

## Writing Wisely

By Laurie Dart ([www.workingwisely.net](http://www.workingwisely.net)) ([www.writingwisely.com](http://www.writingwisely.com))

- 08:31:32 [mlzambos] Hello and welcome to our Discussion on Writing Wisely this morning.
- 08:31:46 [mlzambos] First some basic instructions. If you need to change the refresh rate then type /refresh # where the # is seconds between each refresh do not go below 3. The Default is 5 seconds which is a good rate.
- 08:31:53 [mlzambos] If you are on FireFox the chat will be in reverse. You need to switch over to IE to have the new items at the bottom and the older at the top.
- 08:32:03 [mlzambos] Anyone need me to wait while you change over to IE
- 08:32:28 [mlzambos] If you need to see more lines then type /show ### with the number of line you want to see.
- 08:32:34 [mlzambos] When we get to the Q&A section please type ? if you have a question and then I will call on you to ask your question so that it won't get lost in the mix of things. This will be done through the on board Private Messaging System.
- 08:32:45 [mlzambos] I will be Archiving this chat at the end for everyone to see also.
- 08:33:05 [mlzambos] Thank you for coming this morning. It is my Pleasure to introduce you to Laurie Dart owner of Working Wisely ([www.workingwisely.net](http://www.workingwisely.net)) & Writing Wisely ([www.writingwisely.com](http://www.writingwisely.com))
- 08:33:14 [mlzambos] She provides writing and editing services to individuals and businesses. Laurie began her career as a word processing operator. Working on machines that didn't have spell check, she learned the fine art of proofreading.
- 08:33:24 [mlzambos] Working with individual writers and business owners, she learned how to write for different audiences. For nearly 2½ years, Laurie was a featured columnist for the Koos News.
- 08:33:35 [mlzambos] Her weekly column entitled "Working Wisely" was a favorite among readers. Topics included personal as well business improvement ideas. She also partnered with another author and wrote a weekly advice column entitled, "Micki & Maude."
- 08:33:44 [mlzambos] Laurie earned a bachelor's degree in business administration with a concentration in marketing from LeMoyne College in Syracuse, New York;
- 08:33:54 [mlzambos] a master's degree in public administration with a concentration in human resources from Portland State University in Portland, Oregon; and is currently working on a doctorate in Public Administration
- 08:34:04 [mlzambos] with a concentration and dissertation focusing on work-life balance from Walden University, an online accredited institution.
- 08:34:14 [mlzambos] In addition to her weekly column, Laurie published two articles in the PA Times – What is Ethics and The Answers Are in the Nation's Founding Documents.
- 08:34:23 [mlzambos] She is the author of "The Everyday Guide to Writing Wisely" an e-Book featuring tips on grammar and writing and has written a number of pieces including: press releases, marketing copy, web site copy, articles, resumes and letters.
- 08:34:32 [mlzambos] She has also edited and ghostwritten many projects including e-Books, White Papers, articles, nominations, evaluations, and course content.
- 08:34:42 [mlzambos] In her spare time, Laurie enjoys writing fiction, gardening, fishing, reading, researching, scrap booking and spending time with her husband Ted, daughters Tricia and Sarah, and granddaughter Sophia.
- 08:34:58 [mlzambos] Okay Laurie they are all yours.
- 08:35:12 [Laurie] Thanks Michelle!
- 08:35:24 [Laurie] Good morning everyone! Happy Friday, Happy 4th of July, Happy I'm glad to be alive today day!!
- 08:35:40 [Laurie] I'm so glad you could join me today.



08:35:50 **[Laurie]** Thanks Michelle for that wonderful welcome.

08:36:00 **[Laurie]** Today we are going to be talking about grammar and writing.

08:36:15 **[Laurie]** Anyone can write.

08:36:22 **[Laurie]** Let's just get that right out in the open. I'm serious – anyone can write. But not everyone can write wisely.

08:36:32 **[Laurie]** If no one is reading what you're writing, you might as well be standing on a street corner talking to yourself.

08:36:42 **[Laurie]** Writing wisely is more than just taking a pen to paper or tapping away on the keyboard.

08:36:54 **[Laurie]** A good writer has a working knowledge of basic grammar, spelling, pronunciation, and vocabulary.

08:37:05 **[Laurie]** Most writers are avid readers.

08:37:15 **[Laurie]** You may be thinking that you could never be a writer because your grammar is terrible, along with your spelling.

08:37:22 **[Laurie]** That's simply not true.

