# Dangling Modifiers

A dangling modifier is a word or phrase that modifies a word not clearly stated in the sentence. A modifier describes, clarifies, or gives more detail about a concept--it's a like a phrase that acts like an adjective or adverb.

For example:

Having finished the assignment, Jill turned on the TV.

This is a correct example of a modifier (meaning it is NOT dangling) because Jill is the person who has finished the assignment.


Having finished the assignment, the TV was turned on.

This is an incorrect example because the TV was not the thing that finished the assignment--we don't know who finished the assignment because the sentence doesn't tell us.

---

Now you try!! Circle the sentence where the correct modifier is used... meaning it isn't dangling out by itself.

**After reading the original study,** the article remains unconvincing.

**After reading the original study,** I find the article unconvincing.

**Relieved of your responsibilities at your job,** your home should be a place to relax.

**Relieved of your responsibilities at your job,** you should be able to relax at home.

The experiment was a failure, **not having studied the lab manual carefully.**

They failed the experiment, **not having studied the lab manual carefully.**