Pattern Balance

Sort sentence patterns that match and patterns that clash.

11.L.GC.2 "Syntax: Apply understanding of syntax to comprehend, analyze, evaluate, craft, and reshape sentences to achieve desired effects."

NAME _____ DATE _____

PARALLEL STRUCTURE

In a list or comparison, each part follows the same grammatical pattern. This balance makes relationships clear.

The council valued openness, accountability, and thoughtful preparation.

MISMATCHED STRUCTURE

In a list or comparison, the parts do not follow the same grammatical pattern. The shift can make the sentence awkward or unclear.

The podcast seeks to amuse listeners, to examine traditions, and sparking dialogue.

1 SORT

8 items

For each sentence, circle PARALLEL or MISMATCHED, then pick two items and explain which grammatical patterns led you to each choice.

1.	The interns drafted reports, checked data, and revised charts.	PARALLEL MISMATCHED
2.	The proposal requires patience, careful research, and to communicate clearly.	PARALLEL MISMATCHED
3.	To question sources is as important as evaluating evidence.	PARALLEL MISMATCHED
4.	The speaker was confident, precise, and persuasive.	PARALLEL MISMATCHED
5.	The board plans to expand the library, hire tutors, and improving transit access.	PARALLEL MISMATCHED
6.	Students can either submit a portfolio or present a speech.	PARALLEL MISMATCHED
7.	The novel explores exile, belonging, and how people remember.	PARALLEL MISMATCHED
8.	The lab's goal is measuring runoff, mapping erosion, and to restore wetlands.	PARALLEL MISMATCHED

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 new sentence with PARALLEL structure and one new sentence with MISMATCHED structure.

PARALLEL _____

MISMATCHED _____

CHALLENGE

Choose one MISMATCHED sentence from Part 1, rewrite it with parallel structure, and explain in one sentence how your revision improves clarity.

ANSWER KEY

Pattern Balance

GRADE 11 · 11.L.GC.2

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	The interns drafted reports, checked data, and revised charts.	**PARALLEL**	All three list items are past-tense verb phrases.
2	The proposal requires patience, careful research, and to communicate clearly.	**MISMATCHED**	The list shifts from noun phrases to an infinitive phrase.
3	To question sources is as important as evaluating evidence.	**MISMATCHED**	The comparison shifts from an infinitive phrase to a gerund phrase.
4	The speaker was confident, precise, and persuasive.	**PARALLEL**	All three complements are adjectives.
5	The board plans to expand the library, hire tutors, and improving transit access.	**MISMATCHED**	The list shifts from infinitive verb phrases to a gerund phrase.
6	Students can either submit a portfolio or present a speech.	**PARALLEL**	Either and or join matching verb phrases.
7	The novel explores exile, belonging, and how people remember.	**MISMATCHED**	The list shifts from nouns to a clause.
8	The lab's goal is measuring runoff, mapping erosion, and to restore wetlands.	**MISMATCHED**	The list shifts from gerund phrases to an infinitive 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 editor asked writers to verify quotations, tighten transitions, and meet the deadline.
- **MISMATCHED**: The museum hopes to preserve artifacts, to educate visitors, and creating partnerships.

Challenge: The proposal requires patience, careful research, and clear communication. The revision uses three noun phrases, so the requirements are easier to compare.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. Accept proof explanations that accurately identify matching or shifting forms, such as verbs, nouns, infinitives, gerunds, or clauses.