

DANGLING MODIFIERS

I. What is wrong with the sentences below? How can they be improved?

- a) Lying across the colon, the surgeon saw the piece of suture.
- b) Hanging from the ceiling, the elderly nurse suddenly noticed an electrical cable.
- c) Entering the dark room, the small statue fell off the shelf.

II. Which of the sentences is/are incorrect? Why?

- a) Fumbling in her handbag, the car key could not be found.
 - b) As she fumbled in her handbag, the car key could not be found.
 - c) Fumbling in her handbag, she could not find the car key.
- d) When the teacher provides students with an opportunity to interact with each other, they become more interested and motivated.
- e) When students are provided with an opportunity to interact with each other, they become more interested and motivated.
- f) By providing students the opportunity to interact with each other, they become more interested and motivated.
- g) By providing students the opportunity to interact with each other, teachers help them to be more interested and motivated.

Dangling modifiers

Characteristics:

-
-
-
-

Corrections:

-
-
-
-

III. Correct the sentences.

1. Walking down the street, the ice cream truck's music was heard.
2. While on the way home, a car accident was witnessed on the motorway.
3. After finishing the report, the computer was shut off.
4. Raising her voice, the argument ended.
5. Hungry after two hours of hiking, my packed sandwich was quickly devoured upon reaching the peak.
6. To improve his results, the experiment was done again.
7. After reading the original study, the article remains unconvincing.
8. Struggling to get on, the bus driver shouted at us.
9. Stepping off the curb, the car honked.
10. At seven years old, my parents divorced.
11. To see well, the lights in this room need to be adjusted.
12. Requiring more data for the study, questionnaires were collected from an additional 200 people.

NOUN PHRASES

I. Change the phrases into noun-noun phrases.

1. factory for making small cars
2. station for observing weather both by day and night
3. ruler for measuring up to twelve inches
4. period of the next five years
5. pressure exerted by propagules
6. success of invasions
7. work conducted in the field
8. disturbances caused by urchins
9. nodules on the roots of legumes
10. activity by bacteroids
11. acquisition of iron by bacteroids
12. homologue in soybeans

II. Notice the difference in meaning:

1. error identification x identification error
2. source language x language source
3. control computer x computer control
4. pressure control x control pressure
5. expert system x system expert
6. side road x roadside
7. language x language sign

III. Reformulate the compound terms using prepositional phrases to show that you understand the relationship between the words forming the compound.

Example:

electric discharge effect elimination
elimination of the effects of electric discharge

1. voltage variation immunity tests
2. lighting system operation optimization
3. railway vehicle electromagnetic compatibility tests
4. solid body magnetic levitation computation
5. substance melting temperature measurement
6. electrostatic discharge immunity test
7. heat resistance tests
8. vector controlled induction motor drives
9. image processing applications
10. digital data processing unit

Sources:

<https://www.niu.edu/writingtutorial/grammar/dangling-modifiers.shtml>

Luo, A. (2022, October 20). *What Is a Dangling Modifier? | Examples & How to Eliminate*. Scribbr. Retrieved April 1, 2023, from <https://www.scribbr.com/sentence-structure/dangling-modifier/>

https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/general_writing/mechanics/dangling_modifiers_and_how_to_correct_them.html
<http://en.fel.zcu.cz/AE%20III%20Guidelines%20for%20Academic%20Writing/Terminology.pdf>

Cargill, M. and P. O'Connor, P., 2009. *Writing Scientific Research Articles: Strategy and Steps*. Chichester: Blackwell Publishing. ISBN 978-1-4051-8619-3.