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.

ANSWER KEY # Balanced Sections

GRADE 12 · 12.L.GC.2.e

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.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. Accept explanations that accurately identify matching or mismatching grammatical patterns.