

MODIFIERS: MAKING THINGS CLEAR

Learn to hook modifiers into a sentence in such a way that they point clearly to what they modify. Rewrite sentences where necessary for greater clarity.

A. Which slot would be right for the insert following each sentence? Mark either *A* or *B* in the box to the right. (Read the complete sentence out loud.)

1. A I would choose a well-paying job that is boring B .

INSERT: because of the money

2. A Pietro serves a good pizza B .

INSERT: smothered in a tasty sauce

3. Books A are read by young people B .

INSERT: that have dirty words in them

4. A her sister protected her from reporters B .

INSERT: with varying explanations

5. A cancer A can quickly spread throughout the body B .

INSERT: using the lymph glands for its route

6. A camping site A greeted the hikers B .

INSERT: full of mud puddles

7. A I could see the brushfires B .

INSERT: flying into the airport

8. A a police officer finally stopped the child B .

INSERT: riding a tricycle down the street

9. A Shakespeare means very little to a person B .

INSERT: working in a gas station

10. A Father used to read us stories B .

INSERT: full of monsters and dragons

B. Rewrite the italicized part of each sentence to spell out more clearly who does what.

11. Colleges are beginning to offer job training credit *while still taking regular classes*.

12. *Observing long descriptive passages*, a novel becomes boring to me.

13. *Taking him by the hand*, he looks up at her and smiles.

14. *After having gone through the lower grades*, my family moved to a larger town.

15. *Still hoping* that business would improve, time came to close our shop.

16. Problems start *when trying to communicate* with someone who does not know the dialect.

17. An education in a specific field is needed *in order to survive in society*.

18. A major problem *when reading the Constitution* is the length of its sentences.

19. *Talking to a fellow student*, the conversation would be very informal.

20. *By criticizing the dialect of the home*, the child turns his back on school.
