

10 MINUTE
SCHOOL

Dangling Modifiers & Parallelism



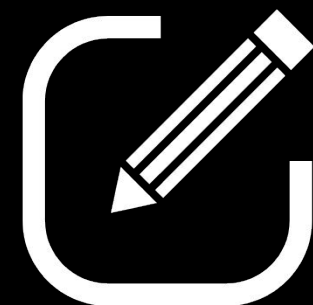
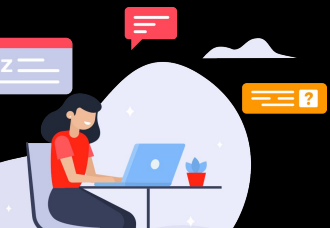
Dangling Modifiers

Definition

Modifier:

A modifier is a word, phrase, or clause that provides a description.

Always place modifiers as close as possible to the words they modify.



Definition

Dangling Modifier:

A **Dangling** or **Misplaced Modifier** is a word, phrase, or clause that is improperly separated from the word it modifies / describes.



Definition

Dangling Modifier:

Because of the separation, sentences with this error often sound awkward, ridiculous, or confusing. Furthermore, they can be downright illogical.

- ❖ **Dangling = Displaced/ Misplaced/ Illogical**



Definition

□ **Modifiers are:**

1. Adjective

2. Adverb

3. Adjective phrase

4. Adverb phrase

5. Participle



Definition

□ **Parts of Dangling Modifiers in sentence can be started by:**

- 1. gerund.....**
- 2. infinitive.....**
- 3. present participle.....**
- 4. past participle.....**



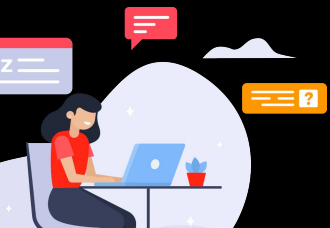
Definition

□ **Parts of Dangling Modifiers in sentence can be started by:**

5. adjective phrase.....

6. expression with like.....

7. expression with unlike.....



Note

Note-1: Depending on the subject, the sentence can be passive or active.

Example :

While going to the market, a snake bit me.

(Incorrect)

-While going to the market, I was bitten by a snake. (Correct)



Note

Example :

While eating mango, a cat disturbed me.

(Incorrect)

-While eating mango, I was disturbed by a cat.

(Correct)



Note

Example:

Flying out the window, he grabbed the papers.

(Incorrect)

**-Flying out the window, the papers were grabbed
by him. (Correct)**



Note

Note-2: Depending on the meaning, the sentence can be complex.

Example :

While going to the market, a snake bit me. (Incorrect)

-While I was going to the market, a snake bit me. (Correct)

Or

-While I was going to the market, I was bitten by a snake. (Correct)



Practice

❑ Previous Year Questions:

Select the best option that best replaces the underlined part.

❑ Being the tallest in the class, the teacher asked her to sit at the back. [Dutch Bangla Bank-2015]

- a) the teacher asked her to sit at the back.
- b) the teacher had asked her to sit at back.
- c) she was asked to sit at the back.
- d) None of these

Ans: c



Practice

- Underestimating its value, breakfast is a meal many people skip. [MTB, MTO- 2014]
- a) Underestimating its value, breakfast is a meal many people skip.
- b) Breakfast is skipped by many people because of their underestimating its value.
- c) Many people, underestimating the value to breakfast, and skipping it.
- d) Many people skip breakfast because they underestimate its value.
- e) None of these

Ans: d



Practice

Choose the correct sentence.

- a) Published in Harlem, two young journalists owned and edited the Messenger.
- b) Published in Harlem, the message was owned and edited by two young journalists.
- c) While John was talking on the phone, the doorbell rang.
- d) While talking on the phone, the doorbell rang.
- e) (b+c)

Ans: e



Practice

- Choose the correct sentence.
- a) **Swimming in our very best form, the trophy was richly deserved.**
 - b) **Swimming in our very best form, we richly deserved the trophy.**
 - c) **As I was Relaxing with nothing to do, the sunny afternoon made me sleep.**
 - d) **Relaxing with nothing to do, the sunny afternoon made me sleepy.**
 - e) **(b+c)**

Ans: e



Practice

- Choose the correct sentence.
- a) Unlike the general public, film critics did not seem to enjoy the movie.
 - b) Film critics did not seem to enjoy the movie unlike the general public.
 - c) Unlike most birds, he heads and necks of vultures lack feathers.
 - d) Unlike most birds, vultures do not have feathers on their heads and necks.
 - e) (a+d)

Ans: e



Practice

- Identify the correct sentence.
- a) While making breakfast, the smoke alarm went off and woke the baby.
 - b) While I was making breakfast, the smoke alarm went off and woke the baby.
 - c) When making breakfast, the smoke alarm went off and woke the baby.
 - d) While I was making breakfast, going off the smoke alarm and woke up the baby.
 - e) None of these.

