

Chapter 11: Using Modifiers Correctly, pp. 221–43

Choices: Exploring Modifiers, p. 221

Choices activities are designed to extend and enrich students' understanding of grammar, usage, and mechanics and to take learners beyond traditional classroom instruction. To use the Choices worksheet, have each student pick an activity that interests him or her. In some cases, you may wish to assign an activity to a particular student or group of students. You may also want to request that students get your approval for the activities they choose. Establish guidelines for what constitutes successful completion of an activity. Then, help students plan how they will share their work with the rest of the class.

Choices activities can be scored with a pass-fail grade or treated as bonus-point projects. Those activities that require students to research or create a certain number of items might be graded in a traditional manner.

What Is a Modifier? p. 222

EXERCISE

- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. bright | 11. Several |
| 2. gracefully | 12. almost |
| 3. much | 13. slightly |
| 4. exciting | 14. steaming |
| 5. almost | 15. very |
| 6. small | 16. too |
| 7. extremely | 17. intelligently |
| 8. rather | 18. so |
| 9. carefully | 19. gladly |
| 10. another | 20. unusually |

Adjective or Adverb? p. 223

EXERCISE

- | | | |
|--------|---------|---------|
| 1. ADV | 8. ADV | 15. ADV |
| 2. ADV | 9. ADJ | 16. ADJ |
| 3. ADJ | 10. ADV | 17. ADV |
| 4. ADV | 11. ADV | 18. ADV |
| 5. ADJ | 12. ADJ | 19. ADV |
| 6. ADV | 13. ADJ | 20. ADJ |
| 7. ADJ | 14. ADJ | |

Good and Well, p. 224

EXERCISE A

- | | | |
|---------|---------|----------|
| 1. good | 5. well | 9. well |
| 2. well | 6. good | 10. good |
| 3. well | 7. good | |
| 4. good | 8. good | |

EXERCISE B

[11] How ~~good~~^{well}, or healthy, I feel depends on how ~~good~~^{well} I take care of myself. [12] A good breakfast gives me a ~~well~~^{good} start on my day. [13] Foods low in sugar are ~~well~~^{good} choices. [14] My family and I work ~~good~~^{well} together to make healthy foods that taste ~~good~~^{well}. [15] Exercise is important, too. [16] I can't run very ~~good~~^{well}, but a long walk gives me energy. [17] I also play basketball very ~~good~~^{well}, so I get plenty of exercise. [18] How ~~good~~^{well} I sleep at night also affects the way I feel. [19] I need at least eight hours to perform ~~good~~^{well} at school the next day. [20] Diet, exercise, and rest will help me live a ~~well~~^{good}, long life.

Regular Comparison, p. 225

EXERCISE For some items below, increasing or decreasing comparisons are acceptable answers.

- | | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. small | <u>smaller</u> | <u>smallest</u> |
| 2. <u>cheerfully</u> | <u>more cheerfully</u> | most cheerfully |
| 3. <u>pretty</u> | prettier | <u>prettiest</u> |
| 4. often | <u>more often</u> | <u>most often</u> |
| 5. <u>improbable</u> | more improbable | <u>most improbable</u> |
| 6. <u>smoothly</u> | <u>more smoothly</u> | most smoothly |
| 7. dirty | <u>dirtier</u> | <u>dirtiest</u> |
| 8. <u>desirable</u> | less desirable | <u>least desirable</u> |
| 9. <u>cranky</u> | <u>crankier</u> | crankiest |
| 10. boastful | <u>more boastful</u> | <u>most boastful</u> |
| 11. <u>sweet</u> | sweeter | <u>sweetest</u> |
| 12. grateful | <u>more grateful</u> | <u>most grateful</u> |
| 13. <u>chilly</u> | <u>chillier</u> | chilliest |

14. hot hotter hottest
15. silly sillier silliest
16. wonderful more wonderful most wonderful
17. blue bluer bluest
18. famous more famous most famous
19. fickle more fickle most fickle
20. salty less salty least salty

Irregular Comparison, p. 226

EXERCISE

- | | |
|-----------|---------------------------|
| 1. most | 6. more |
| 2. better | 7. best |
| 3. less | 8. more |
| 4. best | 9. farthest [or furthest] |
| 5. worst | 10. better |

