

Parallelism Exercises

Parallelism is when closely related parts of a sentence fit together using similar grammatical form. It makes writing clearer and easier for the reader to understand.

A. One item in each of the groups is not parallel to the others. Cross it out, and then substitute it with an item that is parallel with the rest of the group.

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|-------------|---------|------------|----------------------|-------------|
| 1. Swimming | 2. Blue | 3. Watched | 5. Reading carefully | 4. Toronto |
| Biking | Banana | Ate | Biking slowly | Yukon |
| Paddle | Red | Slept | Jumping quickly | Manitoba |
| Running | Purple | Drive | To stand | Nova Scotia |

B. The following may have one or more items that are not parallel with the others. Make all of the items in the group parallel. (There is more than one way to do this.)

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|------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. A School of fish | 2. Elegance | 3. To barbeque | 4. Beautiful pictures |
| Lions proudly lounging | Tall | Cooked on a stove | Loudly singing |
| Crocodiles swimming together | Gracefully | Grilling evenly | Playing volleyball with friends |
| A Murder of crows | Easy-going personality | Food that's baked in an oven | To cook pasta for dinner |

C. Correct the faulty parallelism in the following sentences to make them clear, concise, and easy to read.

1. Wen gets her daily exercise by walking her dog, going for a bike ride, and cleaning.

2. Would you prefer the graceful owl, rats, or a sneaky cat as your pet?

3. The difference between rural and country living is the height of the buildings and the population.

4. Stress makes it difficult to exercise regularly, have relationships that are stable, and be eating food with benefits to one's health.

5. The TLC can help your writing skills, to gain independence, and confidently completing your assignments.
