

GALAPAGOS ①

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- 1 1st sentence - peaks have been erupting, or volcanoes have been erupting? Re-phrase to something like: "The 9. Islands are the peaks of volcanoes which have been erupting..."?
- 1 lines 7-9 - Unclear sentence. Might delete.
- 2 line 7 experience instead of experiences?
- 2 line 9 I find "like a floating saucer about to capsize" a confusing description. Might delete - or re-do =
- 2 line 13 Delete "or"?
- 2-3 Overlap sentence: too long + complex a sentence - somehow a poorly balanced sentence. Could re-phrase as indicated.
- 3 line 14 - "whence" - a somewhat archaic word - sounds a little awkward
- 3 line 9 - "characteristics of their own" - slightly confusing - change to "the characteristics which they possess"?
- 3 line 12 - "them" has no antecedent - the seal was "it" in the preceding sentence.
- 3 lines 21-26 - A difficult sentence - Could break it up as indicated.
- 3 Might consider reworking lines 4-26 - The organization of material in these two paragraphs is a little off.
- 4 line 3 "awe"? or "curiosity"?
- 4 lines 3-4 Could re-phrase as indicated - I found "they" confusing
- 4 line 22 "As would be expected" is awkward - especially as "expected" is used again toward the end of the sentence.
- 4-5 Overlap sentence - Suggest delete part of it - "irreversible"
- 5 lines 3-6 - Too many "expects" - drop a phrase or so?

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- 7 line 6 - "on which I had worked for years" - I suggest dropping this clause, since it's not really relevant to the Galapagos subject -
- 7 line 11 - delete "to the" or insert "give" between "to" and "aid"
- 7 2nd ¶. Sounds a little like washing dirty linen in public - I think it might be better to gloss over the Sierra Club's inner circle politics.
- 7 lines 7-8 - Also could delete "whose single-handed efforts had brought about publication of In Wilderness" - The whole of page 7 feels longer and wordier than it needs to be.
- 8 lines 11-13 - delete sentence? "in these various categories" has no real antecedent, hence rings awkwardly on the ear - and anyway it's so obvious that lists would have had to be made that I'm not sure it's worth stating the fact.
- 8 line 10 "for camping on shore... excursions" is an awkward non-parallel construction - suggest cut sentence as indicated.
- * 8 ¶ 2 In the interests of organization, I suggest that this ¶ be cut slightly and inserted at asterisk (*) on line 2, p. 8. There is at present a difficulty in the organization of the two ¶s on p. 8 (The sentences about Tad Nichols come in like an intrusion), and reworking them slightly might be a good idea.
- * 9 ^(line 12) The reader at this point would like to know what it is any the group is to follow in going to the Islands. ^(The information could be put in here or elsewhere.)
- * 9 line 24 et seq - Could we, here or later, have a fuller description of the people who are going on the trip?
- 10 lines 13-18 Slightly confusing
- 10 line 3 - A sudden jump to Quito - how did we get there?

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- 10 lines 14-16 Break sentence into two.
- 10 line 17 "It" - slightly ambiguous.
- 9-10 I have underlined Cristobal Carrier to indicate italics.
- 10 lines 19-21 "On the evening... archipelago." This sentence feels chronologically out of place here. I would drop it, and insert the information contained in it later on, ~~after~~ ^{after} ~~The voyage is completed.~~ Could insert a small sentence - "Our voyage lasted three days" - this is the only information in the sentence which is perhaps needed here at this point.
- 11 line 4 - Should stick to calling her the Carrier - or the Cristobal - one or the other, not both.
- 11 lines 17-20 - I suggest cutting the description of the fish - The reader has gotten too near the islands to want to back track.
- 11-12 From line 14, exp 11, to the bottom of page 12, things are vivid but feel slow. I would suggest shortening this stretch by about half.
- 12-13 Somewhere in here, the reader would like just a very small word or so to identify or describe Wreck Bay, i.e. - is it a town? How many inhabitants? Paved streets?
- 13 Also - identify Academy Bay -
- 14 Should include a word or so describing Forest Nelson - also his hostility.
- 11 line 4 - Could delete "odorous and" (repetitious)
- 11 line 8 - Could delete "too long" (first to accumulate for even one second is surely too long! so it goes without saying!)
- 12 Last two lines - If the issue of mistaken ticket purchase is raised, it needs more explaining. I'd suggest just dropping it.

