

# Parallel Structure

Parallel structure means using the same or similar grammatical pattern to show that multiple ideas are equally important. Parallel structure can occur at the word, phrase, or clause level.



**Ordinary Sentences:** Kim likes writing. She also sews. She swims too.

**Parallel Structure:** Kim likes writing, sewing, and swimming.

Kim likes to write, to sew, and to swim.

In the first example above, the parallel structure is created by the repetition of gerunds: writing, sewing, swimming. In the second example, the parallel structure is created by the repetition of infinitives: to write, to sew, to swim.

**DIRECTIONS:** Do the sentences use parallel structure?

\_\_\_\_\_ 1. I texted. I called. I showed up.

\_\_\_\_\_ 2. Let's have some soup before we eat.

\_\_\_\_\_ 3. George has been whining, crying, and cajoling.

\_\_\_\_\_ 4. Anna got lost. Kent found her.