

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Parallel Structure Worksheet

### Finding the Errors

Parallel structure means using the same pattern of words to show that two or more ideas have the same level of importance. This can happen at the word, phrase, or clause level. By balancing the items in a pair or a series so that they have the same kind of structure, it will make the sentence clearer and easier to read.

Examples: Peter likes the violin, the flute and the trumpet.

She played tennis, had a breakfast and went to college.

**Instruction:** Read the sentences below. Then decide whether or not these contain errors in parallel structure.

1. Jonathan enjoys hunting for falcons, spending time with family, and painting the landscapes.
2. The chicken was oily, grease was on the garlic bread, and the potatoes were cold.
3. The teacher warned me to revise my essay and pay close attention to details.
4. Steve is not only talented as an athlete, but also as an anchor.
5. Martha is calm, soft-spoken, and has patience.
6. These strawberries are ripe, juicy, and sweet.
7. She wants to go to England and studying at the London School of Economics.
8. The tourists reached the castle, and then they crossed the monument.
9. Because Mary stopped for a suitcase, her taxi was missed.
10. My sister likes watching TV and to listen music.
11. Jane is crazy about riding a horse more than reading a book.
12. He considers your behavior nice, responsible, and polite.

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#### Answer key

Instruction: Read the sentences below. Then decide whether or not these contain errors in parallel structure.

- Jonathan enjoys hunting for falcons, spending time with family, and painting the landscapes. (P)
- The chicken was oily, grease was on the garlic bread, and the potatoes were cold. (NP)  
The chicken was oily, the garlic bread was greasy, and the potatoes were cold.
- The teacher warned me to revise my essay and pay close attention to details. (P)
- Steve is not only talented as an athlete, but also as an anchor. (P)
- Martha is calm, soft-spoken, and has patience. (NP)  
Martha is calm, soft-spoken, and patient.
- These strawberries are ripe, juicy and sweet. (P)
- She wants to go to England and studying at the London School of Economics. (NP)  
She wants to go to England and study at the London School of Economics.
- The tourists reached the castle, and then they crossed the monument. (P)
- Because Mary stopped for a suitcase, her taxi was missed. (NP)  
Because Mary stopped for a suitcase, she missed her taxi.
- My sister likes watching TV and to listen music. (NP)  
My sister likes watching TV and listening music.
- Jane is crazy about riding a horse more than reading a book. (P)
- He considers your behavior nice, responsible, and polite. (P)