

## Parallel Structure

The ACT English test will always have a few questions to see if you can recognize where using parallel structure would give a sentence or a paragraph a tighter, smoother style. Look for modifying words, phrases, and clauses to have the same word order and structure.

**Awkward:** The old man was sick, unhappy, and had no money.

**Parallel:** The old man was sick, unhappy, and poor.

**Awkward:** My sister works as a waitress, store clerk, and is cleaning houses.

**Parallel:** My sister is a waitress, store clerk, and housecleaner.

### Practice:

1. My father has three hobbies: golfing, to watch football, and he fixes engines.

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2. After he works hard at school, Jimmy comes home and is always practicing on his skateboard.

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3. An ignorant man thinks he is wise; a man who is wise knows his ignorance.

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4. The manager rewarded his employees for their good work and is giving them vacation time.

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5. Creativity is being able to identify a problem and the knowledge how to solve it.

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