

Modifier Makeover Answer Key

Corrected Paragraph

When I woke up late, I realized the bus had already left the stop. Running down the street with messy hair, I felt my backpack slip off my shoulder. I nearly dropped everything as I rushed. Covered in sweat, I stood at the empty bus stop, which looked deserted. Even though I yelled for help, the driver didn't stop and kept driving away. While I was hoping to catch up, my shoe became untied and tripped me. Crying in frustration, I felt tears roll quickly down my face. Exhausted and discouraged, I dropped my homework papers, which flew into the street. Looking ahead, I saw that the crowded sidewalk blocked my way.

Error Breakdown

1. **"Waking up late, the bus had already left the stop."**
 - Error: Dangling modifier. It sounds like the bus woke up late.
 - Fix: Add the subject (*I realized...*).
2. **"Running down the street with messy hair, the backpack slipped off my shoulder."**
 - Error: Dangling modifier. It sounds like the backpack was running.
 - Fix: Make the subject (*I felt my backpack slip*).
3. **"Nearly I dropped everything..."**
 - Error: Misplaced modifier. "Nearly" is in the wrong position.
 - Fix: "I nearly dropped everything..."
4. **"Covered in sweat, the empty bus stop looked deserted."**
 - Error: Misplaced modifier. The stop wasn't covered in sweat.
 - Fix: Attach the modifier to *I*.
5. **"After yelling for help, the driver didn't stop..."**
 - Error: Dangling modifier. It sounds like the driver was yelling for help.
 - Fix: Clarify that *I* was yelling.