



ELA Virtual Learning

English IV

May 1, 2020



English IV

Lesson: April 30, 2020

Objectives/Learning Targets:

- **Identify and use various types of phrases (noun, verb, adjectival) and correct misplaced and dangling modifiers**

BELL RINGER

Do you get the joke? What should be fixed?

Answer on a separate sheet of paper or Google Doc that you will be using for this lesson.



Modifiers

...my dogs were chasing people on bikes.

If you said this is a modifier error, give yourself a high five! If you caught the error, you should have recognized that the officer should have something like, “Your dogs are chasing people riding their bikes.”

Dangling and Misplaced Modifiers

A dangling what?

Okay, first let's determine what a modifier is and then we will get to the rest.

A Modifier is a word or phrase that describes something.

For example (words in bold are modifiers):

The man with a black beard was giving the speech.

We saw the man when we were entering the room.

Modifiers Continued

Where we place modifiers can completely change the meaning of a sentence.



WHAT???!!!

Misplaced Modifiers

The headline, “Students Cook and Serve Grandparents,” is obviously...awkward!

The headline should have said, “Students Cook and Serve meals to Grandparents.”

This is a misplaced modifier. Grandparents should not be right next to “cook and serve.”

Misplaced Modifiers (Cont)

A Misplaced Modifier are words that have awkward placement, and do not describe the right word. Then they don't have the same meaning they were intended to have. A modifier needs to be as close as possible to what they are describing.

For Example: Tony bought a car from a man with a dropped engine.

This sentence sounds like the man had a dropped engine which we assume is the car.

It should say: Tony bought a car with a dropped engine.

Practice Misplaced Modifiers

Now, you try! On your paper or Google Doc, fix or leave this sentence alone if you believe it is correct.

While eating my sandwich, five mosquitos bit me.

Answer is on the next slide. →

Answers will vary

Mosquitos lack the necessary mouth and tongue to eat a sandwich.

While I was eating my sandwich, I was bitten by five mosquitos.

Dangling Modifiers

A Dangling Modifier opens a sentence with the describing word. It must be followed immediately by the word it was meant to describe.

For Example: While smoking a pipe, my dog sat with me by the crackling fire.

The Dangling Modifier makes this seem like the dog was smoking the pipe.

Call PETA!



Dangling Modifiers (Cont)

While smoking a pipe, my dog sat with me by the crackling fire.

Correct: My dog sat with me by the crackling fire while I smoked my pipe.

Please don't smoke - it's nasty!



Dangling Modifiers

Dangling Modifiers Raise the Dead



After returning from the dead,
my sister took the plants outside.

Practice

Now you try! Answer on your sheet or Google Doc.

After returning from the dead, my sister took the plants outside.

Answers will vary

My sister took her plants outside after they rose from the dead.

Let's Practice More Modifiers!

For each sentence, correct any modifier errors or write **CORRECT**.

1. While eating at the restaurant, Susan's beeper went off.
2. While on his way home, Tim found a gold man's watch.
3. Stuck standing in line, the elevator was keeping people from getting to the party.
4. She saw a puppy and a kitten on the way to the store.
5. He bought a horse for his sister called Prince.

Answers may vary

1. Susan's beeper went off while she was sitting at the restaurant.
2. While on his way home, Tim found a man's gold watch.
3. Stuck standing in line for the elevator, people were getting impatient to get to the party.
4. On the way to the store, she saw a puppy and a kitten.
5. He bought a horse called Prince for his sister.

Reflection

On your sheet or Google Doc, see if you can come up with your own funny misplaced or dangling modifiers!



Additional Resources

If you would like help with modifiers or other grammatical struggles, click on the link -

[Grammar Bytes](#)

There, you will find fun and useful writing information with opportunities to practice your new skills!