

**Advanced 2**  
**Unit 5 Language Focus 3**  
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## **Parallel & Non-Parallel Structures**

When we use the coordinating words such as “both ... and ...”, “not only ... but also”, “either ... or ...”, and “neither ... nor”, we have to make sure that these words have been used in the right place and encapsulate the parts of the sentence which need to be coordinated. If they are used in a wrong place, the sentence will suffer from the existence of a non-parallel structure.

Examples:

**Non-Parallel:** He either studies at home or in the library.

**Parallel:** He studies either at home or in the library.

In this sentence, we are coordinating two adverbs of place. Therefore, “either ... or ...” should include only the adverbs of place, not the verb of the sentence.

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**Non-Parallel:** He not only speaks Spanish but also Italian.

**Parallel:** He speaks not only Spanish but also Italian.

In this sentence, we are coordinating two objects. Therefore, “not only ... but also ...” should include only the objects, not the verb of the sentence.

**Source:**

[Advanced 2 \(anglophone.ir\)](http://anglophone.ir)