Regular and Irregular Comparison A, p. 227

EXERCISE

- | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. <u>believable</u> | more believable | <u>most believable</u> |
| 2. angrily | <u>more angrily</u> | <u>most angrily</u> |
| 3. <u>dim</u> | <u>dimmer</u> | dimmest |
| 4. good | <u>better</u> | <u>best</u> |
| 5. <u>dry</u> | drier | <u>driest</u> |
| 6. <u>bitter</u> | <u>less bitter</u> | least bitter |
| 7. <u>observant</u> | <u>more observant</u> | most observant |
| 8. <u>bad</u> | worse | <u>worst</u> |
| 9. warm | <u>warmer</u> | <u>warmest</u> |
| 10. many | <u>more</u> | <u>most</u> |
| 11. <u>far</u> | farther | <u>farthest</u> |
| 12. <u>perky</u> | <u>perkier</u> | perkiest |
| 13. well | <u>better</u> | <u>best</u> |
| 14. little money | <u>less</u> money | <u>least</u> money |
| 15. <u>ridiculous</u> | more ridiculous | <u>most ridiculous</u> |
| 16. much | <u>more</u> | <u>most</u> |
| 17. <u>sad</u> | <u>sadder</u> | saddest |
| 18. <u>sly</u> | slyer | <u>slyest</u> |

19. happily more happily most happily
20. grumpy grumpier grumpiest

Regular and Irregular Comparison B, p. 228

EXERCISE

- | | |
|------------|--------------------------|
| 1. largest | 6. deepest |
| 2. more | 7. most interested |
| 3. best | 8. more gracefully |
| 4. oddest | 9. cutest |
| 5. more | 10. farther [or further] |

Use of Comparative and Superlative Forms A, p. 229

EXERCISE

- The tomb of Qin Shihuangdi has been called "the greatest ~~greater~~ archaeological find of our time."
- Of the more than 7,000 life-size warriors, horses, and chariots, which looked most realistic ~~more realistic~~?
- It was the most amazing ~~more amazing~~ thing I had ever seen!
- Since 1974, archaeologists in China have been putting forth their best ~~better~~ efforts to rebuild the lifelike terra-cotta army.
- Rebuilding the statues was probably harder ~~harder~~ than unearthing them.
- Some of the smallest pieces provide the best clues about sculpting techniques during the emperor's time.
- Amy knows more information about China's first emperor than I do.
- Were the chariots or the horses buried deeper ~~deeper~~?
- Of all the farmers who found the first clay head, he was most terrified ~~more terrified~~.
- Do you have a more current account than this one?

**Use of Comparative and Superlative Forms B,
p. 230**

EXERCISE

- C 1. Can anyone else on the team run faster than he can?
- other 2. These scissors are sharper than any pair I could find.
- other 3. Berta has won more trophies for track and field than any athlete.
- else 4. She is more skillful than anyone in her art class.
- else 5. I write to my cousin more than I write to anyone in my family.
- other 6. Is jogging more effective for weight loss than any form of exercise?
- other 7. During free reading, short stories are more popular than any form of literature.
- else 8. Juan has done more volunteer work than anyone in his troop.
- other 9. This kitten is not as curious as all the kittens in its litter.
- else 10. Gina was more observant than anyone on the hike.
- other 11. This first song is better than any song on the CD.
- other 12. The cheetah can run faster than any land animal.
- other 13. The month of February has fewer days than any month.
- else 14. Houda speaks Arabic better than anyone in his family.
- other 15. This book has fewer pages than any book.

- else 16. Rachel scored more goals than anyone on her soccer team.
- else 17. Has Paul run more miles than anyone in his track club?
- C 18. A saltwater crocodile is larger than any other reptile.
- else 19. Our neighbor Mrs. Gold grows more flowers than anyone on our street.
- C 20. These pants are baggier than any other pants in my closet.

**Double Comparisons and Double Negatives,
p. 231**

EXERCISE

Some answers may vary.

