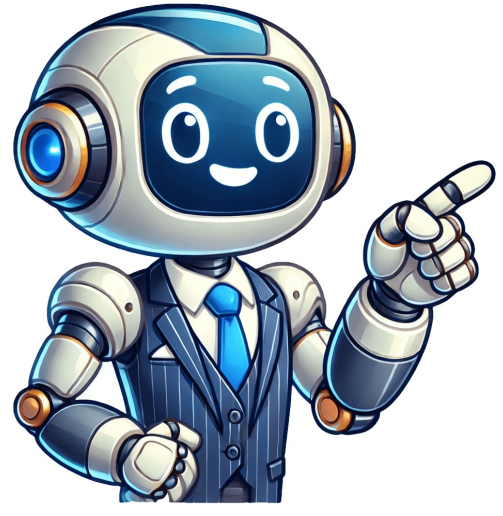


I'm not a bot

































What is parallel structure (or parallelism)? And how does it work? Does it mean to use the same pattern of word to convey multiple ideas? And do these ideas have the same level of importance? Learn about parallel structure in this comprehensive guide. In English grammar, parallel structure (also referred to as parallelism) is the repetition of the same grammatical structure in each part of a sentence. It means using the same pattern of words to convey that two or more ideas share the same level of importance. Parallel StructuresNon-examplesRita’s chores include dusting, taking out the trash, and feeding the dog.Rita’s chores include dusting, to take out the trash, and having to feed the dog. Not parallel: I like to paint, jog, cook, and watching movies. Parallel: I like to paint, jog, cook, and watch movies. Here are some examples of parallel structure: Words: Thinking/eating Infinitives: To see/to understand Prepositional phrases: At the time/in the yard Subordinate clause: Because I care/after they met Here are some examples of elements that are not parallel: Thinking/to run To see/since I understand At the time/being here Because I care/to meet Using parallel structure has several benefits: The repetition of the grammatical structure creates a common word pattern and grammatical pattern throughout the sentence.Parallel structure can give a sense of rhythm and order to a sentence.Parallel structure allows the writer to give equal importance to two or more ideas within a sentence.Using parallel structure improves the readability of a sentence. For example: Not Parallel: Participants in the workshop learned how to negotiate, communicate, and working collaboratively. Parallel: Participants in the workshop learned how to negotiate, communicate, and work collaboratively. Parallel: Participants in the workshop learned about negotiating, communicating, and working collaboratively. To create a parallel structure or parallelism, use the same pattern of words to show that two or more ideas (words, phrases, or clauses) have the same importance. Match nouns, verb tenses, and conjunctions to form a parallel construction. Example 1: Not Parallel: Her shopping list for the party included: balloons, dessert, streamers, and chips. Parallel: Her shopping list for the party included: balloons, desserts, streamers, and chips. Example 2: Not Parallel: Sharon likes to read, write, and eating. Parallel: Sharon likes reading, writing, and eating. Example 3: Not Parallel: I enjoy neither exercise or playing video games. Parallel: I enjoy neither exercising nor playing video games. Use parallel structure to connect two or more phrases or clauses joined with coordinating conjunctions for, nor, and, but, yet, or, or so. Example 1: Not Parallel: Her company and what its potential is are irrelevant to me. Parallel: Her company and its potential are irrelevant to me. Example 2: Not Parallel: Although she promised to, my best friend did not take me dancing or to a show. Parallel: Although she promised to, my best friend did not take me to a dance or a show. Use parallel structures when comparing items in a list. Example 1: Not parallel: The tribes emphasized mutual aid, collective survival, and being responsible for each other. Parallel: The tribes emphasized mutual aid, collective survival, and responsibility for each other. Example 2: Not Parallel: Taylor criticizes public schools as they are compulsory, funded by the government, and destroy students’ humanity. Parallel: Taylor criticizes public schools as they are compulsory, government-funded, and normalizing. Parallel: Taylor criticizes public schools as they require students to attend, receive money from the government, and destroy students’ humanity. Use parallel structure to connect two phrases or clauses with a word of comparison like than or as. Example 1: Not Parallel: David liked to dive better than swimming. Parallel: David liked to dive better than to swim. Parallel: David liked diving better than swimming. Example 2: Not Parallel: Esther said she would rather pay for her education than financial aid. Parallel: Esther said she would rather pay for her education than receive financial aid. Use parallel structure to join two or more elements with a linking verb, where the first item is completed by the second one. Example 1: Not Parallel: To succeed is getting new opportunities. Parallel: To succeed is to get new opportunities. Example 2: Not Parallel: To be Grace’s friend means being constantly alert. Parallel: Being Grace’s friend means being constantly alert. Use parallel structures to connect to phrases or clauses with a correlative conjunction such as either...or, not only...but also, if...then, neither this...nor. Example 1: Not Parallel: Ben not only wants fame but also money. Parallel: Ben wants not only fame but also money. Parallel: Ben not only wants fame but also wants money. Example 2: Not Parallel: My dog neither likes to play fetch, nor chase cars. Parallel: My dog neither likes to play fetch nor likes to chase cars. How does parallel structure and parallel elements work with coordinating conjunctions? Coordinating conjunctions join parallel elements in a sentence. These elements should be in the same grammatical form (or parallel grammatical form). Should parallel structure be used with verb tense? Yes. Parallel structure should be used when it comes to verb tense. More on sentence structure: Parallel structure means using the same pattern of words to show that two or more ideas have the same level of importance. This can happen at the word, phrase, or clause level. The usual way to join parallel structures is with the use of coordinating conjunctions such as "and" or "or." Words and Phrases With the -ing form (gerund) of words: Parallel: Mary likes hiking, swimming, and bicycling. With infinitive phrases: Parallel: Mary likes to hike, to swim, and to ride a bicycle. OR Mary likes to hike, swim, and ride a bicycle. (Note: You can use "to" before all the verbs in a sentence or only before the first one.) Do not mix forms. Example 1 Not Parallel: Mary likes hiking, swimming, and to ride a bicycle. Parallel: Mary likes hiking, swimming, and riding a bicycle. Example 2 Not Parallel: The production manager was asked to write his report quickly, accurately, and in a detailed manner. Parallel: The production manager was asked to write his report quickly, accurately, and thoroughly. Example 3 Not Parallel: The teacher said that he was a poor student because he waited until the last minute to study for the exam, completed his lab problems in a careless manner, and his motivation was low. Parallel: The teacher said that he was a poor student because he waited until the last minute to study for the exam, completed his lab problems in a careless manner, and lacked motivation. Clauses A parallel structure that begins with clauses must keep on with clauses. Changing to another pattern or changing the voice of the verb (from active to passive or vice versa) will break the parallelism. Example 1 Not Parallel: The coach told the players that they should get a lot of sleep, that they should not eat too much, and to do some warm-up exercises before the game. Parallel: The coach told the players that they should get a lot of sleep, that they should not eat too much, and that they should do some warm-up exercises before the game. — or — Parallel: The coach told the players that they should get a lot of sleep, not eat too much, and do some warm-up exercises before the game. Example 2 Not Parallel: The salesman expected that he would present his product at the meeting, that he would have time