Parallel Structure

When there are two or more ideas in a sentence, they should, if possible, be in parallel form.

1. Nouns
   Error: Students form study groups for support, discipline, and meeting new people.
   Correction: Students form study groups for support, discipline, and social contacts.

2. Verbs
   Error: Unemployment has increased and spreading all over the U.S.
   Correction: Unemployment has increased and (has) spread all over the U.S.

3. Adjectives
   Error: The lecture was long, boring, and only a few people came.
   Correction: The lecture was long, boring, and poorly attended.

4. Adverbs
   Error: The well-rested runners won easily and with a lot of decisiveness.
   Correction: The well-rested runners won easily and decisively.

5. Prepositional Phrases
   Error: Retail sales in the U.S. will pick up soon and also around the world.
   Correction: Retail sales in the U.S. and around the world will pick up soon.

6. Gerunds
   Error: Smoking and to drink cause both medical and social problems.
   Correction: Smoking and drinking cause both medical and social problems.

7. Infinitives
   Error: The detectives intend to find the bombing suspect and they want to arrest him too.
   Correction: The detectives intend to find and (to) arrest the bombing suspect.

8. Clauses
   Noun Clause Error: Tom said that he would help, and he also said that his brother would help.
   Noun Clause Correction: Tom said that he and his brother would help.

   Adj. Clause Error: My math class, which is demanding but I get a lot of information, is small.
   Adj. Clause Correction: My math class, which is demanding but informative, is small.
Correct the errors in parallel form:

1. It is frustrating to study diligently and then I fail classes.

2. I don’t know where I will live, and I also want to know who my roommate will be.

3. Calmly and with confidence, Mariska asked for a raise.

4. Some international students are isolated, lonesome, and they feel homesick.

5. Depression and to feel anxious are common psychiatric symptoms.

6. Wanting to achieve something and to achieve it are two different things.

7. Tim’s bad attitude led to his dismissal and also he was absent all the time.

8. Being poor is a burden, and so is unemployment.

9. There is a big difference in price between seeing a movie in a theater and to rent a movie from a streaming service.

10. For many complicated reasons, abused women stay with their husbands and also they don’t leave their boyfriends.

11. My favorite sports are hiking, kayaking, and I love to go whitewater rafting.

12. Walking to the park with my dog, sleeping in late, and breakfast with my boyfriend are the best parts of my weekend.