- anything 1. I ~~don't~~ hardly know ~~nothing~~ about the country of Zambia.
- any 2. We have never had ~~no~~ problems with our car.
- tastier 3. These enchiladas are ~~more~~ tastier than the tacos.
- strangest 4. The ~~most~~ ~~strangest~~ noise is coming from behind that door.
- have never 5. I ~~haven't never~~ watched the sun rise.
- [or haven't ever I ~~haven't never~~ watched the sun rise.]
- any 6. Your explanation doesn't make ~~no~~ sense to me.
- deeper 7. If the water were ~~more~~ deeper, we could dive safely.
- can barely 8. I ~~can't barely~~ reach the top shelf.

longest 9. Is the ~~most longest~~ bridge in the world the Humber Bridge in England?

wiser 10. Grandpa seems ~~more wiser~~ than anyone else I know.

any 11. The black rock for these statues can't be found in ~~no~~ other place.

[or can The black rock for these statues ~~can't~~ be found in no other place.]

funniest 12. That's the ~~most funniest~~ story I have ever heard!

any 13. We didn't see ~~no~~ weeds in the garden.

C 14. Could I try on this dress in a larger size?

cheapest 15. This discount store has the ~~most cheapest~~ prices on school supplies.

C 16. I don't remember ever eating a plantain.

oldest 17. The ~~most oldest~~ covered bridge in use is in New Hampshire.

anyone 18. I never heard ~~no one~~ play the piano as well as Angela Cheng.

shorter 19. Joe needs a ~~more shorter~~ board for the birdhouse floor.

anywhere 20. She never goes ~~nowhere~~ without her glasses.

[or _____ She ~~never~~ goes nowhere without her glasses.]

Misplaced Prepositional Phrases, p. 232

EXERCISE A

1. The ad said that the camera came with two extra lenses.
2. I called the phone number that was listed in the advertisement.
3. I wanted further information about the camera.
4. The camera dealer had satisfactory answers to my questions.
5. A camera of my own is a dream come true!

EXERCISE B *Some answers may vary.*

6. I took a nap and dreamed about a faraway castle on my blue couch.
7. Virgil found a book about prehistoric animals in the library.
8. The woman wrote a play about two elephants in the red dress.
9. Three men had to stop quickly while a goose crossed the road in a small car.
10. The water refreshed us from a fountain.
11. Did you see the medals that Aunt Elsa won in the attic?
12. This *daruma* doll is said to help wishes come true from Japan.
13. That boy will feed our dogs in the yellow shirt.
14. The rocks are from the playground in my shoes.
15. The book *Scorpions* describes two friends living in Harlem by Walter Dean Myers.

Misplaced and Dangling Participial Phrases, p. 233

EXERCISE

Answers may vary.

1. Because I was hoping to win the race, the fall was disappointing.

2. I urged the horse onward with the reins grasped tightly in my hands.
3. Vo couldn't find his sleeping bag hidden in the closet.
4. The log, broken in half, fit into the stove.
5. Because the car was running on empty, I needed to stop for gas.
6. Archaeologists have learned much from Anasazi dwellings built into the cliffs.
7. Aunt Rosa offered grilled chicken wrapped in a flour tortilla to us.
8. Rested from a long nap, I thought the afternoon hike seemed easy.
9. Traveling along the Congo River, people can see exotic birds and brightly colored insects.
10. Leaping across the stage, the dancer amazed us with her performance.

Misplaced Clauses, p. 234

EXERCISE A

1. I really enjoyed the movie that we saw last night.
2. My sister, who lives in Oklahoma, is coming home for Thanksgiving.
3. I couldn't have finished without your help which I really appreciate.
4. The man whose car had been dented filed an accident report.
5. The boy whom I invited to the dance will be unable to go.

EXERCISE B

6. Jolene gave a bird that has white feathers to her brother.
7. The pictures that we took were of monkeys.
8. The trees that lost their leaves in the hurricane held many birds' nests.
9. The burglar who had stolen my bracelet turned himself in to the police.
10. The store that offers secondhand clothing is on Elm Avenue.

Misplaced Phrases and Clauses, p. 235

EXERCISE

Some answers may vary.