to show his slide presentation, and that questions would be asked by prospective buyers. (passive) Parallel: The salesman expected that he would present his product at the meeting, that he would have time to show his slide presentation, and that prospective buyers would ask him questions. Lists After a Colon Be sure to keep all the elements in a list in the same form. Example 1 Not Parallel: The dictionary can be used to find these: word meanings, pronunciations, correct spellings, and looking up irregular verbs. Parallel: The dictionary can be used to find these: word meanings, pronunciations, correct spellings, and irregular verbs. Proofreading Strategies to Try: Skim your paper, pausing at the words "and" and "or." Check on each side of these words to see whether the items joined are parallel. If not, make them parallel. If you have several items in a list, put them in a column to see if they are parallel. Listen to the sound of the items in a list or the items being compared. Do you hear the same kinds of sounds? For example, is there a series of "–ing" words beginning each item? Or do you hear a rhythm being repeated? If something is breaking that rhythm or repetition of sound, check to see if it needs to be made parallel. Parallel structure, or parallelism, is a crucial aspect of English grammar that significantly contributes to the balance, clarity, and readability of your writing. However, I find many of my students either less concerned about it or they are not able to use them properly. Therefore, in this comprehensive guide, I will explain parallel structure in detail, using relevant examples.Parallel structure is the use of similar grammatical forms or patterns in a sentence. By using parallel structure, you ensure that related words, phrases, or clauses have the same structure. This creates a sense of balance, rhythm, and harmony in your writing and makes it easier to comprehend.Try The Blue Book of Grammar and Punctuation: An Easy-to-Use Guide with Clear Rules, Real-World Examples, and Reproducible Quizzes (Amazon Link) to understand the major rules and subtle guidelines of English grammar and usage. This best-seller includes easy-to-understand rules, abundant examples, dozens of reproducible quizzes, and pre and post exercises, college students, ESL students, and homeschoolers, and more. Table of ContentsGet personalized guidance to learn English.Find tutors here!To better comprehend the parallel structure, it is essential to recognize that English has various grammatical forms, such as nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, gerunds, and infinitives. When creating a list, making a comparison, or presenting ideas of equal importance, you need to ensure that these grammatical forms remain consistent.For instance, when listing actions, you should use either gerunds (verb + -ing) or infinitives (to + verb) consistently throughout the list. Similarly, when comparing items or ideas, make sure that the structure on both sides of the comparison remains the same.Parallel structure is not limited to lists and comparisons; it also applies to other parts of your writing. For example, when using coordinating conjunctions like "and," "or," or "but," you should ensure that the words, phrases, or clauses connected by these conjunctions have the same grammatical form.Parallel structure can be found in various parts of speech, including:Nouns or noun phrasesVerbs or verb phrasesAdjectives or adjectival phrasesAdverbs or adverbial phrasesGerunds or gerund phrasesInfinitives or infinitive phrasesPrepositional phrasesBy ensuring parallelism in these structures, you create a smoother flow in your writing and make it easier for readers to follow your ideas. This is particularly important when you want to emphasize the relationship between concepts or present information in a logical manner.Example 1:Incorrect: She likes swimming, hiking, and to cook.Correct: She likes swimming, hiking, and cooking.In this example, the correct sentence uses the same grammatical form (gerund) for all three activities. By maintaining consistency in the form used, the sentence becomes clearer and easier to understand.Example 2:Incorrect: The dog was not only hungry but also was tired.Correct: The dog was not only hungry but also tired.Here, the correct sentence uses the same structure for both adjectives, creating a sense of balance. Eliminating the unnecessary "was" in the second part of the sentence results in a more coherent expression of the dog’s state.Parallel structure, also known as parallelism, is important in writing and speaking because it helps make your sentences clear, easy to read, and more engaging. It means using the same pattern or structure for similar elements in a sentence, like nouns, verbs, or phrases.Parallel structure is important for several reasons:It makes your writing or speech easier to understand by organizing ideas in a consistent manner.Example:Without parallel structure: I like reading, swimming, and to paint.With parallel structure: I like reading, swimming, and painting.It creates a sense of balance and rhythm in your writing, making it more pleasing to read or listen to.Example:Without parallel structure: She is smart, funny, and knows a lot.With parallel structure: She is smart, funny, and knowledgeable.It can help emphasize specific points by presenting them in a parallel way.Example:Without parallel structure: To succeed, you should work hard, be consistent, and luck plays a role too.With parallel structure: To succeed, you should work hard, be consistent, and rely on a little luck.Tips for Maintaining Parallel StructureIn this section, I will provide you with valuable tips to help you maintain parallel structure in your writing and speaking. By following these guidelines, you can enhance the quality of your communication, making it clearer, more engaging, and more enjoyable for your audience. So, let’s dive into these practical tips that will significantly improve your language skills.Look for elements in your sentences that serve the same purpose, such as a list of items, a series of actions, or a group of ideas.Example:Incorrect: I need to buy milk, bread, and going to the bank. Correct: I need to buy milk, buy bread, and go to the bank.Make sure to use the same grammatical form (nouns, verbs, adjectives, etc.) for these similar elements.Example:Incorrect: She loves reading, drawing, and to dance.Correct: She loves reading, drawing, and dancing.When using coordinating conjunctions (and, but, or, nor, for, so, yet), make sure the elements on both sides of the conjunction are parallel.Example:Incorrect: He is a skilled painter and loves playing music.Correct: He is a skilled painter and a music lover.When making comparisons using "than" or "as," ensure that the compared elements are parallel.Example:Incorrect: Mary sings better than to dance.Correct: Mary sings better than she dances.Maintain the same verb tense for actions that occur at the same time.Example:Incorrect: She plays the guitar and sang a song.Correct: She played the guitar and sang a song.By following these tips, you can improve the clarity and flow of your writing and speaking, making your communication more effective and engaging.In this section, let’s discuss some common mistakes that occur when using parallel structure in writing and speaking. By familiarizing yourself with these errors, you can learn to avoid them and improve the overall quality of your communication. Understanding these mistakes will help you create clearer, more engaging, and well-organized content, ensuring a better experience for your audience.Be consistent with verb forms in your lists or comparisons. If you start with an infinitive (to + verb), continue with infinitives. If you start with a gerund (verb + -ing), use gerunds.Example:Incorrect: He decided to buy groceries, clean the house, and taking a nap.Correct: He decided to buy groceries, clean the house, and take a nap.In this example, the incorrect sentence mixes infinitives and gerunds. The correct sentence maintains consistency by using infinitives throughout the list.When using prepositions in a list, make sure they are either consistently used or omitted.Example:Incorrect: She is skilled at playing the guitar, the piano, and in singing.Correct: She is skilled at playing the guitar, playing the piano, and singing.In this example, the incorrect sentence inconsistently applies the preposition "at." The correct sentence either consistently uses or omits "at" throughout the list.When comparing items, ensure that the structure is the same on both sides of the comparison.Example:Incorrect: Her cooking is more enjoyable than to eat at a restaurant.Correct: Eating her cooking is more enjoyable than eating at a restaurant.In this example, the incorrect sentence compares a gerund with an infinitive. The correct sentence maintains parallelism by using gerunds for both sides of the comparison.Parallel structure is a key component of English grammar that greatly contributes to the clarity, readability, and overall quality of your writing. By understanding and applying the principles of parallelism, you can improve your writing skills and make your work more engaging and accessible for your readers.With practice and attention to detail, you can master parallel structure and elevate your writing to new heights.What is parallel structure in English grammar? Parallelism, also known as parallel structure, is a writing technique that involves using the same grammatical form for related words, phrases, or clauses in a sentence. This creates a sense of balance, rhythm, and clarity in your writing. Parallelism is important because it ensures that your writing is easy to read and understand, and it helps you convey your ideas more effectively. By using parallel structure, you can make your writing more engaging and persuasive, and you can avoid common mistakes that can make your writing sound awkward or confusing. Consistency and balance in writing, making sentences easier to read and understand. It helps in emphasizing ideas and maintaining a smooth flow in lists, comparisons, and compound sentences.How to identify parallel structure in a sentence?Identify parallel structure by checking if the sentence elements, such as phrases or clauses, share the same grammatical form. For example, "She likes reading, writing, and swimming" maintains parallelism by using gerunds.What are common errors in parallel structure?Common errors include mixing different grammatical forms, such as "She likes to read, writing, and to swim." Correct it to "She likes reading, writing, and swimming" to maintain parallel structure.How to correct parallel structure in a sentence?To correct parallel structure, ensure that all elements in a list, comparison, or compound structure follow the same grammatical pattern. For example, change "He likes jogging, to swim, and biking" to "He likes jogging, swimming, and biking."What are some examples of parallel structure in writing?Examples include: "He enjoys playing soccer, watching movies, and cooking meals" and "In the meeting, we discussed the project’s timeline, budget, and objectives." Both sentences maintain a consistent grammatical form.How to use parallel structure in lists?In lists, use parallel structure by starting each item with the same part of speech or grammatical form. For example, "The job requires attention to detail, excellent communication skills, and the ability to work under pressure."What role does parallel structure play in persuasive writing?In persuasive writing, parallel structure can emphasize key points and make arguments more compelling. It creates a rhythm that enhances the impact of the message, making it more memorable.How to practice and improve parallel structure?Practice parallel structure by revising sentences to ensure consistency, reading examples of well-written texts, and writing exercises that focus on maintaining parallelism. Reviewing grammar rules can also help in understanding the concept better.Can parallel structure be used in both formal and informal writing?Yes, parallel structure can be used in both formal and informal writing. It enhances clarity and readability in all types of writing, from academic essays to casual conversations. Share – copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. Adapt – remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Attribution — You must give appropriate credit, provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made. You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use. ShareAlike — If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the same license as the original. No additional restrictions — You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits. You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation . No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material. Parallel structure means using words that are alike in form and length in sentences.Proverbs and famous quotes often use parallel structure to make their message stronger and clearer.Using the same kind of words together keeps sentences balanced and makes writing easier to read. In English grammar, parallel structure involves two or more words, phrases, or clauses that are similar in length and grammatical form. Another word for parallel structure is parallelism. By convention, items in a series appear in parallel grammatical form: a noun is listed with other nouns, an -ing form with other -ing forms, and so on. There are two reasons it is important to maintain parallelism in a series: Sentences that maintain parallelism are much easier to read and process than those that do not. With parallel structure: I like running, singing, and reading. Without parallel structure:I like running, singing, and to read.In the parallel structure, all of the objects of "like" are gerunds, -ing verbs acting as nouns. In the non-parallel structure, there are two gerunds acting as nouns and one infinitive (to read), which makes the sentence awkward and harder to process. 2. Maintaining parallelism helps writers avoid grammatically incorrect sentences. Below is an example of a grammatically incorrect sentence without parallel structure. The computer’s ability to multi-task, defend against viruses, and overall usability all improved when I updated the operating software. The grammar error becomes clear when you make a bullet-point list of each item following the part of the sentence that each item is meant to complete: The computer’s ability to: Multi-task Defend Usability “The computer’s ability to usability improved” is a grammatically incorrect sentence because all words following the phrase “the computer’s ability” must be verbs, but “usability” is a noun. By maintaining a parallel structure, you will avoid grammatically incorrect sentences containing lists. If you are unsure if a sentence is parallel and has grammatically correct structure, try making a bullet-point list like the one above. Writers should use parallel structure whether the items in the list or series are grammatical subjects, predicates, or objects. Mowing the lawn, trimming the shrubs, and edging the sidewalk took her two hours to complete. The writer interviewed two subject matter experts, edited four drafts, and composed two press releases. On Saturdays they may visit the open-air market, the docks, or the park. Parallel structure means using words that are alike in form and length in sentences.Proverbs and famous quotes often use parallel structure to make their message stronger and clearer.Using the same kind of words together keeps sentences balanced and makes writing easier to read. In English grammar, parallel structure involves two or more words, phrases, or clauses that are similar in length and grammatical form. Another word for parallel structure is parallelism. By convention, items in a series appear in parallel grammatical form: a noun is listed with other nouns, an -ing form with other -ing forms, and so on. There are two reasons it is important to maintain parallelism in a series: Sentences that maintain parallelism are much easier to read and process than those that do not. With parallel structure: I like running, singing, and reading. Without parallel structure:I like running, singing, and to read.In the parallel structure, all of the objects of "like" are gerunds, -ing verbs acting as nouns. In the non-parallel structure, there are two gerunds acting as nouns and one infinitive (to read), which makes the sentence awkward and harder to process. 