Ans: b



Practice

- Identify the correct sentence.
- a) Satisfied by the great result in the HSC, it was decided by Taufik to take a one week rest.
 - b) Satisfied by the great result in the HSC, a one week rest was given by Taufik to himself.
 - c) Satisfied by the great result in the HSC, Taufik decided to take a one week rest.
 - d) Satisfied by the great result in the HSC, Taufik's decision was to take a one week rest.
 - e) None of these.

Ans: c



Practice

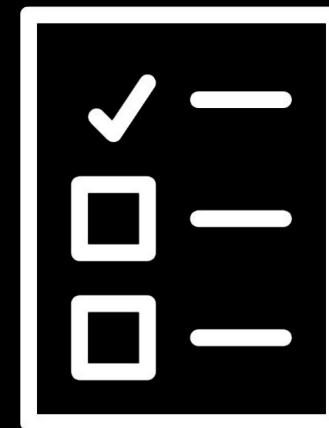
- Select the best option.
- a) Having stole the money, the police searched the thief.
 - b) Having stole the money, the police searched the thief.
 - c) Having stolen the money, the thief was searched by the police.
 - d) Having stolen the money, the police searched the thief.
 - e) Having stole the money, the thief was searched by the police.

Ans: c

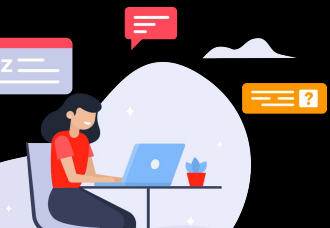


Practice

- While going to class, _____
- a) the dog bit me.
 - b) dog bit me.
 - c) a dog bit me.
 - d) I was bitten by a dog.
 - e) none of these.



Ans: d



Practice

□ Questions for More Practice :

Example:

Walking down the street, a bus almost struck us.

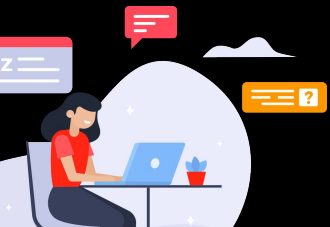
(Incorrect)

-As we walked down the street, a bus almost struck us.

(Correct)

Or

-Walking down the street, we were almost struck by a bus. (Correct)



Practice

Example:

Wearing (modifier) high boots, the snake failed to injure the supervisor. (Incorrect)

-Wearing high boots, the supervisor was protected from the snake. (Correct)

Or

Because the supervisor was wearing high boots, the snake did not injure her.



Practice

Example:

Hearing the good news, glad I was. (Incorrect)

-Hearing the good news, I was glad. (Correct)



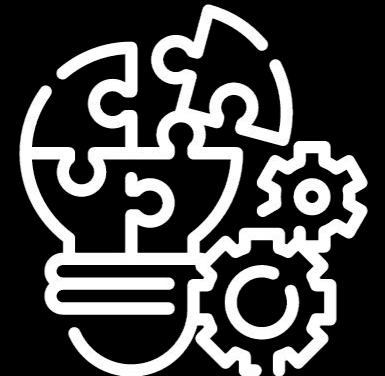
Practice

Example:

On her way home, Jan found a gold man's watch.

(Misplaced modifier)

-On her way home, Jan found a man's gold watch.

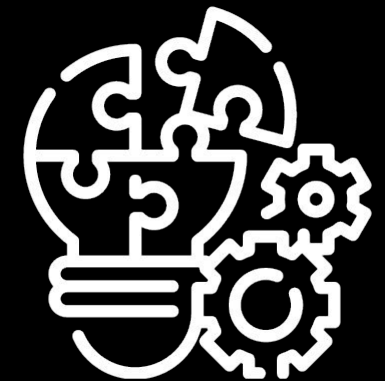


Practice

Example:

The child ate a cold dish of cereal for breakfast this morning. (misplaced adjective)

-The child ate a dish of cold cereal for breakfast this morning.

