical device in writing.

From a comparison of ellipsis in English and modern Chinese, it is realised that other than some similar aspects, differences in functions and patterns between the two languages must be taken into account when translating.

A small scale survey was conducted among undergraduates to gauge the understanding and usage of ellipsis in modern Mandarin. The findings of the present study prove that ellipsis is both fascinating and complicated linguistically. The present study also shows that the analysis of ellipsis is a considerably rewarding experience.