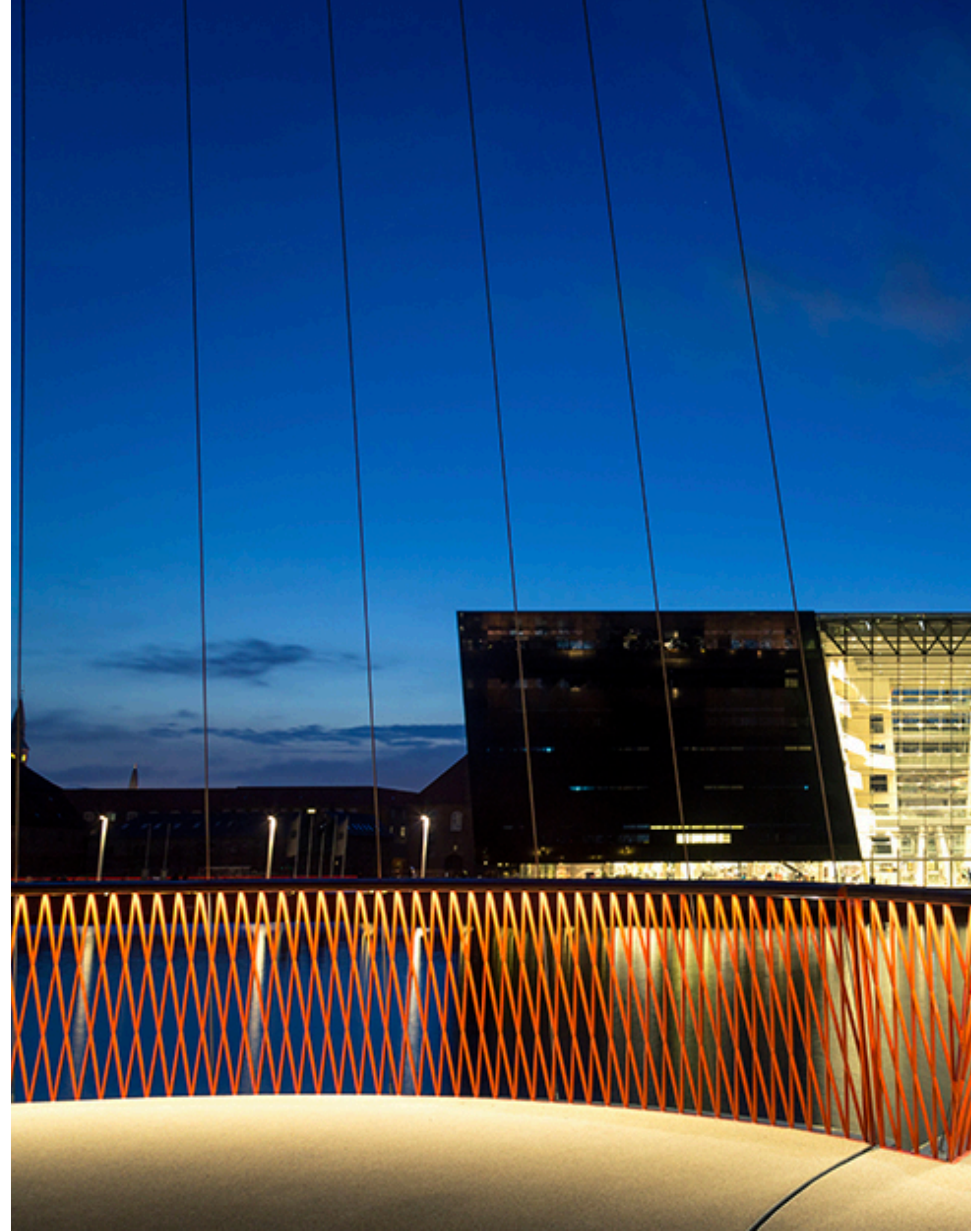


# Ellipsis & Substitution

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to avoid repetition  
in English



