

## STYLE PRACTICE

Choose the better sentence in each pair. Be prepared to explain your answer.

### Misplaced Modifiers

1. \_\_\_\_\_ I handed the paper to Jerry that was not finished.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ I handed the paper that was not finished to Jerry.
  
3. \_\_\_\_\_ I studied almost five hours without stopping.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ I almost studied five hours without stopping.

### Dangling Modifiers

1. \_\_\_\_\_ While studying for the test, the radio played.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ While studying for the test, she played the radio.
  
3. \_\_\_\_\_ A credit card is helpful when low on cash.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ A credit card is helpful when you are low on cash.

### Parallelism

1. \_\_\_\_\_ He wrote about sex, music, and the way he liked to travel.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ He wrote about sex, music, and travel.
  
3. \_\_\_\_\_ You will neither talk nor write for the next hour.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ You neither will talk nor write for the next hour.

### Faulty Comparison

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Mr. Jay's test is easier than Ms. Smith.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ Mr. Jay's test is easier than Ms. Smith's.
  
3. \_\_\_\_\_ This book is funnier than any other I've ever read.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ This book is funnier than any I've ever read.

### Omissions

1. \_\_\_\_\_ His looks are above average but his voice pitiful.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ His looks are above average, but his voice is pitiful.
  
3. \_\_\_\_\_ She brought a snake and an alligator to the party.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ She brought a snake and alligator to the party.

### Is When/Is Where

1. \_\_\_\_\_ A successful student is where one knows how to study well.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ A successful student knows how to study well.
  
3. \_\_\_\_\_ Frustration is when you can't think of a good topic.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ Frustration is not being able to think of a good topic.

Each of the sentences below contains an example of a misplaced modifier, dangling modifier, non-parallel construction, faulty comparison, incorrect omission, or is when/ is where construction. Identify the problem and revise each sentence.

1. Mary, one of my best friends and she is a hard worker, has applied for a job as a teacher's aide at the school where I teach.
  
2. That gentleman owns the purple Porsche with the huge muscles parked across the street.
  
3. Living like a hermit, the telephone is never answered.
  
4. The newspaper has excellent articles, interesting columnists, and the comics are hilarious and the sports page is exciting.
  
5. Word processing is when you are able to use a computer to type your composition.
  
6. She plays a terrific banjo but awful guitar.
  
7. She's a finer singer than any student in this school.
  
8. Using a stolen key, all the computers were taken.
  
9. I can only concentrate on one subject at a time.
  
10. These students are both intelligent and they are sincere as well as highly motivated.