

Use Parallel Structure: Review

Parallel structure improves the flow and readability of your sentences! It's important to use the same grammatical form when listing two or more linked ideas in a sentence so that readers can easily follow and understand your writing. Mixing grammatical forms can break up patterns and make sentence sound clunky. For example:

Not Parallel

Luke's dentist recommended brushing twice a day, dental floss, and to use a good mouthwash.

Parallel

Luke's dentist recommended **brushing** twice a day, **flossing**, and **using** a good mouthwash.

or

Luke's dentist recommended that he **brush** twice a day, **floss**, and **use** a good mouthwash.

Circle the choice that correctly completes each sentence.

- Lorena knew spring had arrived when she noticed the budding trees, the blooming crocuses, and the _____.
 singing birds birds were singing
- After she graduates high school, Aisha plans to take a year off, travel around South America, and _____ which colleges she'll apply to.
 decide will decide
- Even though he hadn't played the oboe in years, Emmanuel had no problem reading the sheet music, hitting most of the notes, and _____.
 daily practice practicing daily
- Kathryn and her grandparents spend their visits watching old sci-fi movies, making homemade gnocchi, and _____.
 working on a 1,000-piece jigsaw puzzle with a 1,000-piece jigsaw puzzle
- Before Dorian began fostering the stray kitten, he ensured that the kitten wouldn't be able to escape out the front door, _____, or over the garden gate.
 the bathroom window through the bathroom window
- When the guests walked into Malachi's elaborate dinner party, they admired the decorations, beheld a large spread of appetizers, and _____.
 a delicious five-course meal anticipated a delicious five-course meal