Word for Word

Using *both*…*and* correctly

When *both* and *and* are used together to join parts of a sentence, the parts of the sentence that they join should be structurally identical.¹

**Incorrect:** Novice authors of research articles may find both writing the Introduction section and the Discussion section somewhat difficult.

**Correct:** Novice authors of research articles may find writing both the Introduction section and the Discussion section somewhat difficult.

**Also correct:** Novice authors of research articles may find both writing the Introduction section and writing the Discussion section somewhat difficult.

**Incorrect:** Local officials are working to overcome challenges both in the storage and distribution of vaccines.

**Correct:** Local officials are working to overcome challenges both in the storage and in the distribution of vaccines.

**Also correct:** Local officials are working to overcome challenges in both the storage and the distribution of vaccines.

If an adjective that applies to the part of the sentence after *both* also applies to the part of the sentence after *and*, the adjective should be repeated.

**Incorrect:** Both stage 0 breast cancer and melanoma are examples of in situ disease.

**Correct:** Both stage 0 breast cancer and stage 0 melanoma are examples
of in situ disease.

Bibliography


--Stephanie Deming

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