2. Maintaining parallelism helps writers avoid grammatically incorrect sentences. Below is an example of a grammatically incorrect sentence without parallel structure. The computer’s ability to multi-task, defend against viruses, and overall usability all improved when I updated the operating software. The grammar error becomes clear when you make a bullet-point list of each item following the part of the sentence that each item is meant to complete: The computer’s ability to: Multi-task Defend Usability “The computer’s ability to usability improved” is a grammatically incorrect sentence because all words following the phrase “the computer’s ability” must be verbs, but “usability” is a noun. By maintaining a parallel structure, you will avoid grammatically incorrect sentences containing lists. If you are unsure if a sentence is parallel and has grammatically correct structure, try making a bullet-point list like the one above. Writers should use parallel structure whether the items in the list or series are grammatical subjects, predicates, or objects. Mowing the lawn, trimming the shrubs, and edging the sidewalk took her two hours to complete. The writer interviewed two subject matter experts, edited four drafts, and composed two press releases. On Saturdays they may visit the open-air market, the docks, or the park. Parallel structure means using words that are alike in form and length in sentences.Proverbs and famous quotes often use parallel structure to make their message stronger and clearer.Using the same kind of words together keeps sentences balanced and makes writing easier to read. In English grammar, parallel structure involves two or more words, phrases, or clauses that are similar in length and grammatical form. Another word for parallel structure is parallelism. By convention, items in a series appear in parallel grammatical form: a noun is listed with other nouns, an -ing form with other -ing forms, and so on. There are two reasons it is important to maintain parallelism in a series: Sentences that maintain parallelism are much easier to read and process than those that do not. With parallel structure: I like running, singing, and reading. Without parallel structure:I like running, singing, and to read.In the parallel structure, all of the objects of "like" are gerunds, -ing verbs acting as nouns. In the non-parallel structure, there are two gerunds acting as nouns and one infinitive (to read), which makes the sentence awkward and harder to process. 2. Maintaining parallelism helps writers avoid grammatically incorrect sentences. Below is an example of a grammatically incorrect sentence without parallel structure. The computer’s ability to multi-task, defend against viruses, and overall usability all improved when I updated the operating software. The grammar error becomes clear when you make a bullet-point list of each item following the part of the sentence that each item is meant to complete: The computer’s ability to: Multi-task Defend Usability “The computer’s ability to usability improved” is a grammatically incorrect sentence because all words following the phrase “the computer’s ability” must be verbs, but “usability” is a noun. By maintaining a parallel structure, you will avoid grammatically incorrect sentences containing lists. If you are unsure if a sentence is parallel and has grammatically correct structure, try making a bullet-point list like the one above. Writers should use parallel structure whether the items in the list or series are grammatical subjects, predicates, or objects. Mowing the lawn, trimming the shrubs, and edging the sidewalk took her two hours to complete. The writer interviewed two subject matter experts, edited four drafts, and composed two press releases. On Saturdays they may visit the open-air market, the docks, or the park. Parallel structure means using words that are alike in form and length in sentences.Proverbs and famous quotes often use parallel structure to make their message stronger and clearer.Using the same kind of words together keeps sentences balanced and makes writing easier to read. In English grammar, parallel structure involves two or more words, phrases, or clauses that are similar in length and grammatical form. Another word for parallel structure is parallelism. By convention, items in a series appear in parallel grammatical form: a noun is listed with other nouns, an -ing form with other -ing forms, and so on. There are two reasons it is important to maintain parallelism in a series: Sentences that maintain parallelism are much easier to read and process than those that do not. With parallel structure: I like running, singing, and reading. Without parallel structure:I like running, singing, and to read.In the parallel structure, all of the objects of "like" are gerunds, -ing verbs acting as nouns. In the non-parallel structure, there are two gerunds acting as nouns and one infinitive (to read), which makes the sentence awkward and harder to process. 2. Maintaining parallelism helps writers avoid grammatically incorrect sentences. Below is an example of a grammatically incorrect sentence without parallel structure. The computer’s ability to multi-task, defend against viruses, and overall usability all improved when I updated the operating software. The grammar error becomes clear when you make a bullet-point list of each item following the part of the sentence that each item is meant to complete: The computer’s ability to: Multi-task Defend Usability “The computer’s ability to usability improved” is a grammatically incorrect sentence because all words following the phrase “the computer’s ability” must be verbs, but “usability” is a noun. By maintaining a parallel structure, you will avoid grammatically incorrect sentences containing lists. If you are unsure if a sentence is parallel and has grammatically correct structure, try making a bullet-point list like the one above. Writers should use parallel structure whether the items in the list or series are grammatical subjects, predicates, or objects. Mowing the lawn, trimming the shrubs, and edging the sidewalk took her two hours to complete. The writer interviewed two subject matter experts, edited four drafts, and composed two press releases. On Saturdays they may visit the open-air market, the docks, or the park. Parallel structure means using words that are alike in form and length in sentences.Proverbs and famous quotes often use parallel structure to make their message stronger and clearer.Using the same kind of words together keeps sentences balanced and makes writing easier to read. In English grammar, parallel structure involves two or more words, phrases, or clauses that are similar in length and grammatical form. Another word for parallel structure is parallelism. By convention, items in a series appear in parallel grammatical form: a noun is listed with other nouns, an -ing form with other -ing forms, and so on. There are two reasons it is important to maintain parallelism in a series: Sentences that maintain parallelism are much easier to read and process than those that do not. With parallel structure: I like running, singing, and reading. Without parallel structure:I like running, singing, and to read.In the parallel structure, all of the objects of "like" are gerunds, -ing verbs acting as nouns. In the non-parallel structure, there are two gerunds acting as nouns and one infinitive (to read), which makes the sentence awkward and harder to process. 