

1 Here's the Idea

Misplaced Modifiers

A **misplaced modifier** is a word or phrase that is placed so far away from the word it modifies that the meaning of the sentence is unclear or incorrect.

MISPLACED PARTICIPIAL PHRASE:

The school district is issuing new desks to students made of molded plastic.

Are students made of plastic?

REVISION:

The school district is issuing new desks made of molded plastic to students.

Phrase near word it modifies

Dangling Modifiers

A **dangling modifier** is a word or phrase that does not clearly modify any noun or pronoun in a sentence. To correct a sentence containing a dangling modifier, you will need to supply the word being modified. You will also need to add or rearrange other words to make the sentence clear and complete.

DANGLING PARTICIPIAL PHRASE:

Looking around, objects made of plastic fill our homes, our offices, and our schools.

Are the plastic objects looking?

REVISION:

Looking around, we realized that objects made of plastic fill our homes, our offices, and our schools.

Added words make meaning clear.