**Teacher Notes:**

Find the text online of Lou Gehrig’s famous farewell speech. It’s available all over the Internet, but here’s one example of a place to check out:

<http://www.lougehrig.com/about/farewell.html>

It’s a very short speech, but it’s powerful with its use of repetition, parallel structure, active voice, and a powerful and strategic use of passive voice near the end.

If you want to, or if you have time, use [www.lougehrig.com](http://www.lougehrig.com) to set up some background knowledge about Lou Gehrig and Lou Gehrig’s disease (aka ALS). That’s the official website.

Another idea is to have a student read a little about him from that website (like a student who finishes work early on another day that week prior to this activity and needs something academic to do) and then that student could quickly provide a little background before or after reading the speech.

**Students can annotate for the following** *(jot these down on the board):*

* purpose of the speech
* examples of parallelism (repetition, gerunds, infinitives, participles, etc.)
* examples of active and passive voice

**Students could work together on this and then a quick class discussion could follow based on HOW the parallelism & active/passive voice strengthens the message of the speech.**

**Then pass out the “Parallelism Matters” handout with the quotes on it and allow students time in class to work on the assignment. A writing activity is connected with that assignment as well :)**