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- 13 line 9 - "consisted in" - repetitions. (See line 22, p. 12.)
- 13 line 16 - that → which
- 13 line 18 - If camera suffered only "minor damage," then "dearly paid for" sounds wrong. How about "unwelcome?"
- 14 line 4-5 Could cut as indicated.
- 14 line 7 - A little confusing - but "for him" must somehow be inserted to make the verb "to accommodate" work.
- 14 lines 14-17 Sentence is unnecessarily long (phrases in it are repetitions).
- 14 line 20 "over which and in its interstices" seems awkward.
- 15 line 11-14 Break up sentence
- 15 Bottom of page "A most common tree ---" Too long, complicated a sentence
- 16 line 3 - "Giving" is almost a dangling participle
- 16 lines 7-12 - Too long a sentence
- 16 line 21, line 24 - "give --- give" - repetition - change one.
- 16 bottom line - "established and accepted" - don't need both - drop one?
- 17 line 6 "seeing what others cannot discern" - cut? Seems to state the obvious.
- 17 lines 7-8 - I like the cellophane ^(very much!) - but think sentence will flow better with the text if "seizing" is made active, not passive - We have here the recurring problem of singular and plural (one heron, several herons) which keeps popping up when a species is being described.
- 17 last 5 lines - wordy. Could be cut as indicated.
- 18 lines 4-6 "rushing... grasping" are dubiously close to being dangling participles.
- 18 Darwin Station needs to be introduced more fully, less suddenly, for the benefit of readers who don't know about it -
- 18 lines 8-12 - Sentence (and thought it contains) seems ponderous. I suggest heavy cutting on the first half of this page -

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- 18 line 19-23 We don't need or want all this background on the Cheryls
- 18-19 Overlap sentences - wordy.
- 19 First half of page - heavy cutting is possible - Things are slow here. Also I would suggest breaking the page into 7's as indicated.
- 19 line 22 ?
- 20 line 5 - "retreating" is a dangling participle -
- 20 lines 18-21 - A typo in this sentence? Anyway, I have suggested a change or so. Also suggest keeping verb tenses mostly in the past here to improve flow.
- 21 line 4 "Once," if inserted here, would help to pin down "spread," which is one of those ambiguous verb forms which may be past or present tense.
- 21 lines 19-21 "The skillness... defensive one" - meaning is not clear. Does it mean that these gulls also emit a gutteral rattle?
- 21-22 Can this long 7 be broken somehow into 2 or more 7's?
- 23 Could cut a little about the plane - also a little from the 2nd 7
- 25 Delete second sentence? Could also cut other bits from this page in the interest of speeding things up slightly.
- 26 line 1 - suggest break up sentence.
- 26 line 11 - insert "views of"? + insert "probably"?
- line 12-13 - shift "I was experiencing"?
- 26-27 Overlap sentence - "In the afternoon... and truffs" - is not clear.
- 27 lines 10-11 - cut?
- 28 line 2
- 28 2nd 7 - Jump from stars to Beebe is too abrupt - I suggest re-shuffling sentences here - perhaps start this 7 with something like "After an early breakfast we weighed anchor..."
- 29 l. 18 "Flamingo crater" needs to be re-identified
- 31 Next to bottom line - "we saw them not" - change to "we did not see them"
- 32 line 24 - "when disembarking" might be better than "on disembarking"

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34 line 8 - Might re-identify Baltra

35 line 17 - Do we need this information about Bartholome? It seems distracting at this particular spot.

38-39 Overlap sentence - what about saying "an experience very near to flying"? If it is "nearest to flying" then it must be "The experience," not "an experience." And some carping readers may argue that people have achieved flying.

41 line 17 - Told by whom? - The reader wanders.

45 lines 5-6 - Change to "mostly females, Fritz said, stating that he could tell this by their short tails" - ?

45 line 25 - "live" would be better than "lived"

48 line 11 - delete "and" and insert "which rose up to [overlie]"?
As sentence now stands, final clause "and overlies the... bottom" feels like a weak trailing tail - it is too far away from the original subject of the sentence.

48 lines 17-20 Too much information in one sentence -

49 line 1 - "makes out"? I'm unfamiliar with the term -

49 lines 2-4 - Awkward sentence -

49 lines 10-15 - A difficult sentence to follow - Could it be re-phrased more simply?

50 line 17 - "are" should be "were"

50 line 25 - re-identify Baltra - unless this was done ^{post} on 34

51 line 4 - shore?

51 line 13 - Fiddie is whose son?

51 line 13 - A FI break here?

51 line 25 - un-winking?

51 line 28 - recommend "which" instead of "that"

53 line 10 - "a point of view which is... mutually shared" is not quite precisely clear enough - could it be re-phrased?

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54. lines 6-7 - "which... account for." Awkward: delete, or re-phrase?
- 54-55 Should some reference be included on these pages to the work which has been done by the Navy in recent years to study dolphin behavior?
- 55 lines 3-4 - "the greater seems to be an estimate of their intelligence and their capacity for learning"...?
- 56 line 7 - Tense - "were" not "are" -
- 56 lines 18-24 I suggest cutting these lines because, though they are interesting, they seem like a digression at this point when the reader is eager to stay with the narrator and approach Tower Island -
- 57 Somewhere on this page, a ¶ break is needed - ^(could put it at line 15?)
- 57 lines 6-9 - Could cut this sentence - simply say "Frigate birds perched on every bush" -
- 59 line 7 - awkward phrase - re-word it?
- 59 lines 8-9-10 - Break up sentence?
- 62 line 13 "one" - "a female"?
- 63 line 13 - "manifested"?
- 64-65 Need a ¶ diversion somewhere in here -
- 65 line 21 - "them" has no antecedent - I recommend changing it to "these doves" or "several of these doves"
- 66 line 11 - insert "to reach"
- 67 line 3 - This point has already been made -
- 67 line 8 - "by scattering" - a danger. could change to "if one scatters"
- * 69. A rather weak last sentence for this chapter - Can the ending be strengthened or rounded off better, somehow?
- 70-71 - Too long a ¶ - Should break it up, I think - I have marked two or three possible places -