2. Maintaining parallelism helps writers avoid grammatically incorrect sentences. Below is an example of a grammatically incorrect sentence without parallel structure. The computer’s ability to multi-task, defend against viruses, and overall usability all improved when I updated the operating software. The grammar error becomes clear when you make a bullet-point list of each item following the part of the sentence that each item is meant to complete: The computer’s ability to: Multi-task Defend Usability “The computer’s ability to usability improved” is a grammatically incorrect sentence because all words following the phrase “the computer’s ability” must be verbs, but “usability” is a noun. By maintaining a parallel structure, you will avoid grammatically incorrect sentences containing lists. If you are unsure if a sentence is parallel and has grammatically correct structure, try making a bullet-point list like the one above. Writers should use parallel structure whether the items in the list or series are grammatical subjects, predicates, or objects. Mowing the lawn, trimming the shrubs, and edging the sidewalk took her two hours to complete. The writer interviewed two subject matter experts, edited four drafts, and composed two press releases. On Saturdays they may visit the open-air market, the docks, or the park. Parallel structure means using words that are alike in form and length in sentences.Proverbs and famous quotes often use parallel structure to make their message stronger and clearer.Using the same kind of words together keeps sentences balanced and makes writing easier to read. In English grammar, parallel structure involves two or more words, phrases, or clauses that are similar in length and grammatical form. Another word for parallel structure is parallelism. By convention, items in a series appear in parallel grammatical form: a noun is listed with other nouns, an -ing form with other -ing forms, and so on. There are two reasons it is important to maintain parallelism in a series: Sentences that maintain parallelism are much easier to read and process than those that do not. With parallel structure: I like running, singing, and reading. Without parallel structure:I like running, singing, and to read.In the parallel structure, all of the objects of "like" are gerunds, -ing verbs acting as nouns. In the non-parallel structure, there are two gerunds acting as nouns and one infinitive (to read), which makes the sentence awkward and harder to process. 2. Maintaining parallelism helps writers avoid grammatically incorrect sentences. Below is an example of a grammatically incorrect sentence without parallel structure. The computer’s ability to multi-task, defend against viruses, and overall usability all improved when I updated the operating software. The grammar error becomes clear when you make a bullet-point list of each item following the part of the sentence that each item is meant to complete: The computer’s ability to: Multi-task Defend Usability “The computer’s ability to usability improved” is a grammatically incorrect sentence because all words following the phrase “the computer’s ability” must be verbs, but “usability” is a noun. By maintaining a parallel structure, you will avoid grammatically incorrect sentences containing lists. If you are unsure if a sentence is parallel and has grammatically correct structure, try making a bullet-point list like the one above. Writers should use parallel structure whether the items in the list or series are grammatical subjects, predicates, or objects. Mowing the lawn, trimming the shrubs, and edging the sidewalk took her two hours to complete. The writer interviewed two subject matter experts, edited four drafts, and composed two press releases. On Saturdays they may visit the open-air market, the docks, or the park. Parallel structure means using words that are alike in form and length in sentences.Proverbs and famous quotes often use parallel structure to make their message stronger and clearer.Using the same kind of words together keeps sentences balanced and makes writing easier to read. In English grammar, parallel structure involves two or more words, phrases, or clauses that are similar in length and grammatical form. Another word for parallel structure is parallelism. By convention, items in a series appear in parallel grammatical form: a noun is listed with other nouns, an -ing form with other -ing forms, and so on. There are two reasons it is important to maintain parallelism in a series: Sentences that maintain parallelism are much easier to read and process than those that do not. With parallel structure: I like running, singing, and reading. Without parallel structure:I like running, singing, and to read.In the parallel structure, all of the objects of "like" are gerunds, -ing verbs acting as nouns. In the non-parallel structure, there are two gerunds acting as nouns and one infinitive (to read), which makes the sentence awkward and harder to process. 2. Maintaining parallelism helps writers avoid grammatically incorrect sentences. Below is an example of a grammatically incorrect sentence without parallel structure. The computer’s ability to multi-task, defend against viruses, and overall usability all improved when I updated the operating software. The grammar error becomes clear when you make a bullet-point list of each item following the part of the sentence that each item is meant to complete: The computer’s ability to: Multi-task Defend Usability “The computer’s ability to usability improved” is a grammatically incorrect sentence because all words following the phrase “the computer’s ability” must be verbs, but “usability” is a noun. By maintaining a parallel structure, you will avoid grammatically incorrect sentences containing lists. If you are unsure if a sentence is parallel and has grammatically correct structure, try making a bullet-point list like the one above. Writers should use parallel structure whether the items in the list or series are grammatical subjects, predicates, or objects. Mowing the lawn, trimming the shrubs, and edging the sidewalk took her two hours to complete. The writer interviewed two subject matter experts, edited four drafts, and composed two press releases. On Saturdays they may visit the open-air market, the docks, or the park. Parallel structure means using words that are alike in form and length in sentences.Proverbs and famous quotes often use parallel structure to make their message stronger and clearer.Using the same kind of words together keeps sentences balanced and makes writing easier to read. In English grammar, parallel structure involves two or more words, phrases, or clauses that are similar in length and grammatical form. Another word for parallel structure is parallelism. By convention, items in a series appear in parallel grammatical form: a noun is listed with other nouns, an -ing form with other -ing forms, and so on. There are two reasons it is important to maintain parallelism in a series: Sentences that maintain parallelism are much easier to read and process than those that do not. With parallel structure: I like running, singing, and reading. Without parallel structure:I like running, singing, and to read.In the parallel structure, all of the objects of "like" are gerunds, -ing verbs acting as nouns. In the non-parallel structure, there are two gerunds acting as nouns and one infinitive (to read), which makes the sentence awkward and harder to process. 