Match the Forms

Spot balanced and unbalanced series.

11.L.GC.2.a "Apply understandings of syntax to comprehend, analyze, and evaluate a wide variety of texts, including evaluating instances of parallel structure. (I)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

PARALLEL STRUCTURE

A series is parallel when each part uses the same grammatical form. Matching forms make the relationship among ideas clear.

Hikers climbed ridges, crossed streams, and mapped caves.

MISMATCHED STRUCTURE

A series is mismatched when one or more parts use a different grammatical form. The mismatch can make the sentence less clear or less balanced.

The festival featured lanterns, lively music, and to serve local dishes.

1 SORT

8 items

For each sentence, circle PARALLEL or MISMATCH, then choose two items and explain how the forms either match or fail to match.

1. The research team planned to collect samples, to compare results, and to report its findings. PARALLEL MISMATCH

2. The director asked actors to memorize lines, to mark entrances, and to listen closely. PARALLEL MISMATCH

3. The speaker promised to answer questions, a detailed handout, and to remain after the event. PARALLEL MISMATCH

4. The neighborhood needs cleaner parks, safer crossings, and more streetlights. PARALLEL MISMATCH

5. In the debate, Luis spoke calmly, with confidence, and he used clear evidence. PARALLEL MISMATCH

6. The museum offers guided tours, workshops for families, and to host lectures. PARALLEL MISMATCH

7. Nora spent the weekend repairing bicycles, organizing tools, and painting signs. PARALLEL MISMATCH

8. The new policy is practical, saves money, and likely to improve access. PARALLEL MISMATCH

2 PROVE IT

Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

ITEM # _____ **HOW I KNEW** _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN

One of each

Write one sentence with a parallel series and one sentence with a mismatched series.

PARALLEL _____

MISMATCH _____

CHALLENGE

Choose one MISMATCH item, rewrite it as a parallel sentence, and name its item number.

ANSWER KEY

Match the Forms

GRADE 11 · 11.L.GC.2.a

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The research team planned to collect samples, to compare results, and to report its findings.	**PARALLEL**	All three parts are infinitive phrases beginning with "to."
2	The director asked actors to memorize lines, to mark entrances, and to listen closely.	**PARALLEL**	All three parts are infinitive phrases beginning with "to."
3	The speaker promised to answer questions, a detailed handout, and to remain after the event.	**MISMATCH**	The first and third parts are infinitive phrases, but the middle part is a noun phrase.
4	The neighborhood needs cleaner parks, safer crossings, and more streetlights.	**PARALLEL**	All three parts are noun phrases.
5	In the debate, Luis spoke calmly, with confidence, and he used clear evidence.	**MISMATCH**	The series mixes a verb phrase, a prepositional phrase, and an independent clause.
6	The museum offers guided tours, workshops for families, and to host lectures.	**MISMATCH**	The first two parts are noun phrases, but the last part is an infinitive phrase.
7	Nora spent the weekend repairing bicycles, organizing tools, and painting signs.	**PARALLEL**	All three parts are gerund phrases ending in "-ing."
8	The new policy is practical, saves money, and likely to improve access.	**MISMATCH**	The series mixes an adjective, a verb phrase, and an adjective phrase.

PART 2 · PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 · MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **PARALLEL**: The volunteers sorted donations, packed boxes, and delivered supplies.
- **MISMATCH**: Mismatched: The coach expects players to practice daily, teamwork, and to arrive early.

Challenge: Item 5: In the debate, Luis spoke calmly, used clear evidence, and answered questions.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. Accept varied student examples when each series consistently uses the same form or deliberately contains a clear form mismatch.