

## Worksheet: The structure of the Megillah

Here we will look at how the מגילה is structured to showcase “ונהפוך הוא” as a central theme.

For each of these events, mark down where in the Megillah it is found. Then try to find parallels within the Megillah for each. If we find enough parallels, we will be able to discern the overall structure of the book.

1. **אחשורוש's banquet for all the provinces and the special banquet for שושן (1:2-8)**

Location in the text: \_\_\_\_\_

Parallel: \_\_\_\_\_

Location in the text: \_\_\_\_\_

2. **A war is set against the Jews, to take place on 13 Adar (Chapter 3)**

Location in the text: \_\_\_\_\_

Parallel: \_\_\_\_\_

Location in the text: \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Haman's letter to the empire (3:14)**

Location in the text: \_\_\_\_\_

Parallel: \_\_\_\_\_

Location in the text: \_\_\_\_\_

4. **Esther's first banquet (Chapter 5)**

Location in the text: \_\_\_\_\_

Parallel: \_\_\_\_\_

Location in the text: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Haman consults with his wife and friends (5:10-14)

Location in the text: \_\_\_\_\_

Parallel: \_\_\_\_\_

Location in the text: \_\_\_\_\_

You should now have 10 events in the text. Arrange them in the order in which they appear in the text:

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

7. \_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_

What do you notice about this structure?

What happens in the **center** of the book?