Alistair Fisher: Annotation 3

To early man, fire was a divine gift randomly delivered in the form of lightning, forest fire or burning lava.

$C_1 = \{ \text{fire (subject, so takes precedence), early man, lightning, forest fire, burning lava} \}$

Unable to make flame for themselves (peoples - this is a cataphor), the earliest peoples probably stored fire by keeping slow-burning logs alight or by carrying charcoal in pots.

$C_1 = \{ \text{the earliest peoples (subject of unable), fire, slow-burning logs, charcoal, pots} \}$

$C_b = \text{fire (directly realized by flame)}$.

Transition: n/a as no previous $C_b$

How and where man learnt how to produce flame at will is unknown.

$C_1 = \{ \text{man (subject of learnt), fire} \}$

$C_b = \text{fire (directly realized by “flame”). This is arguable, but I am judging that ‘man’ is a distinct entity from ‘the earliest peoples.}$

Transition: RETAIN

It (fire) was probably a secondary invention, accidentally made during tool-making operations with wood or stone.

$C_1 = \{ \text{fire (subject of was), wood, stone} \}$

$C_b = \text{fire}$

Transition: CONTINUATION

‘It’ resolves to fire to comply with rule 1, since all antecedents are in earlier sentences, need to resolve it to the previous $C_b$, which cannot be realised by a different pronoun in the sentence (as there are none).

Studies of primitive societies suggest that the earliest method of making fire was through friction.

$C_1 = \{ \text{studies of primitive societies (subject of suggest), earliest method of making fire, fire, friction} \}$

$C_b = \text{fire}$

Transition: RETAIN

European peasants would insert a wooden drill in a round hole and rotate it (drill) briskly between their palms.

$C_1 = \{ \text{peasants, wooden drill, round hole} \}$

$C_b = \text{earliest method of making fire, this is indirectly realized by the method described.}$
Transition: SHIFT