08:37:34 **[Laurie]** You can improve your grammar, your speech, your vocabulary and your writing – it just takes dedication and hard work.

08:37:43 **[Laurie]** I don't know about you, but I learned about grammar in grade school and I really wasn't planning ahead – at least not for my writing career.

08:37:56 **[Laurie]** I didn't really pay attention to sentence structure and I thought a dangling participle was something obscene.

08:38:10 **[Laurie]** If I only knew the benefits I would reap if I paid attention in 4th grade.

08:38:20 **[Laurie]** It wasn't until I took the placement tests for college that I had to admit I was grammatically challenged.

08:38:31 **[Laurie]** The idea of taking a non-credit English course did not appeal to me and so I set out to learn everything I could about grammar before my placement test.

08:38:41 **[Laurie]** My advisor told me I got the highest score on record for the English placement test – proving you're never too old to learn good grammar!

08:38:56 **[Laurie]** Less is more with so many things in life and writing is no exception.

08:39:05 **[Laurie]** Don't add a bunch of flowery words and keep your use of "that" to a minimum.

08:39:18 **[Laurie]** If you follow just those two tips, you'll already be Writing Wisely!

08:39:28 **[Laurie]** Any questions so far?

08:39:32 **[Laurie]** Am I going to fast?

08:39:49 **[dalenoles]** no. doing great.

08:39:52 **[Heather]** you're fine on my end

08:39:58 **[mlzambos]** Doing Great

08:39:58 **[Laurie]** ok

08:39:58 **[Heather]**

08:39:58 **[becki]** good pace for me

08:40:08 **[Laurie]** Let's talk about punctuation

08:40:10 **[delaney]** perfect

08:40:21 **[Laurie]** The comma is the punctuation mark that causes us the most difficulty.

08:40:46 **[Laurie]** So let's look at some examples

08:40:50 **[Laurie]** To separate principal clauses joined by a conjunction.

08:40:58 **[Laurie]** The regular season lasted about eight months, but the playoffs took an additional one to two months.

08:41:12 **[Sally]** I'm comma challenged

08:41:13 **[Laurie]** To separate portions of long compound predicates.



- 08:41:27 **[Laurie]** The marketing executive prepares a detailed annual plan, budget, and forecast during the fall and, when the document has been approved, proceeds to implement all activities specified in the plan within the dates promised and the funds approved.
- 08:41:46 **[Laurie]** To separate subordinate clauses and phrases that begin a sentence
- 08:42:01 **[Laurie]** Having left home at an early age, he acquired extensive experience in his chosen field long before he had reached thirty years of age.
- 08:42:19 **[Laurie]** There is no need to set off the clause or phrase by commas if it modifies a noun. That is, if its deletion would change the meaning of the noun.
- 08:42:25 **[becki]>[mlzambos]** when is she taking questions? i have one already lol
- 08:42:31 **[Laurie]** To set off modifying phrases that follow the word or phrase they modify.
- 08:42:42 **[Laurie]** William, still lost in his book, was unaware that his dog had slipped away to investigate a low thump in the kitchen.
- 08:42:46 **[mlzambos]>[becki]** k
- 08:42:59 **[Laurie]** To set off a participial phrase that has a subject and is independent of the remainder of the sentence.
- 08:43:06 **[Laurie]** Having finished his last sales call for the day, John turned his car around and headed towards the city.
- 08:43:19 **[Laurie]** To set off introductory, parenthetical, or interrupting elements.
- 08:43:21 **[mlzambos]>[becki]** I will get her at the end of commas
- 08:43:34 **[Laurie]** Naturally, we would be happy to accommodate you.
- 08:43:42 **[mlzambos]>[Laurie]** Becki has a question when you are ready for one.
- 08:44:07 **[Laurie]** go ahead Becki
- 08:44:22 **[becki]** my question has to do with comma usage
- 08:44:32 **[becki]** dealing with commas and the word "and"
- 08:44:36 **[becki]** for example
- 08:44:52 **[becki]** Yesterday I saw yellow, blue, and red birds.
- 08:45:10 **[becki]** i have been taught NOT to put a comma after "blue"
- 08:45:15 **[becki]** but you seem to
- 08:45:21 **[becki]** what is the correct way?
- 08:45:44 **[becki]** does that make sense?
- 08:46:13 **[Laurie]** Here's the rule - use a comma when listing three or more nouns or pronouns
- 08:46:48 **[Laurie]** The final comma in a series may be left out, but be consistent with your decision of whether or not to use one.
- 08:47:03 **[Laurie]** As with most things in life - it depends!
- 08:47:10 **[becki]** thank you
- 08:47:18 **[becki]**
- 08:47:23 **[dalenoles]** I always wanted to know that, too.
- 08:47:46 **[Laurie]** cool - any other questions before we continue with commas?
- 08:47:59 **[mlzambos]** That is great to know.
- 08:48:21 **[Laurie]** ok let's keep going - because we have a game to play!
- 08:48:33 **[Laurie]** To set off words or phrases that introduce examples.
- 08:48:44 **[Laurie]** He is thinking of tropical country, such as Jamaica.
- 08:49:10 **[Laurie]** To set off words in a direct address.
- 08:49:15 **[Laurie]** Should you choose to accept this assignment, Mr. Bill, you will be on your own.
- 08:49:35 **[Laurie]** To separate two or more adjectives, two or more, adverbs, or two or more phrases, which modify the same word or phrase.
- 08:49:46 **[Laurie]** Work began in a relaxed, unhurried fashion.
- 08:49:57 **[AngelaS]** ?



