**Misplaced modifiers**

A modifier (a phrase or clause that acts as an adjective or adverb) should be placed close to the word it modifies. Otherwise, the meaning of the sentence may be unclear or confusing.

A modifier placed too far away from the word it modifies is called a ***misplaced modifier.***

**Example 1:**

**Incorrect**: We rented a recorder from the music **store** *with an instruction booklet*.

**Correct**: We rented a **recorder** *with an instruction booklet* from the music store.

**Correct**: At the music store, we rented a **recorder** *with an instruction booklet.*

**Example 2:**

**Incorrect:** *Walking toward the house*, the **tree** on the lawn looked beautiful to Elizabeth.

**Correct:** *Walking toward the house*, **Elizabeth** admired the tree on the lawn.

Read each sentence. If correct, write “c.” If it contains a misplaced modifier, write “mm.”

1. Smashed beyond repair, Bert saw his watch lying on the court.
2. The hunter crouched behind a tree waiting for a bear to come along with a bow and arrow.
3. The hunter waited for the bear, hiding behind the tree with his bow and arrow.
4. Hanging on the wall, the picture looked beautiful.
5. With great enthusiasm, the trombone was played by Sara during the concert.
6. Covered with hot melted cheese, we ate the pizza.
7. Always eager for cake, the birthday party was attended by everyone.
8. Forgetting that the microphone was on, the whole audience heard the singer's fight with his wife.
9. Wagging her tail, the new puppy climbed into my lap.
10. Late as always, Mike made quite an entrance when he came to the party.