

Polysyndeton

Polysyndeton is a literary device in which a single conjunction, most commonly and, is repeated in close succession. The word polysyndeton is Greek, and it means “many connected.”

Polysyndeton has three functions:

1. To emphasize each item in a list
2. To make a sentence more rhythmic
3. To make a sentence seem “childlike”



Read the example below. Underline the polysyndeton.

"I ask you to look back on your moments of powerlessness. Look back to that moment where you had to get on your knees and scrub and sweep and mop and wax and buff and buff and buff and rebuff and buff again, a floor that someone was going to walk on and promptly scuff two minutes later. That feeling is what it is to be human. Humble yourself and accept your humanity—and don't deny it in others." ~ DeCarol Davis

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Now read or listen to the assigned text. Write down an instance of polysyndeton.
