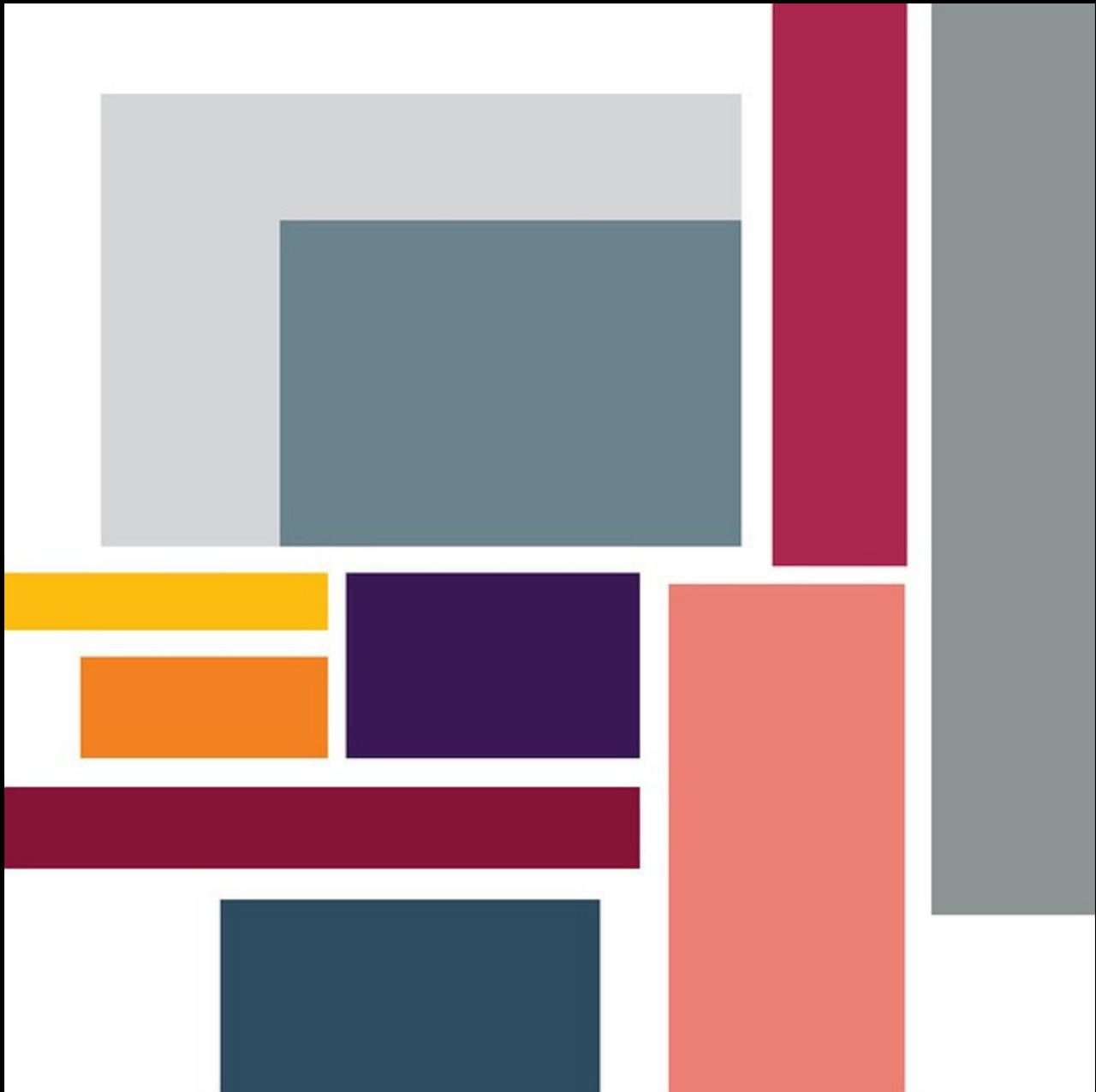


# Parallel Structure



# Parallel Structure

## Lesson & Exercises

Parallel structure is used to indicate that multiple items in a sentence are equally important. In any list, each item should appear in the same format: noun, noun, and noun; verb, verb, and verb; or gerund, gerund, and gerund.

### List with nouns

Incorrect: Changes in wind circulation patterns, runoff from sewage, and **using** chemical fertilizers can lead to the creation of ocean waters that are inhospitable to marine life.

Correct: Changes in wind circulation patterns, runoff from sewage, and **use** of chemical fertilizers can lead to the creation of ocean waters that are inhospitable to marine life.

### List with verbs

Incorrect: In their works, Impressionist painters emphasized the interplay of light and dark, used rapid brushstrokes, and **conveying** a sense of immediacy.

Correct: In their works, Impressionist painters emphasized the interplay of light and dark, used rapid brushstrokes, and **conveyed** a sense of immediacy.

### List with gerunds

Incorrect: Because they have a highly developed sense of vision, most lizards communicate by gesturing with their limbs, changing their colors, or **to display** their athletic abilities.

Correct: Because they have a highly developed sense of vision, most lizards communicate by gesturing with their limbs, changing their colors, or **displaying** their athletic abilities.

## Exercise: “List” Parallel Structure

For the following sentences, make the items in each list parallel in structure.

1. Lady Jane Grey, known as the nine-day queen, was renowned for her sweetness, her beauty, and being subjected to the whims of her mother.
2. Mediterranean cooking is best known for its reliance on fresh produce, whole grains, and it uses significant amounts of olive oil as well.
3. The biggest beneficiaries of the Grateful Dead archive may prove to be business scholars who are discovering that the Dead were visionaries in the way they created customer value, promoted networking, and how they implemented strategic business planning.
4. The term “single family house” describes how a house is built and who is intended to live in it, but it does not indicate the house's size, shape, or where it is located.
5. Seeing the Grand Canyon, standing in front of a beautiful piece of art, and to listen to a beautiful symphony are all experiences that may inspire awe.
6. Neighbors of the proposed park argue that an amphitheater would draw more traffic, disrupt their neighborhood, and their only patch of open space would diminish.
7. Evidence suggests that the aging brain retains and even increases its capacity for resilience, growth, and having a sense of well-being.
8. Antiques are typically objects that show some degree of craftsmanship or attention to design, and they are considered desirable because of their beauty, rarity, or being useful.
9. Spiders use a wide range of strategies to capture prey, including trapping it in sticky webs, lassoing it with sticky bolas, and to mimic other insects in order to avoid detection.
10. According to medical authorities at the Mayo Clinic, building muscle can boost metabolism, aiding in weight loss, and increase stamina and focus.