08:50:04 [Laurie] To set off a direct quotation. (If an exclamation mark or question mark follows the quotation, it replaces the comma.)

08:50:46 [mlzambos]>[Laurie] **Let me know when you are ready for Angelas ?**

08:50:54 [Laurie] "Don't expect to see me tomorrow," Ted growled as he turned on his heel to leave.

08:51:07 [Laurie] go ahead Angela

08:51:23 [mlzambos]>[AngelaS] **Go ahead with your ? Angela**

08:51:33 [AngelaS] When setting off words in a direct address...

08:51:53 [AngelaS] like "Welcome Shelly"

08:52:02 [AngelaS] would you use a comma after Welcome?

08:52:50 [Laurie] no, I wouldn't

08:53:05 [AngelaS] Thanks!

08:53:20 [Laurie] my keyboard is not working all of the sudden which means I can't get to my document

08:53:26 [Laurie] you're welcome!

08:54:09 [mlzambos] **We can wait for you to shut down and restart if needed.**

08:54:32 [mlzambos] **I have gotten some great info already.**

08:54:39 [Laurie] so - I need to restart real quick - while I'm doing that - please think about and share definitions of pronouns, verbs, adverbs, and adjectives.

08:54:47 [Laurie] I'll be right back

08:54:57 [mlzambos] **K**

08:55:20 [AngelaS] pronouns = I, we, she, he?

08:55:23 [mlzambos] **An Adverb is something that describes a Verb.**

08:55:47 [mlzambos] **slowly, quickly, smoothly,**

08:55:50 [AngelaS] verbs are action words...often ending in "ing"?

08:56:03 [mlzambos] **More of the How to the action.**

08:56:16 [mlzambos] **Not always Angela**

08:56:24 [AngelaS] true

08:56:30 [AngelaS] but sometimes

08:56:39 [AngelaS] adjectives describe nouns

08:56:40 [mlzambos] **Walk, run, talk, slide are all verbs**

08:56:44 [delaney] adverbs describe verbs

08:57:37 [delaney] oops lol not reading ahead sorry

08:57:43 [mlzambos] **Nouns are people, places and things, (Objects)**

08:58:01 [mlzambos] **That is fine.**

08:58:25 [delaney] a pronoun is a personal noun

08:58:27 [mlzambos] **Everyone else fell asleep?**

08:59:41 [AngelaS] I think we're supposed to keep coming up with examples, right?

09:00:08 [delaney] lol sure

09:00:12 [mlzambos] **Sure we could do that.**

09:00:32 [MichelleM] there is different kinds of nouns

09:00:38 [AngelaS] oh, I guess Laurie just said definitions

09:01:26 [mlzambos] **I know Pronoun and the regular noun what else is there?**

09:01:49 [AngelaS] proper nouns...typically capitalized

09:01:49 [MichelleM] pronouns may function as subjects or as objects

09:01:52 [mlzambos] **I like examples though Angela that is how I understand it best.**

