

Dangling Modifiers Readers Theatre Script

Developed by Dr. Rosalind M. Flynn from Teacher Workshop Scripts

- Evens Dangling, dangling, dangling! [gesture]
1 What's dangling?
2 Modifiers!
Odds Modifiers? [gesture]
3 What's a modifier?
4 A word
6 A phrase
8 A clause that gives additional information
Odds So what's a dangling modifier? [gesture]
10 It's a modifier consisting of a phrase or clause that may be momentarily confusing to a reader if it appears to modify a word that it cannot sensibly modify.
All Say what? [gesture]
5 That's too confusing!
7 Just like dangling modifiers.
9 How about an example?
12 Okay. "We noticed several bulletin boards walking through the hallway."
11 Bulletin boards walking through the hallways?
Evens Dangling, dangling, dangling! [gesture]
14 Hanging in the closet, he found the jacket.
13 Why was he hanging in the closet?
Evens Dangling, dangling, dangling! [gesture]
Odds Oh! Dangling, dangling, dangling! [gesture]
15 Now we get it!
17 Let me try one: Sitting in the back row of the theater, the actors could hardly be heard.
19 I thought the actors were supposed to be on stage!
All Dangling, dangling, dangling! [gesture]
16 So how do we stamp out [gesture] dangling?
18 One way is to rearrange the words.
20 Walking through the hallways, we noticed several bulletin boards.
1 He found the jacket hanging in the closet.
2 Another way is to add words: Sitting in the back row of the theater...
All ...we [gesture] could hardly hear the actors!
4 Right! [gesture]
5 After years of dangling, we will correct our modifiers!
All No! [sound effect] [gesture]
6 You just did it again!
5 What?
All Dangling, dangling, dangling! [gesture]
5 So I should have said....?
All After years of using dangling modifiers, we will correct our writing.
7 Don't be caught with your modifiers dangling!
All Ooooooh! [gesture]