

Y790-32707 - Assignment 5: Parallelism Exercises

Caner Dericci

1 Parallelism Exercise

Edit the following items to correct any errors in **parallelism**.

1. Between 1891 and 1894, Jack London spent his time as a sailor, a waterfront loafer, and sometimes was a hobo.

Between 1891 and 1894, Jack London spent his time as a sailor, a waterfront loafer, and sometimes a hobo.

2. In addition to writing poems, Carl Sandburg sang folk songs and was collecting old ballads.

In addition to writing poems, Carl Sandburg was singing folk songs and collecting old ballads.

3. Robert Frost not only wrote poems but also an instructor of poetry.

Robert Frost not only wrote poems but also instructed poetry.

4. Before the age of thirty, Samuel Clemens

- worked as a printer
- piloted boats on the Mississippi
- newspaper reporter in Virginia City and San Francisco

Before the age of thirty, Samuel Clemens

- worked as a printer
- piloted boats on the Mississippi
- reported to newspapers in Virginia City and San Francisco

5. Before Little Women was published, its author, Lousia May Alcott, nursed Union soldiers and edited a magazine for children.

Correct

6. Katherine Anne Porter enjoyed reporting for a newspaper and taught at several colleges in addition to writing novels and short stories.

Katherine Anne Porter enjoyed reporting for a newspaper and teaching at several colleges, in addition to writing novels and short stories.

7. As a girl, Eudora Welty enjoyed golfing, baseball and bicycling; as an adult, after working for a radio station and a newspaper, she started to write fiction and taking photographs.

As a girl, Eudora Welty enjoyed golfing, playing baseball and bicycling; as an adult, after working for a radio station and a newspaper, she enjoyed writing fiction and taking photographs.

8. Flannery O'Connor, confined to the family farm by chronic illness for most of her adult life, disciplined herself to sit down at her desk every day and working there for two hours whether she felt inspired or not.

Flannery O'Connor, confined to the family farm by chronic illness for most of her adult life, disciplined herself to sit down at her desk every day and work there for two hours whether she felt inspired or not.

9. Edith Wharton, whose upper-class background relieved her from ever having to worry about money, is admired for her novels about New York society as well as for writing *Ethan Frome*, a brief novel set in New England.

Edith Wharton, whose upper-class background relieved her from ever having to worry about money, is admired for her novels about New York society as well as her brief novel set in New England for *Ethan Frome*.

10. Poet Edna St. Vincent Millat lived as a young woman in New York City, where she found freedom to voice her opinions, set her own rules, and concentrate on her writing career.

Correct

2 Paragraph Transition Exercises (handout)

1. *In the following passage, one or more words at the beginning of the second paragraph have been deleted. Use a transitional word or phrase to clarify the shift between the two paragraphs.*

As children growing up in a small town, my brother and I were the only ones whose father was “different.” He couldn’t sing the national anthem or remember the words of the Pledge of Allegiance and found it difficult to comprehend the intricacies of football and baseball.

Nevertheless, he was a very special parent. On rainy days he was always waiting for us at the school door, rubbers in hand; if we were ill he was there to take us home. He owrked in town and was available to take us to music and dancing lessons or on little drives. When I was a small child he planted beside my window a beautiful oak tree grew to be taller than our home.

– Janet Heller, “About Morris Heller”

2. *In the following passage, we have deleted the first sentence of the second paragraph and the first two sentences of the third. For each of those paragraphs write one or two opening sentences to clarify the transition from one paragraph to the next.*

Outside, in our childhood summers—the war. The summers of 1939 to ’45. I was six and finally twelve; and the war was three thousand miles to the right where London, Warsaw, Cologne crouched huge, immortal under nights of bombs or, farther, to the left where our men (among them three cousins of mine) crawled over dead friends from foxhole to foxhole towards Tokyo or, terribly, where there were children (our age, our size) starving, fleeing, trapped, stripped, abandoned.

(1). A shot would ring in the midst of our play, freezing us in the knowledge that here at last were the first Storm Troopers till we thought and looked—Mrs. Hightower’s Ford. And any plane passing overhead after dark seemed pregnant with black chutes ready to blossom. There were hints that war was nearer than it seemed—swastikated subs off Hatteras or the German sailor’s tattered corpse washed up at Virginia Beach with a Norfolk movie ticket in his pocket.

(1). (2). Our deadly threats were polio, being hit by a car, drowning in pure chlorine if we swam after eating. No shot was fired for a hundred miles. (Fort Bragg – a hundred miles.) We had excess food to shame us at every meal, excess clothes to fling about us in the heat of play.

– Reynolds Price, *Permanent Errors*