structure /ˈstrɛktʃər/ sb. [L. structūra, fr. struere ‘to build; to place together, heap up, pile, arrange’. Proto-Indo-European root *ster₂ - ‘to spread’; English cognates include: street, stress, strain, stray, straw, prostrate, sternum, strath, industry, streusel, consternation, and strategic]

3. The mutual relation of the constituent parts or elements of a whole as determining its peculiar nature or character; make, frame.

a. gen.
- 1657 J. Cooke *Hall's Cures Englisht* 203 My Lady Rainsford beautifull and of a gallant structure of body.
- 1725 De Foe *Voy. round World* (1840) 262 The admirable structure of this part of the Country.
- 1757 R. Price *Review Morals* i. (1769) 13 Then..it [morality] has no other measure or standard, besides every one's private structure of mind and sensations.
- 1803 Brougham *Colon. Policy* i. 50 The structure of society..is the same in all those settlements.
- 1814 Brewster in *Phil. Trans.* CIV. 438 The interior part of the drop had a structure similar to that of fluid glass.
- 1839 Carlyle *Chartism* iii. (1858) 12 With a feeling of thankfulness rather that there do exist men of that structure too.
- 1872 Morley *Voltaire* (1886) 2 Men..became conscious of new fibre in their moral structure.
- 1880 Haughton *Phys. Geog.* ii. 20 The structure of the Southern Hemisphere.

d. With reference to a literary composition, a verse or sentence, a language, etc.
- 1746 Francis tr. *Hor., Epist.* i. xix. 37, I fear'd to change the Structure of his Line.
- 1789 *New Lond. Mag.* July 361/1 A new farce..was presented last Saturday at this theatre. The structure is light and pleasant.
- 1814 Keble *Occas. Papers* (1877) 154 There remain two sorts of imitation instrumental to Poetry: indirect, by which the style and structure takes the colour of the subject; and direct.
- 1823 Thomasina Ross *Bouterwek's Hist. Sp. Lit.* I. 260 Combining the unity of ideas, which ought to distinguish that species of composition [sc. the sonnet], with the most elegant rounding and regularity of structure.
- 1833 J. Rush *Philos. Human Voice* xlv. (ed. 2) 313 When the structure of a sentence is so much involved as to produce a momentary hesitation in an audience, about its concord or government.
- 1862 Stanley *Jew. Ch.* (1877) I. xix. 371 The Apocalypse is..thoroughly poetical in structure.
- 1887 *Spectator* 23 July 996/1 The story itself is in structure extremely simple.

4. The coexistence in a whole of distinct parts having a definite manner of arrangement.
- 1873 Spencer *Study Sociol.* iii. (1880) 63 Though structure up to a certain point [in the animal organism] is requisite for growth, structure beyond that point impedes growth.

7. An organized body or combination of mutually connected and dependent parts or elements.
- 1859 Darwin *Orig. Spec.* vi. (1873) 140 When we see any structure highly perfected for any particular habit, as the wings of a bird for flight.
- 1876 Spencer *Princ. Sociol.* §254 (1885) I. 526 The general law of organization..is that distinct duties entail distinct structures.
Some Linguistic Structures

• Syllable structure (from *Language, Thought, and Reality*, by Benjamin Lee Whorf)

• Word structure (morphology)
  - unlockable = a) capable of being unlocked  b) not capable of being locked

• Phrase Structure
  - some of the creepy old red brick Tudor houses on this street [but notice the awfulness of…
  *the some on this street houses of Tudor brick red old creepy …or any other arrangement]
  - She will have been being interviewed for several hours by then. [or any other order of verbs]

• Sentence Structure
  - Harry is the man I want to succeed & He objected to the shooting of the hunters. [ambiguous]
  - John is easy to please = (For someone) to please John is easy. [Tough-movement]
  - John is eager to please = John is eager (for John) to please (someone). [Equi-NP-Deletion]
  - He did not hit Bill at any time.  ~  Not at any time did he hit Bill.
  - He did not hit Bill with any club.  ~  *Not with any club did he hit Bill.
  - Bill thinks the Cubs won’t win the pennant.  =  Bill doesn’t think the Cubs will win the pennant.
  - Bill said the Cubs won’t win the pennant.  ≠  Bill didn’t say the Cubs will win the pennant.
  - I never go there any more.  ~  %I always go there any more.
Some Phonosemantic Structures
(from http://www.umich.edu/~jlawler/#mono)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rime Size</th>
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13 Coherent Assonances, with examples

- **st-**
  1-Dim Rigid (Standing Man) stick staff stem stub stab step stake stave stiff stilt

- **str-**
  1-Dimensional Non-Rigid strap string strum strain strip streak stream straw strand

- **br₁-**
  1-Dim Connected (Plant) brush break bridge brim briar browse branch bramble

- **br₂-**
  Human (Gender Roles) **M**: brute brawl bruise bris **F**: breed broad breast bread

- **pr₁-**
  1-Dimensional Extended prick prod prop prow pretzel privat prong probe prawn

- **pr₂-**
  Human (Social Roles) proper prim priest prom prissy primp proud pray preen prude

- **bl₁-**
  Color (Eye) blue blood blush blue black blank blotch blaze blind blond bleach

- **bl₂-**
  Compressed Fluid (Eye) blimp blush bloom blot blain blintz blood blow bloat

- **bl₃-**
  Excess (‘too much’) blotto blister blast bluster blab bliss bleep blare blemish

- **gl-**
  Reflected Light (Eye) glaze glimmer glimpse gleam glance glare glow gloss glitter

- **kr-**
  1-Dimensional Bent crutch cripple crack crotch cross crank crimp crevice crane

- **kl-**
  Connection (‘together’) club clutch clam clam clap cluster clench click cling cleave

- **dr-**
  Liquid dredge drink drop drown drought dry drain dribble drizzle drool dram
Some Phonosemantic Structures
(from http://www.umich.edu/~jlawler/#mono)

84 Simplex Words with Assonance KL-
Coherence 62/84 = 74%

Papers from the 17th Regional Meeting, Chicago Linguistic Society (CLS 17)