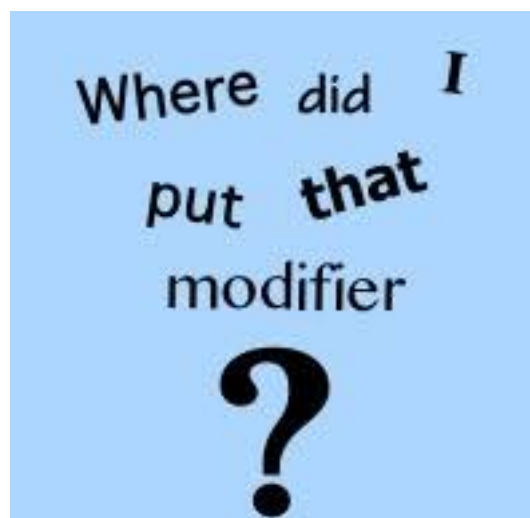


A modifier is a descriptive addition to a phrase/ sentence that gives more information about the subject. There are two main types of modifiers in the English language: dangling modifiers and misplaced modifiers. A misplaced modifier is a modifier that is placed in an incorrect or highly confusing location in the sentence. For example, a correct sentence would be, 'I reached toward the broken cookie jar'. In this case, 'broken' is the modifier, because it adds a description to the cookie jar for more information. If this modifier was misplaced, it could become, 'broken, I reached towards the cookie jar.' This sentence infers that the person reaching towards the cookie jar is broken (depressed or having an existential crisis), rather than the cookie jar being broken. This can cause a lot of confusion. Although, this can be fixed easily. If you moved the misplaced modifier to a place in the sentence that makes grammatical sense, then everything is fine. A dangling modifier, on the other hand, is when the subject isn't stated clearly or at all in the sentence, making the meaning of the sentence unclear. For example, if I said, "love to play the violin," is a dangling modifier, because the subject (in this case, me) isn't clear. The corrected sentence would be, "I love to play the violin." In this sentence, the subject is clear. You can easily fix this by including the subject in the right place to clarify who/what the subject is.



Activity

Identify whether the sentences have either misplaced or dangling modifiers (write the answers in your books):

1- The big.

2- Neil Armstrong made history as the first person to land on the moon in 1969.

3- Is delicious!

4- She fell on the couch covered in sweat.