2. Maintaining parallelism helps writers avoid grammatically incorrect sentences. Below is an example of a grammatically incorrect sentence without parallel structure. The computer’s ability to multi-task, defend against viruses, and overall usability all improved when I updated the operating software. The grammar error becomes clear when you make a bullet-point list of each item following the part of the sentence that each item is meant to complete: The computer’s ability to: Multi-task Defend Usability “The computer’s ability to usability improved” is a grammatically incorrect sentence because all words following the phrase “the computer’s ability” must be verbs, but “usability” is a noun. By maintaining a parallel structure, you will avoid grammatically incorrect sentences containing lists. If you are unsure if a sentence is parallel and has grammatically correct structure, try making a bullet-point list like the one above. Writers should use parallel structure whether the items in the list or series are grammatical subjects, predicates, or objects. Mowing the lawn, trimming the shrubs, and edging the sidewalk took her two hours to complete. The writer interviewed two subject matter experts, edited four drafts, and composed two press releases. On Saturdays they may visit the open-air market, the docks, or the park. Parallel structure means using words that are alike in form and length in sentences.Proverbs and famous quotes often use parallel structure to make their message stronger and clearer.Using the same kind of words together keeps sentences balanced and makes writing easier to read. In English grammar, parallel structure involves two or more words, phrases, or clauses that are similar in length and grammatical form. Another word for parallel structure is parallelism. By convention, items in a series appear in parallel grammatical form: a noun is listed with other nouns, an -ing form with other -ing forms, and so on. There are two reasons it is important to maintain parallelism in a series: Sentences that maintain parallelism are much easier to read and process than those that do not. With parallel structure: I like running, singing, and reading. Without parallel structure:I like running, singing, and to read.In the parallel structure, all of the objects of "like" are gerunds, -ing verbs acting as nouns. In the non-parallel structure, there are two gerunds acting as nouns and one infinitive (to read), which makes the sentence awkward and harder to process. 2. Maintaining parallelism helps writers avoid grammatically incorrect sentences. Below is an example of a grammatically incorrect sentence without parallel structure. The computer’s ability to multi-task, defend against viruses, and overall usability all improved when I updated the operating software. The grammar error becomes clear when you make a bullet-point list of each item following the part of the sentence that each item is meant to complete: The computer’s ability to: Multi-task Defend Usability “The computer’s ability to usability improved” is a grammatically incorrect sentence because all words following the phrase “the computer’s ability” must be verbs, but “usability” is a noun. By maintaining a parallel structure, you will avoid grammatically incorrect sentences containing lists. If you are unsure if a sentence is parallel and has grammatically correct structure, try making a bullet-point list like the one above. Writers should use parallel structure whether the items in the list or series are grammatical subjects, predicates, or objects. Mowing the lawn, trimming the shrubs, and edging the sidewalk took her two hours to complete. The writer interviewed two subject matter experts, edited four drafts, and composed two press releases. On Saturdays they may visit the open-air market, the docks, or the park. Parallel structure means using words that are alike in form and length in sentences.Proverbs and famous quotes often use parallel structure to make their message stronger and clearer.Using the same kind of words together keeps sentences balanced and makes writing easier to read. In English grammar, parallel structure involves two or more words, phrases, or clauses that are similar in length and grammatical form. Another word for parallel structure is parallelism. By convention, items in a series appear in parallel grammatical form: a noun is listed with other nouns, an -ing form with other -ing forms, and so on. There are two reasons it is important to maintain parallelism in a series: Sentences that maintain parallelism are much easier to read and process than those that do not. With parallel structure: I like running, singing, and reading. Without parallel structure:I like running, singing, and to read.In the parallel structure, all of the objects of "like" are gerunds, -ing verbs acting as nouns. In the non-parallel structure, there are two gerunds acting as nouns and one infinitive (to read), which makes the sentence awkward and harder to process. 2. Maintaining parallelism helps writers avoid grammatically incorrect sentences. Below is an example of a grammatically incorrect sentence without parallel structure. The computer’s ability to multi-task, defend against viruses, and overall usability all improved when I updated the operating software. The grammar error becomes clear when you make a bullet-point list of each item following the part of the sentence that each item is meant to complete: The computer’s ability to: Multi-task Defend Usability “The computer’s ability to usability improved” is a grammatically incorrect sentence because all words following the phrase “the computer’s ability” must be verbs, but “usability” is a noun. By maintaining a parallel structure, you will avoid grammatically incorrect sentences containing lists. If you are unsure if a sentence is parallel and has grammatically correct structure, try making a bullet-point list like the one above. Writers should use parallel structure whether the items in the list or series are grammatical subjects, predicates, or objects. Mowing the lawn, trimming the shrubs, and edging the sidewalk took her two hours to complete. The writer interviewed two subject matter experts, edited four drafts, and composed two press releases. On Saturdays they may visit the open-air market, the docks, or the park. Parallel structure means using words that are alike in form and length in sentences.Proverbs and famous quotes often use parallel structure to make their message stronger and clearer.Using the same kind of words together keeps sentences balanced and makes writing easier to read. In English grammar, parallel structure involves two or more words, phrases, or clauses that are similar in length and grammatical form. Another word for parallel structure is parallelism. By convention, items in a series appear in parallel grammatical form: a noun is listed with other nouns, an -ing form with other -ing forms, and so on. There are two reasons it is important to maintain parallelism in a series: Sentences that maintain parallelism are much easier to read and process than those that do not. With parallel structure: I like running, singing, and reading. Without parallel structure:I like running, singing, and to read.In the parallel structure, all of the objects of "like" are gerunds, -ing verbs acting as nouns. In the non-parallel structure, there are two gerunds acting as nouns and one infinitive (to read), which makes the sentence awkward and harder to process. 