

Correct Misplaced and Dangling Modifiers #2

Misplaced and dangling modifiers in your writing can confuse your readers. You can correct misplaced or dangling modifiers by rearranging or rewriting the sentence to make sure that the modifiers are next to the word or phrase they are modifying.



Rewrite each sentence to correct the misplaced or dangling modifier. **Sample Answers**

- 1 Zanaya reluctantly climbed the stairs of the towering water slide trembling with nervous anticipation.

Trembling with nervous anticipation, Zanaya reluctantly climbed the stairs of the towering water slide.

- 2 Crashing against the rocks nearby, the sunbathers were surprised by the sudden, wild waves.

The sunbathers were surprised by the sudden, wild waves crashing against the rocks nearby.

- 3 In 1811, Mary Anning discovered the first ichthyosaur skeleton, one of the earliest paleontologists.

In 1811, Mary Anning, one of the earliest paleontologists, discovered the first ichthyosaur skeleton.

- 4 Heated to temperatures of over 1,000 degrees Celsius, ceramic artists use special ovens called kilns to fire their pottery.

Heated to temperatures of over 1,000 degrees Celsius, kilns are special ovens that ceramic artists use to fire their pottery.

- 5 Nalani patiently coaxed her friend's bunny out of the cage with blueberries.

Using blueberries, Nalani patiently coaxed her friend's bunny out of the cage.

- 6 Looking closely, the painting contained hundreds of small painted dots that created the larger image.

Looking closely, I noticed that the painting contained hundreds of small painted dots that created the larger image.

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Keep going! Rewrite each sentence to correct the misplaced or dangling modifier. **Sample Answers**

- 7 Because they continually activate different muscle groups, the balance and coordination of young athletes tends to improve the longer they play sports.

Because they continually activate different muscle groups, young athletes tend to improve their balance and coordination the longer they play sports.

- 8 Aiden laced up his trusty, well-worn skates looking nervous before the ice dancing auditions.

Looking nervous before the ice dancing auditions, Aiden laced up his trusty, well-worn skates.

- 9 Playing their energetic finale at halftime, the crowd went wild cheering for the Kennedy High School marching band.

The crowd went wild as the Kennedy High School marching band played their energetic finale at halftime.

- 10 Walt Whitman composed some of America's most iconic poems, often recognized in photos by his bushy, white beard.

Walt Whitman, often recognized in photos by his bushy, white beard, composed some of America's most iconic poems.

- 11 Using photosynthesis, over half of Earth's oxygen is produced by sea plants like seaweed and plankton.

Using photosynthesis, sea plants like seaweed and plankton produce over half of Earth's oxygen.

- 12 Helen Sharman became Britain's first astronaut, formerly a chemist for a candy company, after responding to a radio advertisement.

Helen Sharman, formerly a chemist for a candy company, became Britain's first astronaut after responding to a radio advertisement.