



## Placing Modifiers



Modifiers work best when they are near what they modify.

**Example: I saw a man walking down the road.**

If you wanted to add the adjective *tall* to the sentence, where would you add it? The best place is next to the noun or pronoun that it describes. The nouns and pronouns in the sentence are *I*, *man* and *road*. It would be incorrect to say *tall I*. *Tall road* doesn't make sense. So you would add it before *man*.

**I saw a tall man walking down the road.**

Below are sentences with a word or phrase in parentheses. Rewrite each sentence adding the word or phrase.

1. Ellen put her homework on the table. (wooden)

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2. In the evening the zebras came to the river to drink. (thirsty)

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3. The sun blazed down on the travelers. (hotly)

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4. James ate popcorn at the movie. (noisily)

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5. The rain flooded the town. (that fell in April)

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6. Mia ran to school. (who was late).

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7. The lady petted her cat. (which purred softly)

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8. The boy ran to the nurse. (with the bloody nose)

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**I saw a tall man walking down the road.**

Below are sentences with a word or phrase in parentheses. Rewrite each sentence adding the word or phrase.

1. Ellen put her homework on the table. (wooden)

Ellen put her homework on the wooden table.

2. In the evening the zebras came to the river to drink. (thirsty)

In the evening the thirsty zebras came to the river to drink.

3. The sun blazed down on the travelers. (hotly)

The sun hotly blazed down on the travelers. or The sun blazed down hotly on the travelers.

4. James ate popcorn at the movie. (noisily)

James noisily ate popcorn at the movie.

5. The rain flooded the town. (that fell in April)

The rain that fell in April flooded the town.

6. Mia ran to school. (who was late).

Mia, who was late, ran to school.

7. The lady petted her cat. (which purred softly)

The lady petted her cat which purred softly.

8. The boy ran to the nurse. (with the bloody nose)

The boy with the bloody nose ran to the nurse.

