

# Parallel structure

# It is critical to maintain parallel structure when writing

I come for the purpose of burying Caesar, not to praise him.

*Later revision:* I come to bury Caesar, not to praise him.

# It is critical to maintain parallel structure when writing

Many are called, but God doesn't choose more than a few.

*Later revision:* For many are called, but few are chosen.

# It is critical to maintain parallel structure when writing

We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, and have been given from their creator certain unalienable rights: to live, liberty, and to pursue happiness.

*Later revision:* We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

# Sometimes, an anti-parallel structure (chiasmus) achieves greater effect

One should eat to live, not make eating one's sole purpose of living.

*Later revision:* One should eat to live, not live to eat.

Sometimes, an anti-parallel structure (chiasmus) achieves greater effect

*Can you turn this example into a chiasmus?*

For many are called, but few are chosen.