

Balanced Sections

Match the structures that make related ideas feel equal.

12.L.GC.2.e “Use and revise parallel structure across paragraphs or sections to create symmetry and convey a congruence of ideas. (C)”

NAME _____

DATE _____

PARALLEL SECTIONS

Both sections use the same grammatical pattern, so related ideas feel balanced.

Goal: Restoring the riverbank. Benefit: Protecting nesting areas.

UNEVEN SECTIONS

The sections use different grammatical patterns, so the related ideas do not have a balanced shape.

Overview: Visitors may reserve tickets. Access: Ticket reservations are available online.

1 SORT 8 items

For each pair, circle PARALLEL or UNEVEN, then choose two items and explain how the grammatical patterns guided your decision.

- | | | | |
|----|--|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. | Need: The proposal reduces waste. Benefit: The proposal lowers costs. | ☐ PARALLEL | ☐ UNEVEN |
| 2. | Need: Students need reliable transit. Need: Students need safe sidewalks. | ☐ PARALLEL | ☐ UNEVEN |
| 3. | Method: The team collected interviews. Analysis: Careful coding of the data. | ☐ PARALLEL | ☐ UNEVEN |
| 4. | Purpose: To identify the problem. Response: To propose a solution. | ☐ PARALLEL | ☐ UNEVEN |
| 5. | Finding: Limited evidence. Next Step: Researchers need more trials. | ☐ PARALLEL | ☐ UNEVEN |
| 6. | Plan: The city can repair bridges. Benefit: Expanding parks would benefit families. | ☐ PARALLEL | ☐ UNEVEN |
| 7. | Method: By listening to residents. Reporting: By reporting findings publicly. | ☐ PARALLEL | ☐ UNEVEN |
| 8. | Analysis: The report compares three plans. Recommendation: A recommendation for the council. | ☐ PARALLEL | ☐ UNEVEN |

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 pair of related section statements with parallel structure and one new pair with uneven structure.

PARALLEL _____

UNEVEN _____

CHALLENGE

Create a three-section sequence that uses the same grammatical pattern in all three sections.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Need: The proposal reduces waste. Benefit: The proposal lowers costs.	PARALLEL	Both sections use subject, verb, object clauses with the same subject.
2	Need: Students need reliable transit. Need: Students need safe sidewalks.	PARALLEL	Both sections use subject, verb, adjective, noun patterns.
3	Method: The team collected interviews. Analysis: Careful coding of the data.	UNEVEN	The first section is a complete clause, while the second is a noun phrase.
4	Purpose: To identify the problem. Response: To propose a solution.	PARALLEL	Both sections are infinitive phrases beginning with "To."
5	Finding: Limited evidence. Next Step: Researchers need more trials.	UNEVEN	The first section is a noun phrase, while the second is a complete clause.
6	Plan: The city can repair bridges. Benefit: Expanding parks would benefit families.	UNEVEN	The first section begins with a noun subject and modal verb, while the second begins with a gerund phrase.
7	Method: By listening to residents. Reporting: By reporting findings publicly.	PARALLEL	Both sections are prepositional phrases beginning with "By" followed by gerunds.
8	Analysis: The report compares three plans. Recommendation: A recommendation for the council.	UNEVEN	The first section is a complete clause, while the second is a noun 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:** Aim: Expanding the archive. Result: Updating the catalog.
- **UNEVEN:** Task: Volunteers organize the shelves. Schedule: Saturday morning shifts.

Challenge: Section 1: Mapping flood risks. Section 2: Gathering neighborhood reports. Section 3: Recommending safer routes.

Parallel items: 1, 2, 4, and 7. Uneven items: 3, 5, 6, and 8. Accept explanations that accurately identify matching or mismatching grammatical patterns.