

# Polysyndeton

## Uses:

1. To emphasize a particularly important idea the author wants to get across to the audience by giving a list of similar or dissimilar ideas/items in quick succession.
2. To catch the audience's attention and make an idea more memorable.
3. To slow down the pace of the writing by creating lists that emphasize each item equally with extra conjunctions.

## Examples:

- **“We lived and laughed and loved and left.”**

- James Joyce

- **“It will not reduce our need for **arms or allies or programs** of assistance to others.”**

- John F. Kennedy

- **“Nor will it be finished in the first one thousand days; nor in the life of this Administration; nor even perhaps in our lifetime on this planet. But let us begin.”**

- John F. Kennedy

## Explanation and Tips for Identification:

Polysyndeton is intentionally using extra conjunctions (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so) in a series of items. It is primarily used to emphasize how much of something is going, how much of something someone has or how different or unified something is.