

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.

	<i>Bottom Third</i>	<i>Middle Third</i>	<i>Top Third</i>
<i>Frequency Missed:</i>	<i>Missed by 3 to 22</i>	<i>Missed by 24 to 43</i>	<i>Missed by 44 to 122</i>
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
Vocabulary	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).