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- 70 lines 16-17 - I don't think specific island names are needed here -
- 70 lines 17-22 - The flow of sentences in here bothered me slightly - It did not seem quite smooth enough. I have sketched in an alternative which could be used -
- 71 line 4 - I suggest inserting "There" -
- 71 line 6 - "needs" - goes with "patch" -
- 71 lines 20-24 Need to be slightly clearer - "massive Sierra Negra... J-shaped island" is unclear - In line 23, what is the object of the verb "connects"? ("connects" does not have to have an object, always, but the sentence here would be clearer if it did have an object.) In line 24, could "which are" be inserted?
- 72 lines 2-3 Also a little unclear. (Reader does not know where Cape B, is)
- 73 line 13 - 91? Also "man" - a typo for "men"?
- 74 line 9 - insert "or"? and line 10 - insert "as"?
- 74 lines 7 and 11 - Something must be done to match the subject of this sentence ("fame and hardship") with "had its attractive side." Change "its" to "their"? Or delete "and the hardship"? What about ^{simply} saying "And the fame of the climb intrigued us. It was variously described as a struggle to the point of exhaustion (etc) ... We were not deterred ... " and so forth?
- 74 line 13-16 - awkward sentence - Could say "The Darwin Station had long been interested in F. because of the possibility that there might still exist, somewhere on the island, a surviving remnant of the T. population which once inhabited the island."
- 74 lines 17, 18, 19, 24 - small possible changes
- 75 line 20 - "They" refers back to singular noun, "group" - bothersome
- 75 lines 21-23 - keep tenses consistent
- 75 line 26 - insert "whose peats were"? or "which were"?

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- 76 lines 9 - 14 - awkward sentence - re-work.
- 76 lines 16 - 18 - delete? If this is left in, it must be tinkered with - it is ungrammatical. (Insert "during which time we could see nothing" between "nothingness" + "except.")
- 76 ^{lines} 22-24 - "bare" and "topered" should not be linked in a parallel construction here - "topered" is a verb which has no subject.
- 76 line 24 "This was Espinosa ... on the nose" - awkward sentence
- 77 line 12 - typo?
- 77 Break up this ¶?
- 77 Bottom of page - cut "or beyond imagination"?
- 78 lines 7-9 Two or three very minor suggestions
- 78 line 21 need to say "sheltered"?
- 78 line 26 - a ¶?
- 79 Insert a ¶ break somewhere - could do so at line 11
- 80 line 6 insert "we"?
- 80 line 4 ¶?
- 81 lines 1-2 slightly unclear - change as indicated?
- 81 line 7 delete "of tufts and slag"? Was cone near enough so that the watcher could see the tufts and slag?
- 81 around line 16 - a few words in here may be expendable
- 81 line 19 - The pushups and kneebends are a distracting image at this point.
- 81-82 et seq. More paragraphing is needed here and there throughout the rest of this chapter. I have marked several places where ¶ breaks would be possible.
- 82 lines 1-7. Can this sentence be simplified?
- 84 line 11 - Foresight was mentioned earlier.
- 84 line 17 Wordy - a few words could be dropped.
- 85 lines 16-20 Split this into two sentences?

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88 - line 21 - need "all"?

89 The end of the Fernandina climb seems abrupt. The reader also wants to know what happened to the climbers who went on toward the summit. How this chapter should end is really related to what comes after it in the as-yet-unwritten second half of the book, so I haven't any very clear thoughts on the subject - but here on p. 89 I felt too sharp a jump in subject matter - and the last pages of the chapter (89-96) felt to me as if perhaps they belong in another chapter.

89 lines 15-22 - Too complicated a sentence -

90 lines 6-7 "packed" and "heaped" are dangling participles. Make whole clause "packed closely... The other" into a 2nd sentence.

90-91 Break into TIs if possible -

93 line 20 - Sounds as if ring was retrieved, rather than startfish

95 lines 12-14 Said before? I'm not sure.

- The reader is always interested, by the way, when any passing reference is made to the actual taking of photographs. It might be a good idea, throughout the text, to plant a few more such references.

- And also by the way - I found all of this highly interesting reading, and I'm delighted to have had a chance to read the manuscript. For what it may be worth, I'll add the feeling I had that the ms. is especially good after it gets somewhat under way. Cps III, IV & V held me profoundly from start to finish. Cps I & II (pages 1-24) felt somewhat slower, not quite so interesting. When the ms. as a whole is completed, it might be a good idea to consider doing a little cutting in this part of the book.

Thank you very very much!

BMB