09:02:30 [MichelleM] Concrete Nouns = jeftliner, lemonade, dentist

09:02:38 [AngelaS] Proper nouns = Angela, Washington, Dr. Smith

09:02:42 [MichelleM] Abstract Nouns = freedom, success, memory



09:03:07 [MichelleM] Common Nouns = document, dog, student  
09:03:30 [MichelleM] Proper Nouns = Charter of Rights and Freedoms, United Nations, Dell Computer  
09:04:34 [mlzambos] Cool great lesson in Nouns. Mike told me about idea. didn't know that was part of the list but now it makes since.  
09:04:41 [MichelleM] Adverbs often answer the questions when? how? where? or to what extent?  
09:05:01 [Laurie] I am SO sorry  
09:05:06 [Laurie] I had a computer meltdown  
09:05:10 [delaney] wb  
09:05:11 [mlzambos] Hi Laurie WB  
09:05:15 [MichelleM] no problem  
09:05:30 [AngelaS] Hi Laurie!  
09:05:32 [mlzambos] That is fine  
09:05:37 [Laurie] Thanks! Let's keep going!  
09:05:54 [Laurie] Before we play the game, let's talk about another area that trips people up all the time.  
09:06:14 [Laurie] Spacing  
09:06:15 [mlzambos] k  
09:06:27 [Laurie] The only reason that two spaces were used after a period during the 'typewriter' age was because original typewriters had monospaced fonts -- the extra space was needed for the eye to pick up on the beginning of a new sentence.  
09:06:52 [Laurie] In the days of typewriter manuscripts the extra space was necessary to separate the ends and beginnings of sentences. The space character never changed.  
09:07:07 [Laurie] With the advent of electronic typesetting, the software attempts to 'fit' the type to specific line lengths, it both expands or contracts the available space to make the type fit.  
09:07:19 [Laurie] Word spacing is where most of this space 'play' takes place.  
09:07:39 [Laurie] So - remember, one space after a period or other punctuation mark.  
09:07:57 [Laurie] I see you reviewed the parts of speech  
09:08:00 [Laurie] excellent  
09:08:17 [Laurie] any questions?  
09:08:43 [mlzambos] Nope  
09:08:50 [Laurie] Now we're going to play a game. I'll ask for different parts of speech and you guys type in whatever comes to mind. Then we'll see what happens!  
09:09:36 [Laurie] I need an adverb  
09:09:45 [mlzambos] slowly  
09:09:45 [Jeannine] intently  
09:09:54 [MichelleM] now  
09:09:54 [AngelaS] quickly  
09:10:01 [delaney] madly  
09:10:02 [mlzambos] calmly  
09:10:08 [MichelleM] sincerely  
09:10:25 [delaney] intensely  
09:10:27 [dalenoles] acutely  
09:10:28 [Laurie] without an ly  
09:10:35 [mlzambos] wildly  
09:10:51 [MichelleM] too  
09:10:55 [MichelleM] rather  
09:10:58 [MichelleM] very  
09:11:05 [delaney] quite  
09:11:23 [becki] fair



- 09:11:31 **[Laurie]** • Adjectives are modifiers. They describe nouns & specify size, color, number, etc., e.g., The small "x" in the upper corner of the window is used to exit your file.
- 09:12:30 **[Laurie]** • Adverbs describe verbs, adjectives & other adverbs, e.g., The exhausted secretary screamed loudly as her monitor flickered slowly, then died.
- 09:12:39 **[Laurie]** • Pronouns are substitutes for nouns, e.g., Judy sat at her computer and opened WordPerfect. Suddenly, her mind went blank, so she contacted Writing Wisely.
- 09:12:49 **[Laurie]** • Noun The name of a person, place, thing, quality or action. Secretary, desk, computer, Redmond, technology, frustration.
- 09:13:03 **[Laurie]** • Verbs make things happen, show action or state of being & also indicate time of action or being, e.g., Jeff's son waved goodbye to the computer repairman (past).
- 09:13:16 **[Laurie]** Just so we're all on the same page...
- 09:13:39 **[Laurie]** Now I need a Plural Noun
- 09:13:43 **[mlzambos]** **harried then for an adverb**
- 09:13:52 **[mlzambos]** **Computers**
- 09:13:58 **[dalenoles]** caterpillars
- 09:14:15 **[dalenoles]** fungi
- 09:14:18 **[Jeannine]** **books**
- 09:14:23 **[mlzambos]** **MP3 Players (that I stole from Laurie)**
- 09:14:29 **[mlzambos]**
- 09:14:33 **[Jeannine]** **Papers**
- 09:14:42 **[dalenoles]** eyes
- 09:14:48 **[dalenoles]** graphs
- 09:14:49 **[Laurie]** good job guys!
- 09:14:51 **[Jeannine]** **invoices**
- 09:14:51 **[MichelleM]** leaves
- 09:14:53 **[mlzambos]** **VA's**
- 09:14:57 **[Laurie]** I'm trying to catch up with you!
- 09:15:44 **[Laurie]** ok now an adjective
- 09:15:48 **[AngelaS]** would "people" be a plural noun?
- 09:15:52 **[Jeannine]** **blue**
- 09:15:54 **[dalenoles]** green
- 09:16:08 **[dalenoles]** oblong
- 09:16:14 **[Jeannine]** **quiet**
- 09:16:14 **[AngelaS]** beautiful
- 09:16:16 **[mlzambos]** **large**
- 09:16:22 **[Jeannine]** **loud**
- 09:16:22 **[MichelleM]** terrific
- 09:16:22 **[delaney]** small
- 09:16:25 **[mlzambos]** **gigantic**
- 09:16:27 **[MichelleM]** sensitive
- 09:16:31 **[MichelleM]** effective
- 09:16:35 **[mlzambos]** **wide**
- 09:16:36 **[MichelleM]** bad
- 09:16:42 **[delaney]** efficient
- 09:16:42 **[Jeannine]** **kind**
- 09:16:47 **[dalenoles]** ecstatic
- 09:16:49 **[Jeannine]** **humble**



