## Analysis of Grammar Test Results

This table groups the “number missed” into thirds for each of the four categories.

**The columns show the Frequency Missed:**
Top-third: missed most often, by between 44 and 122 students  
Middle-third: missed next most often, between 24 and 43 students  
Bottom-third: missed least often, between 3 and 22 students

**The rows show the items group by Category.**
- **Punctuation:** use of punctuation marks in different contexts.  
- **Vocabulary:** use of the correct word in different contexts.  
- **Syntax:** use of the correct word order, misplacement, weak constructions.  
- **Pronouns:** use of the proper case, correct form.

**Within each cell, the items are listed according to the frequency missed.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency Missed:</th>
<th>Bottom Third</th>
<th>Middle Third</th>
<th>Top Third</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Missed by</td>
<td>Missed by</td>
<td>Missed by</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 to 22</td>
<td>24 to 43</td>
<td>44 to 122</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Punctuation**  | Colons, semicolons  
Unnecessary commas  
Quotes, punctuating It’s/its  
Commas around states  
Commas around dates  
Comma splice  
Exclamation points  
Hyphens, 3- to 5-year olds  
Possessive plurals  
Basic plurals  
Plural dates  | Principle/principal  
Affect/effect  
Try and/try to  
Sit/set  
More than/over  
Since/because  
Eager/anxious  
Adverb usage  
Fewer/Less  
Lay/lie (present tense)  | Hopefully/I hope  
Lay/lie (past tense)  
Freshman/freshmen  
Feel/think  |
| **Syntax**       | Dangling modifiers  
Parallel construction  
Non-sentences  
Passive voice  
Compound modifiers  | As---of a “There are” constructions  
Misplaced modifiers  | |
| **Pronouns**     | Whose/who’s  
That/Who  
That/which  
I/me  | Who/whom  
Its/their  | |

**High-Need Areas:** problems with **plurals** occur in three categories: Punctuation (possessive, dates), Vocabulary (freshman/freshmen) and Pronouns (its/their).

**Medium-Need Areas:** problems with Punctuation (commas), Vocabulary (more than/over, fewer/less, etc.) Syntax (passive voice) and Pronouns (case).

**Low-Need Areas:** problems that occur less often but merit review: Punctuation (quotes, colons/semi-colons), Vocabulary (principle/principal, affect/effect, try and/try to, sit/set), Syntax (dangling modifiers, parallel construction) and Pronouns (whose/who’s, that/who).