

Name _____ Date _____

Parallel Structure – Exercise 3

This handout accompanies Exercise 3 of **Grammar Bytes!** Get the answers by doing the interactive version of the exercise at this address: <http://chompchomp.com/exercises.htm>

Directions: Choose the option that maintains parallel structure in the sentence.

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 increased the volume on her iPod.
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 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 didn't 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 Mrs. 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



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