Exercise Sheet: Parallel Sentence Structure

When a sentence lists multiple verbs, those verbs must match each other in **tense**, **voice**, **and person**. Writers refer to this as **Parallel Sentence Structure**. This exercise sheet practices the concepts from the Parallel Sentence Structure Resource.

Tense: Past, Present, or Future

Person: 1st (I / we), 2nd (you), or 3rd

(he / she / it / they)

Voice: Active or Passive

EXERCISES

Directions: The following sentences contain verbs with incorrect tense, person, or voice. Identify which error the sentence contains and rewrite the verbs to achieve parallel sentence structure.

- 1. Each night, Nathaniel opens his math book, reads ten equations, and calculate the answers.
- 2. Danielle suddenly stood up, leaves the room, and returned with a plate of molasses cookies.
- 3. When Griffith has free time, he puts on his headphones and a book is read.
- 4. Colin attends school during the day, plays tennis in the evening, and watched movies at night.
- 5. When the weather is warm, my sneakers are laced up, I go to the park, and I run three miles.
- 6. Becky will drive to the mall and picks a pair of high heels for the upcoming dance.
- 7. Last week, Nick renewed his passport, packed his bags, and flies to Barcelona.
- 8. With Heather as your English teacher, you will read classic novels, lots of notes will be taken, and you will thoroughly enjoy the class.
- 9. Caleb drafted a petition for daily gluten-free brownies at work, collects signatures from his co-workers, and presented the petition to his boss.
- 10. When it snows, Audrey puts on a red coat, will step into a pair of boots, and wraps a scarf around her neck.

EXERCISE SHEET: PARALLEL SENTENCE STRUCTURE

Originals and Answers:

- 1. **Original:** Each night, Nathaniel opens his math book, reads ten equations, and calculate the answers.
 - <u>Answer:</u> Each night, Nathaniel opens his math book, reads ten equations, and <u>calculates</u> the answers.
- 2. **Original:** Danielle suddenly stood up, leaves the room, and returned with a plate of molasses cookies.
 - Answer: Danielle suddenly stood up, <u>left</u> the room, and returned with a plate of molasses cookies.
- 3. **Original:** When Griffith has free time, he puts on his headphones and a book is read. **Answer:** When Griffith has free time, he puts on his headphones and <u>reads a book</u>.
- 4. **Original:** Colin attends school during the day, plays tennis in the evening, and watched movies at night.
 - Answer: Colin attends school during the day, plays tennis in the evening, and watches movies at night.
- 5. **Original:** When the weather is warm, my sneakers are laced up, I go to the park, and I run three miles.
 - Answer: When the weather is warm, I lace up my sneakers, I go to the park, and I run three miles.
- 6. **Original:** Becky will drive to the mall and picks a pair of high heels for the upcoming dance. **Answer:** Becky will drive to the mall and pick a pair of high heels for the upcoming dance.
- 7. Original: Last week, Nick renewed his passport, packed his bags, and flies to Barcelona.

 Answer: Last week, Nick renewed his passport, packed his bag, and flew to Barcelona.
- 8. **Original:** With Heather as your English teacher, you will read classic novels, lots of notes will be taken, and you will thoroughly enjoy the class.
 - <u>Answer:</u> With Heather as your English teacher, you will read classic novels, <u>you will take lots</u> <u>of notes</u>, and you will thoroughly enjoy the class.

9. **Original:** Caleb drafted a petition for daily gluten-free brownies at work, collects signatures from his co-workers, and presented the petition to his boss.

Answer: Caleb drafted a petition for daily gluten-free brownies at work, **collected** signatures from his co-workers, and presented the petition to his boss.

10. **Original:** When it snows, Audrey puts on a red coat, will step into a pair of boots, and wraps a scarf around her neck.

Answer: When it snows, Audrey puts on a red coat, **steps** into a pair of boots, and wraps a scarf around her neck.