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09:16:55 [dalenoles] palatable  
09:17:07 [mlzambos] abnormal  
09:17:07 [dalenoles] delicious  
09:17:07 [MichelleM] helpless  
09:17:16 [Jeannine] greedy  
09:17:23 [dalenoles] fried  
09:17:25 [delaney] abnormal  
09:17:28 [delaney] oops  
09:17:40 [delaney] double  
09:17:46 [dalenoles] intelligent  
09:17:53 [Jeannine] bright  
09:18:02 [Laurie] ok - now a Noun  
09:18:07 [delaney] informative  
09:18:11 [dalenoles] bill  
09:18:12 [Jeannine] tree  
09:18:15 [delaney] Mrs. Sargant  
09:18:24 [Jeannine] house  
09:18:24 [delaney] mailman  
09:18:33 [delaney] paperboy  
09:18:33 [Jeannine] letter  
09:18:33 [dalenoles] teacher  
09:18:37 [delaney] teacher  
09:18:39 [MichelleM] Charlottetown  
09:18:42 [MichelleM] computer  
09:18:48 [AngelaS] flag  
09:18:50 [MichelleM] keyboarding  
09:18:55 [dalenoles] Norway  
09:18:56 [Jeannine] story  
09:18:56 [MichelleM] honesty  
09:19:05 [MichelleM] chair  
09:19:09 [MichelleM] Michelle  
09:19:31 [Laurie] Ok - Past Tense Verb  
09:19:42 [Jeannine] looked  
09:19:42 [dalenoles] ran  
09:19:45 [becki] ran  
09:19:46 [dalenoles] caught  
09:19:47 [Jeannine] saw  
09:19:52 [dalenoles] fumbled  
09:19:54 [Jeannine] died  
09:19:56 [AngelaS] drank  
09:20:01 [dalenoles] pleased  
09:20:12 [AngelaS] played  
09:20:12 [MichelleM] worked  
09:20:12 [Jeannine] crawled  
09:20:20 [Laurie] OK - ING Verb  
09:20:25 [dalenoles] typed  
09:20:28 [Jeannine] walking



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09:20:30 [delaney] working  
09:20:34 [Jeannine] searching  
09:20:35 [dalenoles] collapsing  
09:20:36 [MichelleM] arose  
09:20:41 [MichelleM] brought  
09:20:45 [dalenoles] breaking  
09:20:48 [MichelleM] drank  
09:20:48 [becki] michelle zd is coming back...there is an issue with internet connection  
09:20:58 [Jeannine] crawling  
09:21:05 [dalenoles] plowing  
09:21:14 [Jeannine] seeing  
09:21:18 [AngelaS] drinking  
09:21:18 [dalenoles] gesticulating  
09:21:19 [Laurie] and a Verb  
09:21:23 [Jeannine] agreeing  
09:21:29 [AngelaS] LOL Dale!  
09:21:44 [dalenoles] my \$.50 word of the day  
09:21:48 [AngelaS] walk  
09:21:55 [mlzambos] arguing  
09:21:58 [AngelaS] run  
09:21:59 [dalenoles] ache  
09:22:10 [mlzambos] yell  
09:22:19 [mlzambos] crawl  
09:22:24 [AngelaS] see  
09:22:26 [dalenoles] bellow  
09:22:31 [mlzambos] wisper  
09:22:32 [dalenoles] speak  
09:22:36 [dalenoles] act  
09:22:38 [dalenoles] know  
09:22:40 [AngelaS] feel  
09:22:43 [Laurie] ok - last one  
09:22:52 [Laurie] I need 2 more adverbs  
09:22:58 [dalenoles] clearly  
09:23:10 [MichelleM] today  
09:23:14 [dalenoles] excellent  
09:23:16 [MichelleM] exceedingly  
09:23:23 [MichelleM] further  
09:23:40 [mlzambos] outrageous  
09:23:47 [dalenoles] very  
09:24:11 [dalenoles] heartfelt  
09:24:18 [Laurie] Ok - we've been playing mad libs  
09:24:34 [mlzambos] I guess that was an adjective huh.  
09:24:43 [mlzambos] LOL  
09:24:49 [Laurie] If you've never played before, it's a lot of fun - but even more so if you know your parts of speech!  
09:25:09 [Laurie] Does everyone know what Mad Lib is?  
09:25:17 [dalenoles] Yes