1. Beth showed me a magazine article about Charles Schulz in the library.
2. Schulz created his comic strip for almost fifty years called Peanuts.
3. The comic strip was published in twenty-one different languages about a funny group of neighborhood children.
4. The comic strips are my favorites about sandlot baseball and the Great Pumpkin.
5. The one is about Charlie Brown that I like the most finally hitting a home run.
6. Charlie Brown worries about his batting ability, who loves baseball.
7. Charlie Brown's beagle has an adventurous personality whose name is Snoopy.
8. Snoopy flies an imaginary airplane in World War I called the Sopwith Camel.
9. The evil Red Baron often threatens Snoopy's safety, who also flies a World War I airplane.
10. The beagle is confident and comical, nicknamed "Joe Cool".
11. Snoopy writes novels sitting on his doghouse.
12. The bird Woodstock takes shorthand for Snoopy's great novels, who rarely speaks.
13. Linus sucks his thumb, carrying a security blanket.
14. He anxiously awaits Halloween hoping to see the Great Pumpkin.
15. Peppermint Patty and Marcie share a secret crush on Charlie Brown, who are pals.

16. Schulz's children talk of hope, faith, and love, whose problems are not always childhood ones.
17. *Peanuts* has given its millions of readers many laughs, originally called *L'il Folks*.
18. Did you see the box of *Peanuts* comic strips in the attic that Bill collected?
19. Bill was given the collection, whose father is a *Peanuts* fan, for his birthday.
20. Dating as far back as 1951, Bill has comic strips.

Review A: Modifiers, p. 236

EXERCISE A

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. colorful | 4. anxiously |
| 2. unusually | 5. rather |
| 3. Few | |

EXERCISE B

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 6. well | 14. good |
| 7. loudly | 15. brightly |
| 8. delicious | 16. respectfully |
| 9. frantically | 17. good |
| 10. well | 18. well |
| 11. well | 19. bad |
| 12. peaceful | 20. well |
| 13. well | |

Review B: Comparisons and Double Negatives, p. 237

EXERCISE A

1. During practice today, the trombone sounded louder than any other instrument.
2. This is one of Henry Rowe Schoolcraft's finest most finest books about American Indian history and culture.
3. Both of the Assad brothers, who are classical guitarists, performed well, but I thought Odair's solos were better best.
4. Carlos can run farther farther [or further] than anyone else in his class.

5. This little gray kitten is the cutest most cutest of the litter.
6. Which of these two books by Lensey Namioka is less expensive least expensive?
7. Cold water tastes better gooder than warm water.
8. Of everyone in our class, Sela collected the most cans.
9. Which of the following Tibetan cities is largest larger: Lhasa, Xungba, or Nagqu?
10. Olivia seems more daring than anyone anyone else on the playground.

EXERCISE B

Some answers may vary.

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <u>anything</u> | 11. Nobody in our neighborhood knows <u>nothing</u> about gardening. |
| <u>won't ever [or will never]</u> | 12. I <u>won't never</u> be able to play the guitar as well as B. B. King. |
| <u>any</u> | 13. The directions that José gave us don't make <u>no</u> sense. |
| <u>has never [or hasn't ever]</u> | 14. Although Carol has only one arm, she <u>hasn't never</u> lost the city tennis championship. |
| <u>ever</u> | 15. Our family hardly <u>never</u> gets e-mail on Sunday. |

Review C: Misplaced Modifiers, p. 238

EXERCISE A

1. Chirping excitedly, I listened to the bird.
2. Lucas designed a costume for the play with red sequins.
3. Our family saw giraffes driving through the game preserve.

- Jazz musician Stefon Harris plays the vibraphone, whose first album is called *A Cloud of Red Dust*.
- I brought a scarf for Mother that is made of silk.
- The giant land tortoise inhabits the Galápagos Islands which can live 200 years.
- The man saw a movie about George Washington in the brown hat.
- The bowl fell on the floor that was filled with fruit salad.
- Ricardo discovered a book about rock climbing in the library. [or Ricardo discovered a book about rock climbing in the library.]
- I saw a petrified tree taking a shortcut through the woods.

EXERCISE B

Answers will vary.

