

Thinking about Shakespeare – Writing about Shakespeare

Following are some examples of parallelism provided and discussed by Virginia Tufte in her work *Artful Sentences: Syntax as Style* (see chapter twelve).

Moving from the *known to the unknown*, proceeding as we must from *light toward dark*, and into the wild and water, the untried and unshored, it is noteworthy that we start on Christmas Day.

Harry Levin, *The Power of Blackness*

Like nature the whale is paradoxically benign and malevolent, nourishing and destructive. It is massive, brutal, monolithic, but at the same time protean, erotically beautiful, infinitely variable.

Richard Chase, *The American Novel and its Tradition*

There was something rather “doggy,” rather smart, rather acute and shrewd, something warm, and something slightly contemptible about him.

D. H. Lawrence, *Sons and Lovers*

Read these examples over several times. Then write one or two sentences about your experience to date with Shakespeare. As you write your sentence(s) keep the structural elements of parallelism, antithesis, and repetition in mind; use them to help convey your experience.