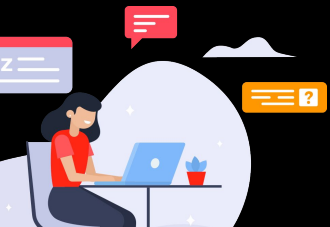


Parallelism

Parallelism

Definition:

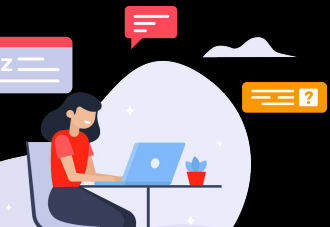
- **The balance between two or more similar words, phrases or clauses is called parallelism in grammar.**
- **Parallelism is also called parallel structure or parallel construction.**



Parallelism

Definition:

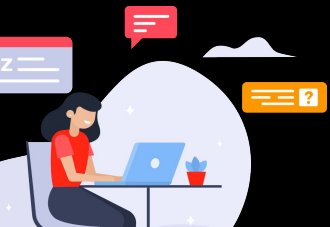
- **Parallel construction prevents awkwardness, promotes clarity and improves writing style and readability.**



Parallelism

Patterns of Parallelism:

- 1).....and.....
- 2).....(, /comma)....
- 3).....as well as.....
- 4).....or.....
- 5).....is.....



Parallelism

Patterns of Parallelism:

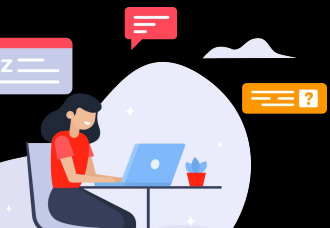
6).....**but**.....

7) **Either**.....**or**.....

8) **Neither**.....**nor**.....

9) **Whether**.....**or**.....

10) **Prefer**.....**to**.....



Parallelism

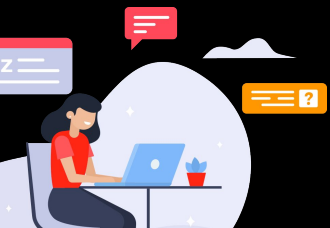
Patterns of Parallelism:

11) **Not only.....but also.....**

12) **Notbut.....**

13) **Both.....and.....**

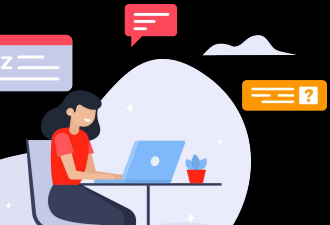
14) **Both.....and.....as well as.....**



Parallelism

Rules of parallelism:

1. Parallelism is used to balance nouns with nouns, prepositional phrases with prepositional phrases, participles with participles, infinitives with infinitives, and clauses with clauses.



Parallelism

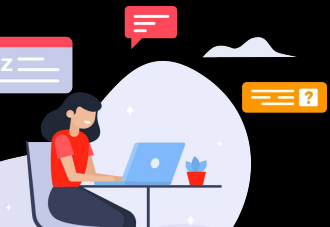
Rules of parallelism:

Example :

She likes cooking, jogging, and to read. (false)

-She likes cooking, jogging, and reading. .(true)

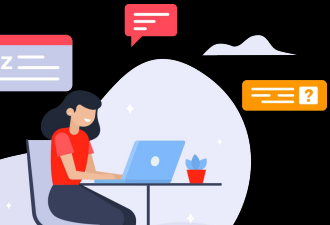
-She likes to cook, jog, and read. .(true)



Parallelism

Rules of parallelism:

2. Parallelism is used with elements joined by coordinating conjunctions.



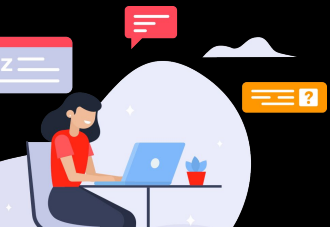
Parallelism

Rules of parallelism:

Example :

My mother likes cooking and to read. (false)

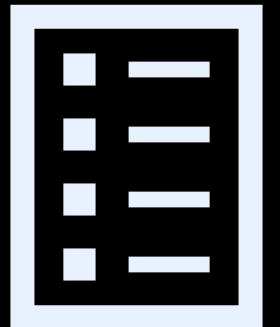
-My mother likes cooking and reading. (true)



Parallelism

Rules of parallelism:

3. Parallelism is used with elements in lists or in a series.



Parallelism

Rules of parallelism:

Example :

This task can be done individually, in pairs, or can be done in groups of four. (false)

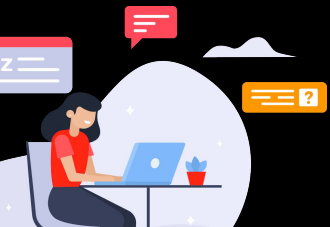
-This task can be done individually, in pairs, or in groups of four. (true)



Parallelism

Rules of parallelism:

4. Parallelism is used with elements being compared.



Parallelism

Rules of parallelism:

Example :

She is mad about watching TV more than to read a book . (false)

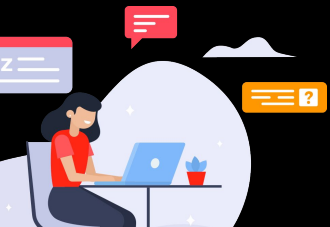
-She is mad about watching TV more than reading a book. (true)