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09:25:19 [mlzambos] I do I do I do

09:25:26 [dalenoles] I loved them as a kid

09:25:34 [Laurie] ok - so here's what we wrote

09:25:35 [delaney] kinda lol

09:25:39 [dalenoles] I used to go through a book a week

09:25:46 [Laurie] Fireworks are slow displays of light, color, and sound.

09:25:58 [Laurie] Many computers include fireworks.

09:26:07 [Laurie] Each year many caterpillars hold a chair of fireworks.

09:26:13 [Laurie] Invoices from near and far ache to see these outrageous displays.

09:26:21 [Laurie] When was the last time you caught fireworks?

09:26:42 [Laurie] Along the northern East Coast of North America, thunderstorms are common during the delicious months.

09:26:53 [Laurie] Thunder only happens after lightening.

09:27:02 [Laurie] Many books are afraid of greedy thunder.

09:27:11 [Laurie] Sometimes eyes shake with the rumbles of thunder.

09:27:20 [Laurie] If you are working and you yell thunder, get out of the oblong water immediately.

09:27:28 [Laurie] Water and sensitive thunder don't mix.

09:27:44 [Laurie] See what a difference the right word can make!

09:28:00 [Laurie] Any questions?

09:28:31 [Laurie] That concludes my grammar presentation - thanks so much for participating!!

09:28:55 [Laurie] For those who are interested, I am offering a special VAN Chat price of \$9.95 for my book, The Everyday Guide to Writing Wisely, which currently retails for \$19.95.

09:29:00 [MichelleM] thank you for teaching us

09:29:06 [AngelaS] Thank you Laurie! (no comma after "thank you" right?)

09:29:07 [Laurie] Send an email to \_\_\_\_\_ by midnight July 4th to take advantage of this special offer. Celebrate your independence as a writer!!

09:29:29 [Laurie] right Angela, LOL

09:29:32 [delaney] that was great Laurie

09:29:48 [AngelaS] Great job!

09:29:48 [mlzambos] Thank you Laurie

09:29:52 [dalenoles] What is a dangling participle?

09:29:55 [Laurie] I hope everyone learned at least one new thing - that's my goal!

09:29:57 [JohnH] thanks laurie

09:30:35 [dalenoles] I always wanted to know

09:30:39 [mlzambos] Dale had a question

09:31:24 [Laurie] A dangling modifier or misplaced modifier is a word or phrase that modifies a clause in an ambiguous manner, because it can potentially apply to either the subject or the object of the clause.

09:32:06 [Laurie] For example: Being in a dilapidated condition, I was able to buy the house very cheap.

09:32:25 [Laurie] This sentence is ambiguous, as it is not clear whether the speaker or the house was in a dilapidated condition.

09:32:42 [dalenoles] Gotcha.

09:32:58 [dalenoles] It makes more sense when you say it like that.

09:33:04 [mlzambos] very cool

09:33:18 [dalenoles] Excellent job Laurie

09:33:23 [dalenoles] Thanks

09:33:31 [Laurie] I don't know why grammar has to be so difficult!

09:33:36 [Jeannine] have a great day everyone. I gotta run.



09:33:46 [dalenoles] Bye  
09:33:55 [Laurie] Bye Jeannine - thanks for coming!  
09:33:59 [mlzambos] Bye Jeannine have a great weekend.  
09:34:04 [Laurie] Thanks Dale  
09:34:05 [Jeannine] bye ya'll  
09:34:05 [becki] bye jeannine  
09:34:08 [AngelaS] Have a great weekend!  
09:34:32 [mlzambos] Laurie that was great and lots of fun.

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