# What is Ellipsis?

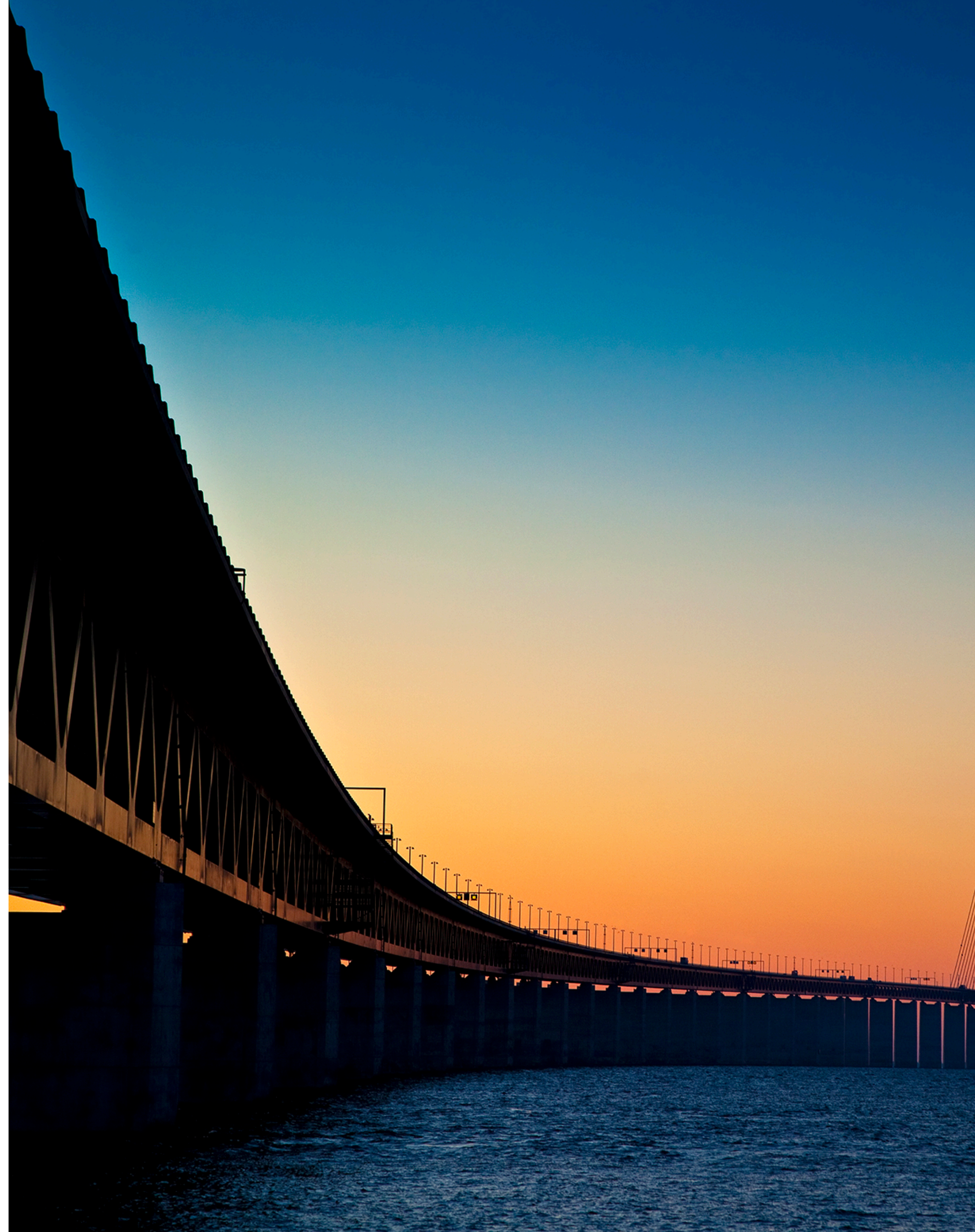
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- **It simply means leaving out words when the meaning is still clear from context.**

*e.g. I went to the library and (I) borrowed a book.*

*e.g. She was cooking dinner and (she was) listening to music.*

*e.g. We might take the bus or (we might) walk instead.*



# What is Ellipsis?

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- **Ellipsis also helps us avoid repeating whole verb phrases.**
- **That's why we use an auxiliary verb as a substitute.**

