



B. Over to You

1 The sentences below do not have parallel structure. Correct them in the way suggested.

- 1 Some women do not want to be thought of as too assertive or behaving aggressively.
(list of adjectives): _____
- 2 Men tended to compliment women more than women were complimenting men.
(same verb tenses): _____
- 3 Women give each other compliments to build relationships with friends, relationships with coworkers, and with bosses.
(list of phrases starting with *with*): _____

2 Read the sentences and pay attention to the words in bold. Do the sentences have parallel structure? Write Y for Yes, or N for No.

- 1 When traveling to another country, it is helpful to understand how men and women communicate with **friends, family members, and co-workers**.
- 2 Both men and women in China are more likely to respond to a compliment **by giving another compliment** than **by saying thank you**.
- 3 Not understanding how men and women communicate can lead to **misunderstandings, miscommunication, and causing other problems**.
- 4 Some students may get more attention in class because they **raise their hands frequently, enjoy speaking in front of others, and demonstrate greater confidence**.
- 5 Women **who feel comfortable speaking** may get the same amount of attention in the classroom as men **who may be acting competitively**.
- 6 Some researchers believe that girls learn better at all-girls schools because the schools may help improve **cooperation, focus, and girls feeling good about themselves**.
- 7 **Getting a higher salary** may be more difficult for some women than **getting an advanced degree**.
- 8 At many colleges, few women major in **engineering, computer science, or earn a degree in psychology**.
- 9 Jobs **offering flexible schedules** and **to help people** may be appealing to some women.
- 10 Some women believe success at work is possible **with less shy behavior, acting more confidently, and by speaking more assertively**.



CHECK!

- 1 When you write, make sure your sentences have parallel structure. Use _____ word patterns in lists of words, phrases, or clauses.
- 2 Sentences that express _____ must have parallel structure, as well. Parallel structure makes your sentences flow well, and it makes your writing clearer.

C. Practice

1 Read the paragraph and underline the sentences that do not have parallel structure. How many are there?

¹Research shows that communication, language, and gestures are sometimes used differently by men and women. ²Men's language is often direct, honest, and contains facts. ³Women's language is sometimes not as direct as men's language. ⁴Women often use language that is indirect, that is deferential, and their language is nurturing. ⁵Research shows that many women like to discuss relationships, about how they feel, and personal experiences. ⁶Many men avoid discussion of personal issues. ⁷Men typically use language to exchange information or to solve problems. ⁸One way of communicating is not necessarily better than the other way people communicate.

There are _____ sentences without parallel structure. Sentences: _____

2 Circle the words that give each sentence parallel structure.

- 1 Research shows that men and women use language differently when they give compliments and *that arguments happen | when they have arguments | if they argue with each other*.
- 2 Women often want to discuss, debate, and *solve | finding solutions to | trying to solve* relationship problems.
- 3 Men tend to avoid discussing problems or *about their feelings | how they feel | feelings*.
- 4 Some women think that men rarely listen, that they hardly ever answer questions, and *have to be correct | that they never admit mistakes | could have been better listeners*.
- 5 Some say younger men talk about their feelings more than older men *talk about their feelings | discuss how they feel | with their feelings*.
- 6 Some people cry to stop an argument, *getting what they want, | to get what they want, | it can help them get what they want*, or to avoid problems.
- 7 When men argue, they can be defensive, *with aggression, | who may act aggressively, | aggressive*, and angry.
- 8 When women argue, men may sometimes interpret their words and actions as confusing, emotional, or *indirect | being indirect | can be indirect*.
- 9 Some *individual psychologist | psychologists | who study psychology* and language experts disagree; they do not believe that the way men and women use language to argue is that different.
- 10 It is believed that that cultural differences are more significant than *arguing differently | gender differences | when people argue*.

D. Skill Quiz



Check (✓) the correct answer for each item.

1 What is parallel structure?

- a. relating sentences to the topic
- b. using similar word patterns
- c. comparing two or more things

2 Use parallel structure

- a. with multiple subjects.
- b. in run-on sentences.
- c. in lists and comparisons.

3 Which words can help you identify sentences that need to have parallel structure?

- a. subjects and verbs
- b. conjunctions in lists and comparison words
- c. objects and prepositions

4 Which sentence has parallel structure?

- a. Adults, teenagers, and children communicate differently.
- b. Adults, teenagers, and those who are young communicate differently.
- c. People who are older, when people are teenagers, and children communicate differently.

5 Which sentence has parallel structure?

- a. Teenage girls often communicate through notes and through text messages.
- b. Teenage girls often communicate through notes and sending text messages.
- c. Teenage girls often communicate by writing notes and to send text messages.

6 Which sentence has parallel structure?

- a. Teenage boys communicate differently than girls who are teens.
- b. Teenage boys communicate differently than teenage girls.
- c. Teenage boys communicate differently talking to girls.

7 *Girls often develop language skills sooner*

Choose the option that gives this sentence parallel structure.

- a. than boys develop slowly
- b. that boys
- c. than boys

8 *In girls, the part of the brain that controls expression, verbal skill, and ___ develops earlier.*

Choose the option that gives this sentence parallel structure.

- a. that is in control of social behavior
- b. social behavior
- c. to control social behavior

9 *Research shows that girls use the abstract part of the brain when processing language verbally or ___.*

Choose the option that gives this sentence parallel structure.

- a. with visibility
- b. vision
- c. visually

10 *Gender studies is a field that is complicated, that is complex, and that is interesting.*

Which words can be removed from the underlined part of this sentence?

- a. and, that
- b. that, is
- c. complex, interesting