3.1: Introduction

Error Types and Grading Standards

The English Department of Dalton State College has developed a classification of grammatical and mechanical errors according to the seriousness of each error: Type I errors are the most serious, Type II are of second rank, and Type III errors are the least serious.

Type I

Sentence fragments
Fused or run-on sentences
Subject-Verb disagreement
Comma Splices

Type II

Pronoun case errors
Disagreement of pronoun and antecedent

Verb tense sequence errors

Shifts in mood, number, person, voice of verbs

Dangling or misplaced modifiers

Faulty parallelism

Ambiguous, broad, and/or vague reference of pronouns

Use of second person in formal essay

Type III

Errors in mechanics

• Capitalization
• Italics
• Abbreviations and numbers
• Commas
• Superfluous commas
• Semicolon
• Apostrophe
• Quotation marks
• Period, question mark, exclamation point, colon, dash, parentheses, brackets

Errors in spelling and hyphenation

Errors in usage
• Diction
• Exactness
• Wordiness
• Unity and logical thinking
• Subordination
• Separation of related sentence parts, split infinitive
• Sentence variety
• Paragraphing
• Planning and drafting
• Revising and editing

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**Parts of Speech**

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• Adjectives & Adverbs Handout - Handout from Utah Valley University Writing Center
• *Articles* - Handout from the Utah Valley University Writing Center
• Practice with English Articles
• Preposition Practice