*e.g. I don't play the guitar, but my sister does (play the guitar).*

*e.g. They haven't finished the project, but we have (finished it).*

*e.g. He was going to join us, but she wasn't (going to join us).*



# Ellipsis in everyday conversations

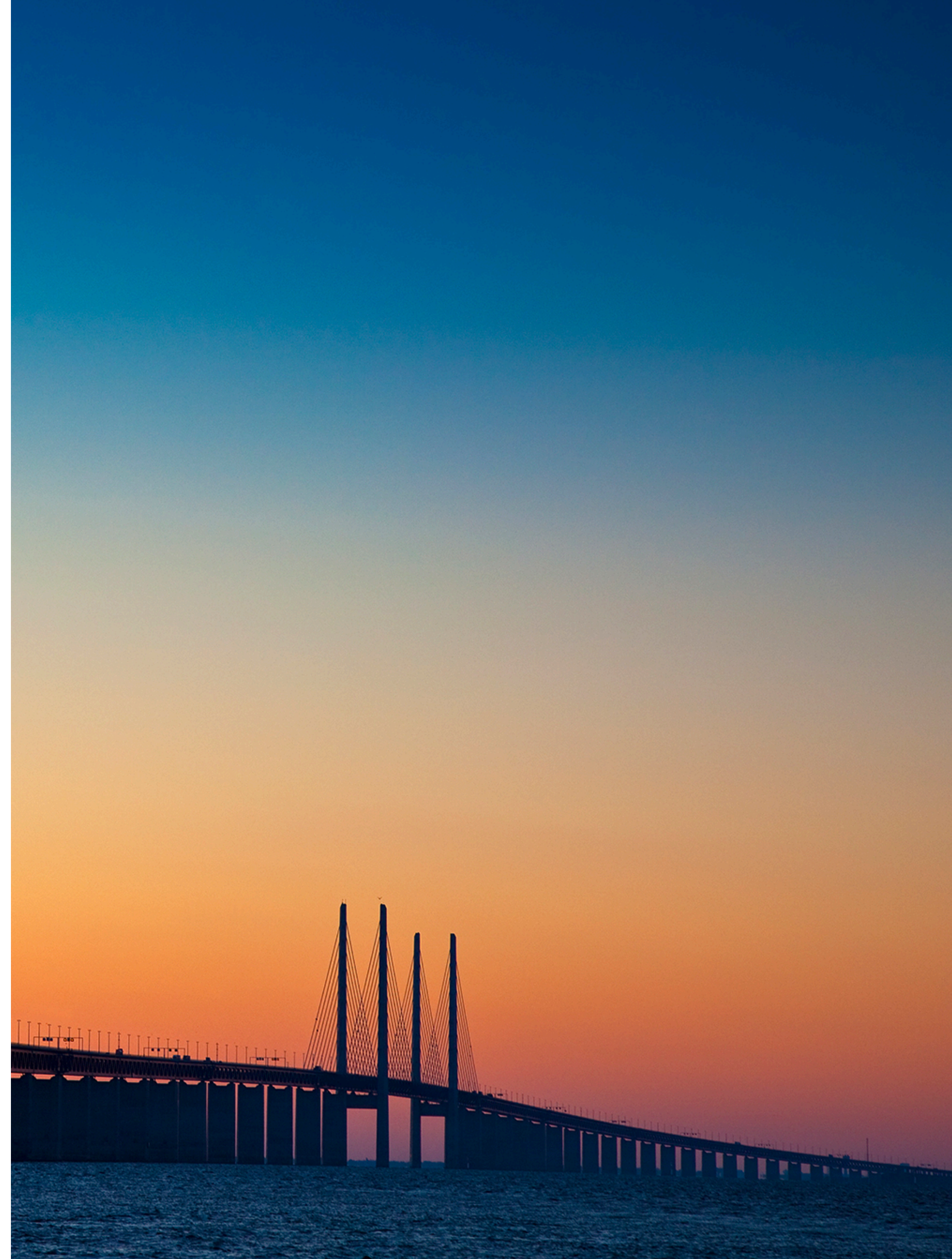
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"Sounds great!" (*instead of That sounds great!*)

"Good one!" (*instead of That's a good one!*)

"Busy day?" (*instead of Did you have a busy day?*)

"Lovely weather." (*instead of It's lovely weather.*)



# Substitution

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**Common substitutes are: *one, do, so, not, the same,* and determiners like *some* or *many*.**

