

Part 1 – Use the following words to write 5 original sentences that follow a **periodic** sentence structure:

- ~~billow~~
- ~~compliance~~
- ~~consecrate~~
- ~~desolate~~
- ~~enterprising~~

1. After having lived in the city for so long, she relocated to the **desolate** farmland for a change of scenery.
2. As a result of the built-up pressure, the government established **compliance** with the people.
3. Having saved the company from bankruptcy, the **enterprising** man was praised for his efforts and great skill.
4. Once graduated from high school, he **consecrated** his life to the church, having been the lead pastor for nearly 50 years.
5. As she ran, her red cape **billowed** behind her.

Part 2 – Use the following words to write 5 original sentences that follow a **balanced** sentence structure:

- ~~gossamer~~
- ~~guile~~
- ~~guise~~
- ~~interminable~~
- ~~subtleties~~

1. The girl put on an elegant **guise** so that she could fit in at the party.
2. The basement was filled with numerous relics, and it had **gossamer** at every inch.
3. Using his great wealth and **guile**, he was able to get into politics.
4. Time seemed to be **interminable** while on the plane, however it seemed to fly away once it landed.
5. She did not realize that he was insulting her, not fully understanding the **subtleties** in his words.

Part 3 – Read the historical context below and answer the questions that follow to analyze Sojourner Truth's diction and syntax.

Sojourner Truth was an African-American abolitionist and women's rights activist. She was born into slavery in New York but escaped with her infant daughter in 1826. She delivered the speech "Ain't I a Woman?" at the Ohio Women's Rights Convention in 1851.

1. **How would the following sentiment be different if Truth used the word "should" instead of "better"?**

"If the first woman God ever made was strong enough to turn the world upside down all alone, these women together ought to be able to turn it back, and get it right side up again! And now they is asking to do it, the men better let them."

Truth replacing "better" with "should" would change the sentiment in a way that it would seem more like a suggestion, and much weaker. The connotation of *better* is much stronger than that of *should*, and is more persuasive. When Truth says, "*the men better let them,*" it comes across as something that needs to be done, without a doubt. However, the statement "*the men should let them,*" if she were to change it, seems more like a suggestion or an idea.

2. **Truth uses periodic syntax and an allusion in the following quote: "If the first woman God ever made was strong enough to turn the world upside down all alone, these women together ought to be able to turn it back, and get it right side up again!" To whom does Truth refer? What is the purpose of the allusion? What is the effect of the periodic sentence?**

In this instance, she is overall subtly referring to men and the stereotype that women tend to receive. She utilizes this allusion from the past to illustrate and give context to the strength that women have, specifically by connecting it to an event that most people are well aware of. "*The first woman God ever made*" specifically refers to Eve. This being a periodic sentence assists in creating suspense and bringing in the reader to be more receptive and consider her idea.

3. **Now it is your turn! Rewrite the following sentence using balanced syntax. "*If the first woman God ever made was strong enough to turn the world upside down all alone, these women together ought to be able to turn it back, and get it right side up again!*"**

The first woman ever made by God was strong enough to alone turn upside down the entire world, so women together ought to be able to turn it back, and get it right side up again!

4. Discuss the effect of changing the sentence's structure. Which structure is more effective? Explain.

By changing the structure of this sentence, the tone is greatly affected, further changing the impact that it has on the audience. Through it being periodic, it was more effective as it had more of a determined tone, while it being balanced turns it more into a factual type of tone. Truth's energy is evident in the periodic structure, which leaves more of an impact on the reader to want more. This, however, is not seen within the balanced structure, as well as it is much weaker.