Name: Date: Score: / 8

Modifier Mistakes: Learn and Practice

Fix misplaced and dangling modifiers

Read each question. Circle the best answer.

💡 Misplaced and Dangling Modifiers

- A modifier is a word or phrase that describes something.
- A misplaced modifier sits next to the wrong word, and a dangling modifier has nothing to describe.
- Place modifiers right next to the word they describe.
- Wrong: Hopping on one foot, the shoe fell off. Right: Hopping on one foot, Kim lost her shoe.

1 Which revision fixes: Covered in mud, Dad washed the dog.

A. Washed by Dad, covered in mud.

B. Covered in mud, Dad washed it.

C. Dad, covered in mud, washed the dog.

D. Dad washed the mud covered dog.

2 A dangling modifier has...

A. too many verbs

B. no word in the sentence to describe

C. two subjects joined by and

D. a question mark at the end

3 Which sentence places the modifier correctly?

A. We saw a deer with big antlers.

B. With big antlers we saw a deer.

C. We with big antlers saw a deer.

D. We saw with big antlers a deer.

4 Which sentence has a dangling modifier?

A. Walking in, the lights came on.

B. Ana walked in and hit the lights.

C. Walking in, Ana switched on the lights.

D. The lights came on when Ana walked in.

5 What is a modifier?

A. A mark that ends a sentence

B. A word that joins clauses

C. A word or phrase that describes

D. A word that names a place

6 Which sentence is clear?

A. The boy in the blue hat waved.

B. The boy waved, in the blue hat.

C. In the blue hat the boy waved.

D. The boy waved in the blue hat.

7 What is funny about: Grandpa saw a moose wearing his glasses?

A. It is a compound sentence

B. It needs a question mark

C. It sounds like the moose wore them

D. It has no verb

8 Which sentence has a misplaced modifier?

A. My sister got a puppy named Bo.

B. Bo, our new puppy, is for my sister.

C. We got my sister a dog named Bo.

D. We got a dog for my sister named Bo.

✏️ Explain it! In your own words, write the rule for modifier mistakes and one example.

ANSWER KEY

Modifier Mistakes: Learn and Practice (answers)

Fix misplaced and dangling modifiers

Read each question. Circle the best answer.

1 Which revision fixes: Covered in mud, Dad washed the dog.

A. Washed by Dad, covered in mud.

B. Covered in mud, Dad washed it.

C. Dad, covered in mud, washed the dog.

D. Dad washed the mud covered dog.

The dog was muddy, so the description belongs right before dog.

2 A dangling modifier has...

A. too many verbs

B. no word in the sentence to describe

C. two subjects joined by and

D. a question mark at the end

A dangling modifier has nothing in the sentence that it can logically describe.

3 Which sentence places the modifier correctly?

A. We saw a deer with big antlers.

B. With big antlers we saw a deer.

C. We with big antlers saw a deer.

D. We saw with big antlers a deer.

With big antlers sits right next to deer, the word it describes.

4 Which sentence has a dangling modifier?

A. Walking in, the lights came on.

B. Ana walked in and hit the lights.

C. Walking in, Ana switched on the lights.

D. The lights came on when Ana walked in.

Lights cannot walk. No person is named for walking in to describe.

5 What is a modifier?

A. A mark that ends a sentence

B. A word that joins clauses

C. A word or phrase that describes

D. A word that names a place

Modifiers describe or add detail to other words.

6 Which sentence is clear?

A. The boy in the blue hat waved.

B. The boy waved, in the blue hat.

C. In the blue hat the boy waved.

D. The boy waved in the blue hat.

In the blue hat sits right after boy, so readers know who wore it.

7 What is funny about: Grandpa saw a moose wearing his glasses?

A. It is a compound sentence

B. It needs a question mark

C. It sounds like the moose wore them

D. It has no verb

Wearing his glasses sits next to moose, so it seems the moose had the glasses on.

8 Which sentence has a misplaced modifier?

A. My sister got a puppy named Bo.

B. Bo, our new puppy, is for my sister.

C. We got my sister a dog named Bo.

D. We got a dog for my sister named Bo.

Named Bo sits next to sister, so it sounds like the sister is named Bo.