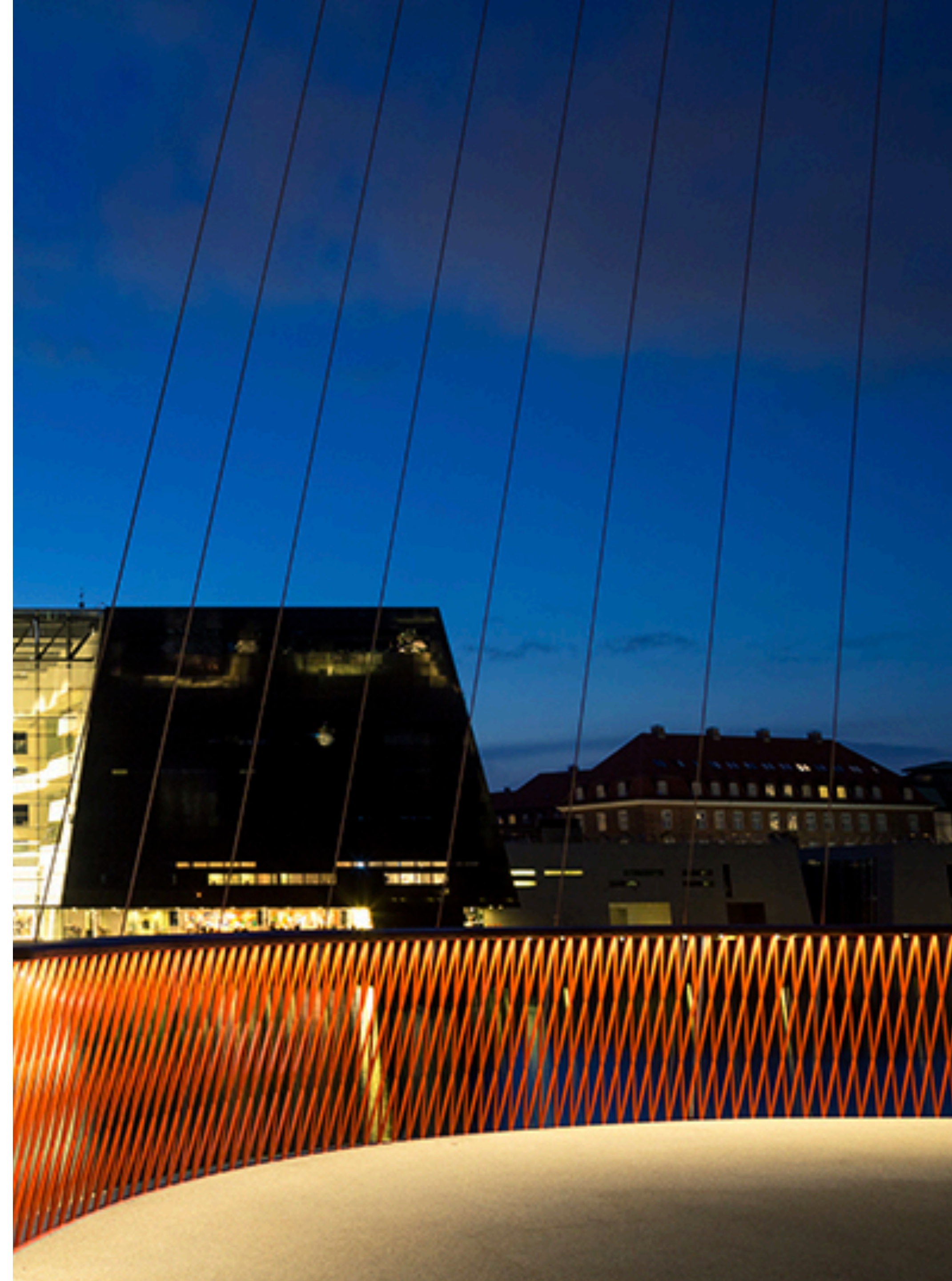
e.g. *I've never owned a pet, but I'd love to have one (a pet).*

e.g. *She took the early train, and I did too (took the early train).*

e.g. *There aren't many cookies left, but there are still some (cookies).*

e.g. *Will they win the match? I think so (they will win).*

e.g. *Do you want to go out today? I hope not (we won't go out).*



# Substitution

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**Sometimes, we use do so to replace an action in more formal situations.**

*e.g. The manager asked us to submit the forms, and we did so (submitted the forms).*

*e.g. He promised to help, but he didn't do so (help).*



# Review

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- Ellipsis helps us drop unnecessary words
- Substitution helps us replace them with shorter expressions.
- Together, they make English sound natural and fluent:

***Ellipsis = leave words out***

***Substitution = replace words***

