

Punctuation & Parallelism

1. How can we make the following sentence a little easier to understand?
 - Classic science fiction sagas are *Star Trek*, with Mr. Spock and his large pointed ears, *Battlestar Galactica*, with its Cylon Raiders, and *Star Wars*, with Han Solo, Luke Skywalker, and Darth Vader. (*A Writer's Reference, 4th Edition*, by Hacker, 1999, p. 261)

2. Add two semicolons in each of the following two sentences to make them much easier to understand.
 - If the answer is offered in reply to the question “why do people dance?”, then the answer “to express themselves” becomes a trivial answer, omitting as it does any consideration of dancing that is done, not as a momentary expression of “self,” but as a profession, or dancing that is conceived of as *attainment*, not as “expression” or entertainment, or dancing that is in any way expository or exegetical. (*Ten Lectures on Theories of the Dance*, p. 20)

 - There flourishes today—in creative matters as in those of criticism and analysis—a widespread tendency to place an artistic or cultural phenomenon not in its historical context, to view it not in light of its origins or the elements that shaped it, not in relation to its pertinence to and effect upon the present day, not in relation to its inherent possibilities for illuminating the future, but, instead, to view it exclusively for its own sake, in and of itself, only in relation to that fixed moment when it appeared. (*Composers on Modern Musical Culture*, p. 169)

3. Rewrite the sentence below so that it will be consistent with parallelism.
 - Not only does this reject the organization of history, but even history itself, together with its evolutionary and constructive process. (*Composers on Modern Musical Culture*, p. 169)