

Parallel Structure – Exercise 2

This handout accompanies Exercise 2 of *Grammar Bytes!* Get the answers by doing the interactive version of the exercise at this address: <http://chompchomp.com/exercises.htm>

Directions: Determine whether the sentences below contain errors in parallel structure. **Fix any problems that you find.**

1. Pancakes dripping with syrup, coffee steaming in big mugs, and bacon frying on the stove make breakfast at Grandma's house a real treat.
2. Le'Ron scowled at Professor Nguyen, was muttering under his breath, and sighed heavily, but in truth he loved taking algebra exams.
3. Skipping the directions, hurrying to finish first, and neglecting to recheck her work have caused Claudia to fail every calculus exam this semester.
4. At the family reunion, we ate Grandma's barbecued ribs, Aunt Sally's potato salad, and heaping plates of jiggling banana Jell-O prepared by Cousin Sue.
5. Claude glanced at his watch, took a last sip of coffee, and began his trek to Dr. Grayson's three-hour snooze fest on the French Revolution.
6. Vacuuming under the furniture, dusting the ceiling fans, and scrubbing the tile grout with a toothbrush, Jerry prepared the house for his ultra-picky mother-in-law.
7. The sky grew pink, seagulls began to cry, and waves rolled onshore as Diane took her morning stroll on the beach.
8. During the exam, Mary sucked the ends of her hair, chewed the top of her pencil, and all the while she was picking at a scab on her elbow, but she could not remember the third cause of the French Revolution.
9. Solita has packed an orange soda not only for herself but also Josh.
10. Josh neglected not only to thank Solita, but he also gave a sip of orange soda to Reva, Solita's rival.
11. Reva not only drank from the bottle of orange soda but also got hot pink lipstick on the rim.

12. Josh thinks Annie is the most beautiful woman in Springfield, so he has no interest in dating either Solita or going out with Reva.
13. Frances searched the car trunk, on the pantry shelves, and the top of the refrigerator, but she could not find the box of cornflakes she remembered buying.
14. Waves that crash against the shore, chanting monks, and chirping birds are the sound files Wendell enjoys on his iPod.
15. Filled with holiday spirit, Ximena bought a Christmas present not only for her boyfriend Andre but also for his obnoxious younger brother Pierre.
16. Eli held the phone on his lap, trying to work up the courage to call the beautiful Leodine. All the while, his foot jiggled, his nostrils flared, and sweat was collecting on his upper lip.
17. On school mornings, Rachel can sleep through anything, even with the alarm clock buzzing or when Mom bangs on the bedroom door.
18. On vacation, Patrick can trust neither his roommates nor the veterinary staff with Squeeze, his 9-foot albino python, so he hides his beloved reptile in a suitcase and sneaks him into hotel rooms.
19. While Patrick is sightseeing, Squeeze will either find a patch of sunlight under a window or he will curl up under a table lamp.
20. Squeeze shocked neither the maid who cleaned the room nor the valet who brought room service.



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