

Exercise 4. Punctuation & Parallel Construction Answer Key

Student: _____ Date: _____

NOAA Administrator Jane Lubchenco stepping down in February*

(Dr. Lubchenco DID punctuate this letter correctly. Punctuation is shown in this key. A check in the margin shows location of parallel constructions. Parallel words are color-coded the same color.)

NOAA's leader, Jane Lubchenco announced this morning she is leaving the agency at the end of February (2013). Here's the email Lubchenco sent to staff:

Dear NOAA Family:

I write to let you know that I have decided to return to my family and academia at the end of February. I am immensely proud of all we have accomplished in the last four years, and know full well that we have been able to do so much only because of your impressive talent and dedication. It has been a special privilege to serve as Administrator and work with all of you.

As many of you know, my home and family are on the West Coast. I'm deeply grateful for the support and love of my family, but as wonderful as Skype is for staying in touch, it is not a viable long term arrangement!

As I reflect on my time with you, I'm delighted with all we've been able to do—big and small. The list is far too long for complete enumeration here, but I've listed 20 of our top achievements below. I invite you to share with me your top tier list, as well as any especially memorable moments or photographs from the work we have done together.

We've tackled some big challenges together. Through an emphasis on transparency, integrity, innovation, team work, and communication, we have made significant progress on multiple fronts. As you know, NOAA's breadth is one of our greatest challenges, but it's also our great strength. Both are in evidence below. Our notable progress includes (in no particular order!):

- ✓ 1. Ending over fishing rebuilding depleted stocks and returning fishing to profitability;
2. Strengthening the Nations environmental satellite infrastructure because it underpins national security economic activity and public safety by providing data essential to our short and long term weather forecasts;
3. Delivering life-saving weather forecasts and warnings and strengthening our ability to do so in the future through Weather Ready Nation dual pol upgrades investments in high performance computing research and weather satellites;
- ✓ 4. Helping create the first National Ocean Policy that recognizes the value of a healthy marine environment, emphasizes collaboration between regions and the federal government, coordinates across federal agencies to achieve healthy oceans, coasts, and Great Lakes adoption of management measures in line with scientific advice and with strengthened compliance and enforcement tools, and reduces pirate fishing (illegal unregulated and unreported fishing);
- ✓ 5. Creating a new generation of climate services to promote public understanding, support mitigation and adaptation efforts, enable smart planning, and promote regional climate partnerships;
6. Investing in coastal communities and their future resilience through more strategic and better integrated conservation and restoration;
- ✓ 7. Serving recreational anglers and boaters better by convening a saltwater sport fishing summit, developing a recreational fishing action agenda, and ensuring follow through on key commitments;
8. Strengthening science with our first Scientific Integrity Policy: doubling the number of senior scientific positions,
- ✓ establishing a new Council of Fellows, reinstating the Chief Scientist position, supporting AAAS and Sea Grant Fellows, and promoting climate fishery ocean acidification weather and ecosystem science;
9. Responding effectively as "one-NOAA" to disasters such as Deepwater Horizon; the Japanese earthquake tsunami; radiation marine debris catastrophe; Hurricanes Irene, Isaac, and Sandy; including helping open ports and waterways, survey coasts, and rebuild and restore communities and coastlines to enhance resilience in the future;

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10. **Bringing** experience—scientific and legal expertise—to bear on the federal response to the Deepwater Horizon catastrophe (as detailed in two papers in the latest issue of the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*).
- ✓ **Jumpstarting** Gulf restoration efforts through partnerships and the Trustee Council and **assessing** the full impact of the disaster on natural resources, with the goal of **holding** responsible parties accountable and **restoring** Gulf ecosystems communities and economy to health;
11. **Championing** NOAA’s lean but effective education program that plays a unique role in **providing** atmospheric and oceanographic education to young and old and **making** NOAA related sciences more accessible to underrepresented groups;
12. **Creating** NOAA’s first Aquaculture Policy and a National Shellfish Initiative and **using** science to ameliorate short term impacts of ocean acidification on shellfish;
13. **Setting** a stronger course for endangered species conservation in places like California’s Central Valley and the Columbia River and in the ocean, e.g., for coral conservation;
- ✓ 14. **Streamlining** regulations to **save** taxpayers time and money and **improve** efficiency, for example in fisheries regulations and shellfish aquaculture permitting;
15. **Increasing** effectiveness and **decreasing** costs of corporate services such as acquisitions and IT, for example, by migrating our communication systems to the cloud to enhance functionality, strengthen security, and reduce costs;
16. **Developing** and **implementing** a “one-NOAA” Arctic Vision and Strategy and Task Force to address environmental, social, economic, and safety issues emerging in the fragile Arctic region—including mapping to support new safety, a precautionary fishery management plan, launching the Arctic ERMA tool and innovative research and data, **and** partnerships to improve science based decision making;
17. **Strengthening** NOAA’s fishery enforcement program by implementing policy oversight, personnel, and procedural changes to increase effectiveness and transparency;
18. **Embracing** social media, effective communications, and communications training to share NOAA science, information, and decisions with our diverse constituents, stakeholders, and partners—including creation of NOAA’s and my Facebook pages, multiple NOAA Twitter accounts, and use of crowd sourcing to digitize old weather records and;
19. **Ensuring** all our policies, regulations, and statements are consistent with the law and legal best practices
- All this and more for less than a nickel a day from each tax payer—now that’s a bargain!
- ✓ Much of this progress required integration of efforts **across line and staff offices** and **with a wide variety of partners and stakeholders**. Our “one-NOAA” approach has proven its power time and again. I am well aware of how
- ✓ much work lies ahead! But because I have experienced **your impressive talent** and **your deep-felt dedication** to our
- ✓ mission, I am confident that you will continue to **tackle problems** and **devise creative solutions**.
- I’m proud to have been part of your mission. And I am grateful to Acting Secretary Rebecca Blank and her capable staff, and numerous members of Congress, for their staunch support for our mission. I appreciate the President’s confidence in me and the invitation to be part of his science team and serve at the helm of the Nation’s spectacular ocean, climate, weather, and coastal agency,
- But most of all, I appreciate the opportunity to work with all of you. I will miss you but know you will continue devoting your energy and talent to fulfill our mission. I wish you all a joyous and peaceful holiday season and New Year.
- Sincerely,
Dr. Jane

*Reported by Jason Samenow | 11:23 AM ET, 12/12/2012:
http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/capital-weather-gang/post/noaa-administrator-jane-lubchenco-stepping-down-in-february/2012/12/12/b9edb47c-4477-11e2-9648-a2c323a991d6_blog.html Accessed 12/17/12 .

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