

Parallel Structure Identification

Read through the parallel series below and circle the element in each that is not parallel.

Example: blue red (colored like rust) purple

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| 1. camping boat rides hiking skiing | 6. wrapped in furs adorned with jewels into the Rolls Royce bathed in perfume |
| 2. They raise corn and wheat. They make their own wine. They are digging for clams. | 7. power courage honesty strong |
| 3. in the pit of his stomach across his forehead his eyes through his veins | 8. fly fluttered faded fell |
| 4. painting pictures two boxes of watercolors a large sketch pad five crayons | 9. rib restaurants chicken shacks eating meat pies snack shops |
| 5. loneliness despair sadly | 10. carefree in the summer in the fall depressed in the winter renewed in the spring |

Give Your Sentences Balance: Identifying Non-Parallel Parts of Sentences

Directions: If all parts in any of the following sentences are parallel put a + in front of the number. If they are not, underline the non-parallel part then fix it.

1. To get to Washington a person may travel (A) by bus, (B) by airplane, or (C) ride in his own car.

2. On our trips my father often showed us (A) historic public buildings, (B) where the scenery was beautiful, and (C) modern museums.
3. (A) The placing of utility lines underground, (C) the expanding of bicycle routes, (B) and disallowing trucks would make an already good neighborhood even better.
4. When the children noticed that they were lost, (A) they stopped laughing, (B) their energy declined, and (C) their speed slowed.
5. Joe showed me (A) how to plow the ground, (B) how to plant the seeds, and (C) how to fertilize my garden.
6. Gender-role stereotyping has frequently made women appear (A) passive, (B) dependent, (C) not strong, and (D) unintelligent.
7. Although my neighborhood contains (A) spacious tree-lined boulevards, (B) beautifully landscaped yards, and (C) various recreational facilities, a few improvements are desirable.
8. Some students choose to study such vocations as (A) how to cook, (B) nursing, or (C) hairdressing.
9. The volcanic eruption required the people (A) to evacuate the small island, (B) that they return to the mainland, (C) and to seek aid.
10. (A) Medicine, (B) law, (C) engineering, and (D) being interested in science are some of the most popular majors.

Parallel Structure Worksheet

Each of the following sentences starts well but then goes off the track. Rewrite the italicized part to make it *parallel* with the rest of the sentence. Change or add words as necessary.

1. We were dirty, hungry, and *without a penny*.
2. My roommate liked to repair things around the house and *his own cooking*.
3. During the day, we went on long hikes, rowed around the lake, or *just leisure time*.
4. She returned to pay the rent and *because she had left some of her things*.
5. Two things that I found hard to learn as a freshman were to get enough sleep and *trimming expenses*.
6. He asked me about my courses and *where I was planning to be next year*.
7. The doctor said that I should rest and *not to get excited or upset*.
8. Hitler's followers considered other nations to be racially inferior and *were fit only for slave labor*.
9. The best way to combat juvenile delinquency is not to set up more social agencies but *by restoring old-fashioned discipline in the home*.

10. The book told how to build a gun cabinet, how to build a bookcase, and *all types of furniture that you can make*.
11. When I was a member of the basketball team, everyone met me with a happy smile, made lively conversation, and *I was invited to many parties*.
12. Fires, caused by unheeding persons, have destroyed valuable forests and *thereby decreasing our lumber resources*.
13. In basketball, there is never a dull moment, any team can win, *and a fine display of teamwork*.
14. My parents liked peace and quiet and *to relax in the evening at home*.
15. Esther is a helpful person and *who makes friends easily*.
16. Yosemite is a park with spectacular scenery and *which has half-tame bears*.
17. My friends were always going off to jog in the park or *a game of tennis*.
18. The manager asked me to file an application and *would I leave my number*.
19. We went to rallies to protest against pesticides, oppose nuclear power, or *other current causes*.
20. My roommate was a smart dresser, a good student, and *really knew how to talk*.