

# PARALLEL STRUCTURE – EXERCISE 3

**Directions:** Choose the option that maintains **parallel structure** in the sentence. Check your answers with the **interactive version** of the exercise.

1. When Delores realized that her father had made lima beans and rice for dinner, she \_\_\_\_\_, claimed to feel nauseous, and excused herself from the table. The bag of stale popcorn in her room would tide her over until breakfast.
  - A. clutched her stomach
  - B. was clutching her stomach
  - C. did clutch her stomach
  
2. Not only did Hank despise the way June chewed with her mouth open, \_\_\_\_\_ finding her wet towels all over the bathroom floor.
  - A. but also disliked
  - B. but also disliking
  - C. but he also disliked
  
3. To protect her delicate hands, Fran will not rake the yard, do the dishes, or \_\_\_\_\_.
  - A. refuses to scrub the bathtub
  - B. won't scrub the bathtub
  - C. scrub the bathtub

4. When Diane takes her beagle for a walk, Santana enjoys sniffing for edible garbage, \_\_\_\_\_, and lunging at squirrels.
- A. howls at bicyclists
  - B. howling at bicyclists
  - C. she howls at bicyclists
5. After Amanda cashes her paycheck, the money goes to her savings account, cappuccino fund, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. paying her credit card bill
  - B. toward her credit card balance
  - C. credit card balance
6. In preparation for her run, Alicia \_\_\_\_\_, applied sunscreen, and inserted her earbuds.
- A. tightened her shoelaces
  - B. was tightening her shoelaces
  - C. did tighten her shoelaces
7. We searched the car trunk, \_\_\_\_\_, and the top of the refrigerator, but we could not find the box of cornflakes that we do remember buying.
- A. looked on the pantry shelves
  - B. on the pantry shelves
  - C. the pantry shelves
8. Bonkers, our ninety-pound golden retriever, chews on furniture, \_\_\_\_\_, and snots up the car windows—inconveniences we did not anticipate when we adopted him.
- A. would drag us around the neighborhood during walks
  - B. he drags us around the neighborhood during walks
  - C. drags us around the neighborhood during walks

9. Belinda saw very little of the horror movie, for she shut her eyes \_\_\_\_\_, when she heard the monster's footsteps in the dead leaves, and when characters started screaming.
- A. when the violins began to play
  - B. while listening to the violins play
  - C. during the violin music
10. In Professor Curall's office, Ruben feigned the flu. He hoped to be excused from class, get an extension on his paper, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. spend the afternoon playing tennis with his friends
  - B. to spend the afternoon playing tennis with his friends
  - C. then to spend the afternoon playing tennis with his friends
11. Carlos not only missed his one-year anniversary with Adrianna \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. but he also forgot his mother's birthday
  - B. but also forgot his mother's birthday
  - C. but also forgetting his mother's birthday
12. Teresa was expecting a visit from her mother, so she spent the day cleaning the shelves of the refrigerator, scrubbing mold from the bathroom tile grout, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. she removed dog hair from the sofa cushions
  - B. removing dog hair from the sofa cushions
  - C. removed dog hair from the sofa cushions

13. When Noodle the poodle realized that the leash meant a bath, not a walk to the park, he growled, pulled, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. was leaping like a fish on a line
  - B. he was leaping like a fish on a line
  - C. leaped like a fish on a line
14. With the humans out of the house, Skeeter had to decide either to shred a roll of toilet paper or \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. chew another hole in the sofa arm
  - B. chewing another hole in the sofa arm
  - C. if he wanted to chew another hole in the sofa arm
15. Neither \_\_\_\_\_ nor the ineffective air conditioner rattling in the window will deter Tiffany from loving the freedom of her first apartment.
- A. when the inconsiderate neighbors played loud music
  - B. the inconsiderate neighbors playing loud music
  - C. playing loud music by the inconsiderate neighbors
16. We looked everywhere for the car keys—under the sofa cushions, \_\_\_\_\_, and on the counters and tabletops. All along, Andrew had them in the front pocket of his jeans!
- A. our search included the trash can
  - B. searching for them in the trash can
  - C. in the trash can

17. Laura and Diane bang on Boen's door when they need heavy furniture moved, after they have clogged the garbage disposal, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. having discovered a spider in the bathtub
  - B. upon the discovery of a spider in the bathtub
  - C. if they find a spider in the bathtub
18. Bathing Noodle, our poodle, requires four arms to hold him in the tub, towels to mop up the water, and \_\_\_\_\_.
- A. raincoats which will keep us dry
  - B. raincoats to keep us dry
  - C. raincoats as protection against the oncoming deluge
19. We hate having dinner at Aunt Ida's house because she is a vegan health nut. Baked tofu, \_\_\_\_\_, and decaffeinated tea do not make a satisfying meal!
- A. vegetables steamed with no oil or seasoning
  - B. steamed vegetables
  - C. vegetables that are flavorless
20. Tonia kicked the back of Vincent's desk, \_\_\_\_\_, and poked his arm with her sharp pencil, but he would not bend to the side so that she could get a glimpse of his quiz answers.
- A. blew on his neck
  - B. she blew on his neck
  - C. blowing on his neck