2. Maintaining parallelism helps writers avoid grammatically incorrect sentences. Below is an example of a grammatically incorrect sentence without parallel structure. The computer’s ability to multi-task, defend against viruses, and overall usability all improved when I updated the operating software. The grammar error becomes clear when you make a bullet-point list of each item following the part of the sentence that each item is meant to complete: The computer’s ability to: Multi-task Defend Usability “The computer’s ability to usability improved” is a grammatically incorrect sentence because all words following the phrase “the computer’s ability” must be verbs, but “usability” is a noun. By maintaining a parallel structure, you will avoid grammatically incorrect sentences containing lists. If you are unsure if a sentence is parallel and has grammatically correct structure, try making a bullet-point list like the one above. Writers should use parallel structure whether the items in the list or series are grammatical subjects, predicates, or objects. Mowing the lawn, trimming the shrubs, and edging the sidewalk took her two hours to complete. The writer interviewed two subject matter experts, edited four drafts, and composed two press releases. On Saturdays they may visit the open-air market, the docks, or the park. Parallel structure means using words that are alike in form and length in sentences.Proverbs and famous quotes often use parallel structure to make their message stronger and clearer.Using the same kind of words together keeps sentences balanced and makes writing easier to read. In English grammar, parallel structure involves two or more words, phrases, or clauses that are similar in length and grammatical form. Another word for parallel structure is parallelism. By convention, items in a series appear in parallel grammatical form: a noun is listed with other nouns, an -ing form with other -ing forms, and so on. There are two reasons it is important to maintain parallelism in a series: Sentences that maintain parallelism are much easier to read and process than those that do not. With parallel structure: I like running, singing, and reading. Without parallel structure:I like running, singing, and to read.In the parallel structure, all of the objects of "like" are gerunds, -ing verbs acting as nouns. In the non-parallel structure, there are two gerunds acting as nouns and one infinitive (to read), which makes the sentence awkward and harder to process. 2. Maintaining parallelism helps writers avoid grammatically incorrect sentences. Below is an example of a grammatically incorrect sentence without parallel structure. The computer’s ability to multi-task, defend against viruses, and overall usability all improved when I updated the operating software. The grammar error becomes clear when you make a bullet-point list of each item following the part of the sentence that each item is meant to complete: The computer’s ability to: Multi-task Defend Usability “The computer’s ability to usability improved” is a grammatically incorrect sentence because all words following the phrase “the computer’s ability” must be verbs, but “usability” is a noun. By maintaining a parallel structure, you will avoid grammatically incorrect sentences containing lists. If you are unsure if a sentence is parallel and has grammatically correct structure, try making a bullet-point list like the one above. Writers should use parallel structure whether the items in the list or series are grammatical subjects, predicates, or objects. Mowing the lawn, trimming the shrubs, and edging the sidewalk took her two hours to complete. The writer interviewed two subject matter experts, edited four drafts, and composed two press releases. On Saturdays they may visit the open-air market, the docks, or the park. Parallel structure means using words that are alike in form and length in sentences.Proverbs and famous quotes often use parallel structure to make their message stronger and clearer.Using the same kind of words together keeps sentences balanced and makes writing easier to read. In English grammar, parallel structure involves two or more words, phrases, or clauses that are similar in length and grammatical form. Another word for parallel structure is parallelism. By convention, items in a series appear in parallel grammatical form: a noun is listed with other nouns, an -ing form with other -ing forms, and so on. There are two reasons it is important to maintain parallelism in a series: Sentences that maintain parallelism are much easier to read and process than those that do not. With parallel structure: I like running, singing, and reading. Without parallel structure:I like running, singing, and to read.In the parallel structure, all of the objects of "like" are gerunds, -ing verbs acting as nouns. In the non-parallel structure, there are two gerunds acting as nouns and one infinitive (to read), which makes the sentence awkward and harder to process. 2. Maintaining parallelism helps writers avoid grammatically incorrect sentences. Below is an example of a grammatically incorrect sentence without parallel structure. The computer’s ability to multi-task, defend against viruses, and overall usability all improved when I updated the operating software. The grammar error becomes clear when you make a bullet-point list of each item following the part of the sentence that each item is meant to complete: The computer’s ability to: Multi-task Defend Usability “The computer’s ability to usability improved” is a grammatically incorrect sentence because all words following the phrase “the computer’s ability” must be verbs, but “usability” is a noun. By maintaining a parallel structure, you will avoid grammatically incorrect sentences containing lists. If you are unsure if a sentence is parallel and has grammatically correct structure, try making a bullet-point list like the one above. Writers should use parallel structure whether the items in the list or series are grammatical subjects, predicates, or objects. Mowing the lawn, trimming the shrubs, and edging the sidewalk took her two hours to complete. The writer interviewed two subject matter experts, edited four drafts, and composed two press releases. On Saturdays they may visit the open-air market, the docks, or the park. Parallel structure means using words that are alike in form and length in sentences.Proverbs and famous quotes often use parallel structure to make their message stronger and clearer.Using the same kind of words together keeps sentences balanced and makes writing easier to read. In English grammar, parallel structure involves two or more words, phrases, or clauses that are similar in length and grammatical form. Another word for parallel structure is parallelism. By convention, items in a series appear in parallel grammatical form: a noun is listed with other nouns, an -ing form with other -ing forms, and so on. There are two reasons it is important to maintain parallelism in a series: Sentences that maintain parallelism are much easier to read and process than those that do not. With parallel structure: I like running, singing, and reading. Without parallel structure:I like running, singing, and to read.In the parallel structure, all of the objects of "like" are gerunds, -ing verbs acting as nouns. In the non-parallel structure, there are two gerunds acting as nouns and one infinitive (to read), which makes the sentence awkward and harder to process. 