



## 英文寫作秘訣：平行結構 Part D – 做比較

難度：進階

### 平行結構 Part D – 做比較

英語平行結構系列共分為五個部分加以說明，這次將針對第四個秘訣 – 用平行結構做比較，詳細解說。

在編修英文稿件時，征文(Uni-edit)的編輯們常需要修正文句，使其符合平行結構的正確用法。正確使用平行結構有助於讀者對文章的理解，不論是對英語母語人士或非母語人士皆是如此。

當作者在句子中做比較時，被比較的事物應該以平行結構的方式排列。

以下提供一個例子：

錯誤：My income is smaller than my wife. (我的收入比我太太少/小。)

正確：My income is smaller than my wife's. (我的收入比我太太的少。)

解釋：錯誤的例句讀起來似乎是在比較「收入」的多少跟「太太」的個子大小，非常不合理。而在正確的例句中，因為使用了所有格's'，讀者可以理解這裡的s所指的是太太的收入，意思很清楚。在此例句中，「我的收入」跟「我太太的收入」就是平行結構的元素。

再提供另一個例子，請注意句中使用所有格's'的方式：

錯誤：Paul's GPA is higher than Ralph. (Paul的GPA分數比Ralph高。)

正確：Paul's GPA is higher than Ralph's. (Paul的GPA分數比Ralph的高。)

解釋：這個例句跟上一個例句的情況類似，在此，「Paul的GPA分數」跟「Ralph的GPA分數」是平行結構的元素。

在以下的例子中，請注意'to'+動詞'和'he'的用法：

錯誤：In English class, Mike learned to read poems critically and he appreciated good prose.

(從英文文學課，Mike學習了如何賞析詩詞，他同時也欣賞好的散文作品。)

正確：In English class, Mike learned to read poems critically and to appreciate good prose. (從英文文學課，Mike學習了如何賞析詩詞，以及如何鑑別欣賞好的散文作品。)

解釋：因為在此句中，「Mike」在一開始就被介紹為句子的主詞，因此我們可以利用平行結構的方式('...to read... to appreciate...')，將重覆提到的「他」(he)省略，讓句子讀起來更加通順。

## Uni-edit English Writing Tip: Parallel structures Part D — Making comparisons

Level of difficulty: Advanced

### Parallel structures Part D — Making comparisons

This is the fourth part in a five part series about using parallel structures. This part focuses on marking comparisons in parallel constructions.

While editing English manuscripts, Uni-edit editors often need to correct sentences for correct usage of parallel structures. Correct use of parallel structures makes the writing easier to read and easier to understand for native-speakers of English and for non-native speakers of English.

When making comparisons, the things you compare should be contained in parallel structures. Using parallel structures is not always possible, but it is possible most of the time.

Here is an example:

Incorrect: My income is smaller than my wife.

English corrected: My income is smaller than my wife's.

Explanation: In the incorrect sentence, it appears as though the size of the income is compared to the size of the wife. This is very odd. In the correct sentence, because of the usage of the possessive ('s), the reader understands that means 'the wife's income'. This meaning is clear. The parallel structure is 'my income' and 'my wife's income'.

Here is another example. Pay attention to the use of the possessive: i.e., 's.

Incorrect: Paul's GPA is higher than Ralph.

English corrected: Paul's GPA is higher than Ralph's.

Explanation: Similar to the above example, the parallel structure is 'Paul's GPA' and 'Ralph's GPA'.

Here is another example below. Pay attention to the use of 'to verb' and the use of 'he'.

Incorrect: In English class, Mike learned to read poems critically and he appreciated good prose.

English corrected: In English class, Mike learned to read poems critically and to appreciate good prose.

Explanation: As Mike has already been introduced as the “actor” in the first part of the sentence, we can avoid using 'he' by using a parallel structure such as '...to read... to appreciate...'. This makes the sentence more natural.

END OF TIP