**INFO SHEET #3: PARALLELISM**

**Competency**

**MELC:** EN8G-Ia-7: Use parallel structures.

**Objectives**

After the end of the lessons, the learners are expected to be able to:

1. Distinguish phrases used to construct parallelism in sentences;

2. Identify the correct parallel structure in a series of phrases;

3. Construct sentences using correct parallelism in a series of phrases.

**Key Information**

**PARALLELISM in SERIES OF WORDS**

Parallelism is the placement of equal ideas in words, phrases, or clauses of similar types. Parallel grammatical structures can be two or more words of the same part of speech. Parallelism in series of words can be a combination of the following:

A. **NOUN** – a word that pertains to the name of persons, places, things, events, animals, and ideas.

Example: NOUN+ NOUN = **Lemon** and **orange** are good source of Vitamin C.

B. **VERB** – a word that expresses action or state of being. Remember that in using verbs, they should also

show parallelism in its tense.

Example: VERB + VERB = Susan **raised** her hand and **snapped** her fingers.

*past tense verb past tense verb*

My dog **barks**, **jumps**, and **wags** his tail when the doorbell rings.

*present tense verb present tense verb*

C. **ADJECTIVE** – a word that is used to describe or modify a noun or a pronoun.

Example: ADJECTIVE + ADJECTIVE = The old man is extremely **kind** and **generous**.

D. **ADVERB** – a word that is used to describe or modify a verb, an adjective or and adverb.

Example: ADVERB + ADVERB = All of the puppies **gleefully** and **happily** hopped.

E. **GERUNDS** – the -ing form of verbs but used as a nouns

Example: GERUND + GERUND = Mary likes **hiking**, **swimming**, and **running**.

**Correcting Faulty Parallelism**

Faulty Parallelism occurs when a writer fails to use equal grammatical structures to express related ideas. You can correct a sentence containing faulty parallelism by rewriting it so that each parallel idea is expressed in the same grammatical structure.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Non- Parallel Structure** | **Corrected Sentences** |
| *noun noun verb phrase*  **Strength**, **agility**, and **concentrating well** make a  successful wrestler. | *noun noun verb phrase*  **Strength**, **agility**, and **concentration** make a  successful wrestler. |
| *verb verb gerund*  Nica **dances**, **sings**, and **acting** in the contest. | *verb verb verb*  Nica **dances**, **sings**, and **acting** in the contest. |
| *noun adjective adjective*  The Creator is **power**, **mighty** and **glorious**. | *adjective adjective adjective*  The Creator is **power**, **mighty** and **glorious**. |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Non- Parallel Structure** | **Corrected Sentences** |
| *adverb prepositional phrase*  The rain fell **steadily** and **with heavy rain drops.** | *adverb adverb*  The rain fell **steadily** and **heavily.** |
| *gerund infinitive phrase*  He likes both **painting** and **to draw**. | *gerund gerund*  He likes both **painting** and **drawing**. |

Sources:

Catacutan C., Macajelos, E., Del Mundo, W., Valdez, MC. (2006). English of the New Generation III. Sunshine Interlinks Publishing House, Incorporated.

Forlini, G., et.al. (2004). Prentice Hall Grammar and Composition 3. Pearson Education South Asia Pte Ltd.

Parallel Structure. (1995 – 2020). Retrieved from https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general\_writing/mechanics/parallel\_structure.html

**PHRASE PARALLEL STRUCTURE**

Parallel Structure can also take place with phrases. This type of parallel structure can be more difficult to

recognize as the sentences are more complex. Parallelism in series of phrases can be a combination of the following:

**A. NOUN PHRASE** – A noun phrase must have a noun on which other modifiers are connected

Example: The doctor took the drugs, the medicine and the equipment to the hospital.

**B. VERB PHRASE** – a word that expresses action or state of being. It consists of a verb and its object.

Example: As soon as I arrive home, I put on my shoes and go for a run.

**C. PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE**- a group of words which are made up of a preposition and its object

Example: The mouse ran across the floor, under the table, and into its hole.

**D. ADVERB PHRASE** – are known to answer the questions that describe how, when, where, or how

something was done.

Example: He completed the task assigned as quickly as possible and as silent as possible.

**E. ADJECTIVE PHRASE** – refers to a group of words comprising of an adjective. An adjective phrase tells

more information about a noun or a pronoun.

Example: The dog that seems very angry and that is very perilous barks all day long.

**F. GERUND PHRASE** – A gerund is a noun made from a verb root plus -ing (a present participle). A whole

gerund phrase functions in a sentence just like a noun, and can act as a subject, an object, or a

predicate nominative.

Example: He enjoys playing tennis and working out.

**G. INFINITIVE PHRASE** – An infinitive phrase is the infinitive form of a verb plus any complements and

modifiers. It formed by the preposition to + verb ad may function as noun, adjective, or adverb.

Example: Jackson hopes to visit his parents and to see his old friends when he goes home.

**Correcting Faulty Parallelism**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Non- Parallel Structure** | **Corrected Sentences** |
| *adjective phrase adjective clause*  **Barking dogs**, **kittens that were meowing**, **and**    *adjective phrase*  **squawking parakeets** greet the pet shop visitors. | *adjective phrases adjective phrases*  **Barking dogs**, **meowing kittens**, and **squawking**  **parakeets** greet the pet shop visitors. |
| *verb phrase*  During class, Samuel spent his time ***flirting with***  *independent clause verb phrase*  ***Brittney***, ***he ate candy***, and ***doodling their names.*** | *verb phrase*  During class, Samuel spent his time ***flirting with***  *verb phrase verb phrase*  ***Brittney***, ***eating candy***, and ***doodling on the their names.*** |
| Alex looked everywhere for his math book—***under***  *prepositional phrase independent clause*  ***the bed***, ***on his desk***, and ***he searched inside the refrigerator.*** | Alex looked everywhere for his math book—***under***  *prepositional phrase prepositional phrase*  ***the bed***, ***on his desk***, and ***inside the refrigerator***. |

**Proposed Performance Tasks**

**Let’s Parallel!**

Think of any topic that interests you. Construct an essay of your chosen topic. Use the correct parallel structures. Be guided by the rubrics.

**Rubrics**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Standard** | **Points** |
| PARALLELISM | Parallelism of different phrases evident and correctly done in all five sentences. The parallel sentence is understandable.  Choice of parallel phrases fits the requirement in each sentence. | 5 |
| CONVENTIONS | Sentence were written correctly with little to no error in spelling, grammar, punctuations, and capitalization | 5 |
| EFFORTS | All answers were written legibly with little to no erasures. Learner’s efforts to complete the task is very evident. | 5 |

References:

Noun Phrase: Definition, Components and Examples of Noun Phrases. Retrieved January 20,2021, from https://7esl.com/noun-phrase/.

Adverbial Phrase (Adverb Phrase) Definition, Usage and Examples. Retrieved January 20,2021, from https://7esl.com/adverbial-phrase/.

Adjective Phrase Definition and Useful Examples. Retrieved January 20,2021, from https://7esl.com/adjective-phrase/.

Parallelism in Writing for English Learners. ThoughtCo. Retrieved, January 20,2021, from https://www.thoughtco.com/parallelism-parallel-structure-1212405.

What is a Gerund Phrase. Grammarly blog. Retrieved January 20,2021, from https://www.grammarly.com/blog/gerund-phrase/#:~:text=A%20gerund%20phrase%20is%20a,object%2C%20or%20a%20predicate%20nominative