2. Maintaining parallelism helps writers avoid grammatically incorrect sentences. Below is an example of a grammatically incorrect sentence without parallel structure. The computer’s ability to multi-task, defend against viruses, and overall usability all improved when I updated the operating software. The grammar error becomes clear when you make a bullet-point list of each item following the part of the sentence that each item is meant to complete: The computer’s ability to: Multi-task Defend Usability “The computer’s ability to usability improved” is a grammatically incorrect sentence because all words following the phrase “the computer’s ability” must be verbs, but “usability” is a noun. By maintaining a parallel structure, you will avoid grammatically incorrect sentences containing lists. If you are unsure if a sentence is parallel and has grammatically correct structure, try making a bullet-point list like the one above. Writers should use parallel structure whether the items in the list or series are grammatical subjects, predicates, or objects. Mowing the lawn, trimming the shrubs, and edging the sidewalk took her two hours to complete. The writer interviewed two subject matter experts, edited four drafts, and composed two press releases. On Saturdays they may visit the open-air market, the docks, or the park. Parallel structure means using words that are alike in form and length in sentences.Proverbs and famous quotes often use parallel structure to make their message stronger and clearer.Using the same kind of words together keeps sentences balanced and makes writing easier to read. In English grammar, parallel structure involves two or more words, phrases, or clauses that are similar in length and grammatical form. Another word for parallel structure is parallelism. By convention, items in a series appear in parallel grammatical form: a noun is listed with other nouns, an -ing form with other -ing forms, and so on. There are two reasons it is important to maintain parallelism in a series: Sentences that maintain parallelism are much easier to read and process than those that do not. With parallel structure: I like running, singing, and reading. Without parallel structure:I like running, singing, and to read.In the parallel structure, all of the objects of "like" are gerunds, -ing verbs acting as nouns. In the non-parallel structure, there are two gerunds acting as nouns and one infinitive (to read), which makes the sentence awkward and harder to process. 2. Maintaining parallelism helps writers avoid grammatically incorrect sentences. Below is an example of a grammatically incorrect sentence without parallel structure. The computer’s ability to multi-task, defend against viruses, and overall usability all improved when I updated the operating software. The grammar error becomes clear when you make a bullet-point list of each item following the part of the sentence that each item is meant to complete: The computer’s ability to: Multi-task Defend Usability “The computer’s ability to usability improved” is a grammatically incorrect sentence because all words following the phrase “the computer’s ability” must be verbs, but “usability” is a noun. By maintaining a parallel structure, you will avoid grammatically incorrect sentences containing lists. If you are unsure if a sentence is parallel and has grammatically correct structure, try making a bullet-point list like the one above. Writers should use parallel structure whether the items in the list or series are grammatical subjects, predicates, or objects. Mowing the lawn, trimming the shrubs, and edging the sidewalk took her two hours to complete. The writer interviewed two subject matter experts, edited four drafts, and composed two press releases. On Saturdays they may visit the open-air market, the docks, or the park. Parallel structure means using words that are alike in form and length in sentences.Proverbs and famous quotes often use parallel structure to make their message stronger and clearer.Using the same kind of words together keeps sentences balanced and makes writing easier to read. In English grammar, parallel structure involves two or more words, phrases, or clauses that are similar in length and grammatical form. Another word for parallel structure is parallelism. By convention, items in a series appear in parallel grammatical form: a noun is listed with other nouns, an -ing form with other -ing forms, and so on. There are two reasons it is important to maintain parallelism in a series: Sentences that maintain parallelism are much easier to read and process than those that do not. With parallel structure: I like running, singing, and reading. Without parallel structure:I like running, singing, and to read.In the parallel structure, all of the objects of "like" are gerunds, -ing verbs acting as nouns. In the non-parallel structure, there are two gerunds acting as nouns and one infinitive (to read), which makes the sentence awkward and harder to process. 2. Maintaining parallelism helps writers avoid grammatically incorrect sentences. Below is an example of a grammatically incorrect sentence without parallel structure. The computer’s ability to multi-task, defend against viruses, and overall usability all improved when I updated the operating software. The grammar error becomes clear when you make a bullet-point list of each item following the part of the sentence that each item is meant to complete: The computer’s ability to: Multi-task Defend Usability “The computer’s ability to usability improved” is a grammatically incorrect sentence because all words following the phrase “the computer’s ability” must be verbs, but “usability” is a noun. By maintaining a parallel structure, you will avoid grammatically incorrect sentences containing lists. If you are unsure if a sentence is parallel and has grammatically correct structure, try making a bullet-point list like the one above. Writers should use parallel structure whether the items in the list or series are grammatical subjects, predicates, or objects. Mowing the lawn, trimming the shrubs, and edging the sidewalk took her two hours to complete. The writer interviewed two subject matter experts, edited four drafts, and composed two press releases. On Saturdays they may visit the open-air market, the docks, or the park. Parallel structure means using words that are alike in form and length in sentences.Proverbs and famous quotes often use parallel structure to make their message stronger and clearer.Using the same kind of words together keeps sentences balanced and makes writing easier to read. In English grammar, parallel structure involves two or more words, phrases, or clauses that are similar in length and grammatical form. Another word for parallel structure is parallelism. By convention, items in a series appear in parallel grammatical form: a noun is listed with other nouns, an -ing form with other -ing forms, and so on. There are two reasons it is important to maintain parallelism in a series: Sentences that maintain parallelism are much easier to read and process than those that do not. With parallel structure: I like running, singing, and reading. Without parallel structure:I like running, singing, and to read.In the parallel structure, all of the objects of "like" are gerunds, -ing verbs acting as nouns. In the non-parallel structure, there are two gerunds acting as nouns and one infinitive (to read), which makes the sentence awkward and harder to process.