

Parallel Use in Sentences

Parallel Structure means using the same construction for elements in a sentence that have the same function. Use parallel structure when:

- Elements are joined by coordinating conjunctions;
- Writing elements in the form of a list or series; and
- Comparing or contrasting elements (i.e., A is better than B).



EXAMPLES:

- Katy hates going to school *and* doing her homework.
- Jim is friendly, outgoing, and ambitious.
- I like Alice more than I like Carol.

DIRECTIONS: Choose words to fill in the blank that give the correct parallel sentence structure.

_____ 1. John prefers reading to _____.

- A. ...write.
- B. ...doing writing.
- C. ...writing.

_____ 2. Paula wants to eat, play and _____ at the picnic.

- A. ...go swimming
- B. ...swim
- C. ...to go swimming

_____ 3. Right after work and _____, everyone in our house is grumpy

- A. ...getting home from school ...
- B. ...school...
- C. ...right after school...

_____ 4. The secret to health is having good friends, eating a good diet, and ____.

- A. ...good night's sleep...
- B. ...get a good night's sleep...
- C. ...getting a good night's sleep