- Because he was prepared for the test, it seemed easy.
- Excited about the party, they blew up the balloons.
- Sewing all day, I finally finished my costume.
- Soothed by the soft music, the baby stopped crying.
- Traveling through the city of Ayuthaya in Thailand, she saw the beautiful temple called Wat Tanot.

Review D: Modifiers, p. 239

EXERCISE A

- Karl ~~hasn't~~ ^{has never [or hasn't ever]} heard of the Paralympics.
- Is the Sears Tower in Chicago the ~~tallest~~ ^{tallest} building in the United States?
- Grandmother never hears ~~no one~~ ^{anyone} who speaks softly. [or ~~never~~ hears no one]

- Pluto is farther from the sun than any ~~plan-~~ ^{other} et in our solar system.
- Of the two jackets, this one will keep you ~~warmest~~ ^{warmer}.
- Many of the doors in Zanzibar are carved ~~beautiful~~ ^{beautifully}.
- The comedian's jokes were ~~more funnier~~ ^{funnier} than usual.
-
- Which of these three salsas is ~~spicier?~~ ^{spiciest}?
- Yo-Yo Ma plays the cello really ~~good~~ ^{well}.

EXERCISE B

Answers may vary.

- One player on the team has a dog named Woofers.
- As I was rushing to answer the telephone, the ringing stopped.
- Chirping loudly, birds swooped to the bird feeder.
- Tumbling across the mat, the gymnast showed amazing strength and grace.
- Admitting defeat, the tired runner congratulated the winner.

Proofreading Application: Review, p. 240

The ~~most best~~ ^{best} movie I have seen this year is *Genghis Blues*. No ~~documentary~~ ^{other} has ~~never~~ ^{ever} been so heartwarming. The film centers on Paul Peña, a blind musician from San Francisco. Listening to his radio one night, he hears some ~~strangely~~ ^{strange} music called throatsinging. Because he ~~hasn't~~ ^{has never [or hasn't ever]} heard anything so unusual, he investigates. He discovers that the music is ~~extreme~~ ^{extremely} popular in a region of Mongolia called Tuva. With practice, he learns the art form ~~good~~ ^{well} and sings for a group of visiting Tuvan throatsingers. He sings so ~~good~~ ^{well} that

they ask him to travel to Tuva to compete in a contest. No one had ^{ever} never been invited to do that before. Because of his blindness and health problems, Peña has a ^{harder} more harder time traveling than he imagined. In addition, Tuva is one of the ^{most remote} more remote regions on earth.

Literary Model: Description, pp. 241–42

EXERCISE A

- crooked—positive
- deeper—comparative
- handsomest—superlative
- better—comparative
- good—positive
- best—superlative

EXERCISE B

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| teeth | looking |
| ripples | nothing |
| kid | food |

EXERCISE C

Answers will vary.

I thought I would spend a few minutes in the newest book and music store on the south side of the city. At store openings you can usually find better deals than normal. But I was really surprised at the specials being offered at this one. I bought two books by a woman who is the most interesting author I've read in years. By coincidence, a well-known comic book writer was giving a talk to promote his most recent work. So of course I stayed to listen to him. Most unexpectedly, at the opening I changed my mind about who is the greatest guitarist in the country. This happened after I heard a particular CD being played on the store's sound system.

EXERCISE D

Answers may vary.

Using comparative and superlative forms shows the intensity of the quality I am describing. For example, "the most interesting" indicates more intensity than "an interesting." Using a phrase like "the newest book and music store" helps the reader understand that other stores of this type have opened in that part of the city without my actually saying that.

Writing Application: Directions, p. 243

Writing Applications are designed to provide students immediate composition practice in using key concepts taught in each chapter of the *Language and Sentence Skills Practice* booklet. You may wish to evaluate student responses to these assignments as you do any other writing that students produce. To save grading time, however, you may want to use the following scoring rubric.

Scoring Rubric

The directions explain the steps of the process in chronological order.

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|

Modifying phrases and clauses are placed as near as possible to the words they modify.

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|

The directions use transitional words.

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|

The assignment is relatively free of errors in grammar, usage, and mechanics.

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|

Total Score _____

5 = highest; 1 = lowest