Parallelism

Rules of parallelism:

5. Parallelism is used with elements joined by a linking verb or a form of be.



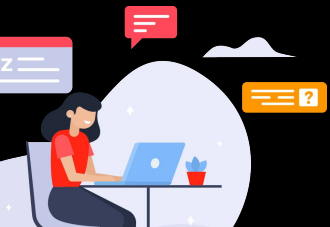
Parallelism

Rules of parallelism:

Example :

To learn is understanding the world. (false)

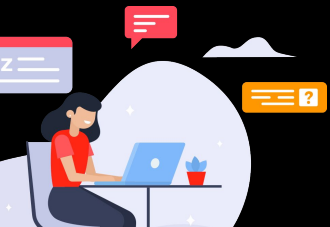
-To learn is to understand the world. (True)



Parallelism

Rules of parallelism:

6. Parallelism is used with elements joined by linking words.



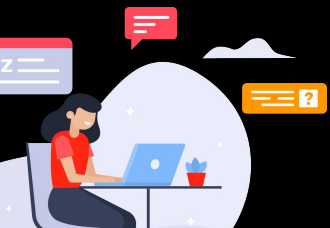
Parallelism

Rules of parallelism:

Example :

The teacher not only wants his students to keep quiet but also to do the task . (false)

-The teacher wants his students not only to keep quiet but also to do the task .(true)



Practice

❑ Previous Year Questions:

Select the word or phrase that must be changed in order to make the sentence correct.

❑ In recent years, automobile emissions have disfigured stone carvings, corroded bronze monuments and soil ancient buildings. [National Bank–2015]

- a) years.
- b) have disfigured.
- c) carvings.
- d) Soil
- e) No error

Ans: d(soiled)



Practice

□ Diligence and honesty, as well as being intelligent, are qualities, which I'm looking for.

[BKB, Officer, Cash, 2015]

- a) as well as
- b) being intelligent.
- c) are qualities.
- d) I'm looking for.
- e) No error.

Ans: b(intelligence)

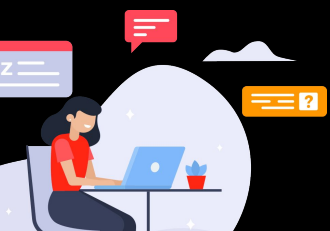


Practice

❑ Slang, which is not generally acceptable in formal usage, is notable for its liveliness, humor and its exaggerates. [Al Arafah Islami Bank, 2017]

- a) Which
- b) generally acceptable
- c) its
- d) liveliness
- e) its exaggerates

Ans: e(exaggeration)



Practice

- The training manager must estimate the expenses for the program, including costs for its develop, delivery, and evaluation. [Bank Asia, MTO, April, 2017]
- a) must estimate
 - b) for the
 - c) its
 - d) develop
 - e) Evaluation

Ans: d (development)



Practice

□ The principal stepped aside just as the scam issue came up, and in the process asserting his moral superiority. **[UCB, Trainee Officer, 2017]**

- a) stepped aside
- b) as the scam
- c) came up
- d) asserting
- e) No error

Ans: d (Asserted)



Practice

□ Questions for More Practice :

Example:

She played basketball, had a shower and gone to school.

(false)

-She played basketball, had a shower and went to school.

(true)



Practice

Example:

You can apply to the job by filling this form or apply by telephone. (false)

-You can apply to the job by filling this form or you can apply by telephone. (true)



Practice

Example:

Nancy likes playing the piano, the trumpet and play the guitar. (false)

-Nancy likes the piano, the trumpet and the guitar.(true)

-Nancy likes playing the piano, the trumpet and the guitar. (true)



Practice

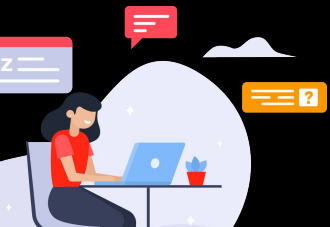
□ Making Parallel :

Example:

He likes baseball and running. (false)

-He likes playing baseball and running. (true)

-He likes to play baseball and to run. (true)



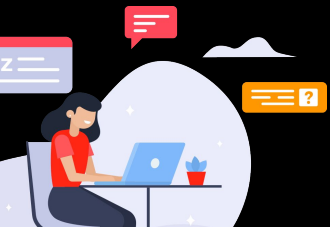
Practice

□ Making Parallel :

Example:

The dog ran across the yard, jumped over the fence, and sprinted away. (false)

-The dog ran across the yard, jumped over the fence, and sprinted down the alley. (true)



Thank You