NAME CLASS DATE

for CHAPTER 8: USING MODIFIERS CORRECTLY pages 225–28

Correcting Misplaced Modifiers

8h. Avoid using misplaced modifiers.

A word, phrase, or clause that seems to modify the wrong word or word group in a sentence is a *misplaced modifier*. Place modifying words, phrases, and clauses as near as possible to the words they modify.

MISPLACED Perched in the cage, I admired the large, gray parrot. [Was I perched in the cage?]

CLEAR I admired the large, gray parrot perched in the cage.

MISPLACED The students were planning a field trip in the library. [Was the field trip going to be in the library?]

CLEAR The students in the library were planning a field trip.

USAGE

EXERCISE If a sentence contains a misplaced modifier, underline the misplaced modifier and draw an arrow from the modifier to the place it should go. If the sentence is already correct, write *C* after it.

Example 1. We examined the donated books and only chose the best ones for our library.

1. I bought a ladder to fix the roof that was sturdy.
2. Martin watched a radiant sunset climbing a hill.
3. Wanda offered me the book swinging in the hammock.
4. The horse without a saddle galloped toward the stable.
5. Earl discovered many beetles examining the rosebushes.
6. A letter without a stamp arrived from Phoenix.
7. Lorraine swatted the flies near the sandwiches that were buzzing around.
8. Carlos found another fuse in the drawer that was no good.
9. Isabel bought a blue dress from the clothing store in the mall with black stripes.
10. Under my bed I found my revised history paper.

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