

LSA 8: Error Checklist

You have worked repeatedly over the course of this semester not only on the “global” issues of academic writing (identifying a topic, creating a thesis, conducting research, structuring a paper, etc.), but also on the “local” ones as well—the sentence-level work that communicates your ideas and brings your writing to life. For this assignment, you will look back at all your assignment drafts and identify and correct your most common sentence-level mistakes.

The Prompt:

Compile a list of the six most common sentence-level errors you have made throughout the semester. Then, for each error, do the following:

1. Identify and name the original error in your writing by providing an example of this error from one of your projects. (So, offer a sentence that contains the error at hand and name the error (comma splice, dangling modifier, incorrect capitalization, etc.);
2. Correct the error by completing revising the sample sentence;
3. List the rule or reason you made the change
4. If possible, cite the rule or guideline as it is listed in one of the three sources provided for you this week (Purdue OWL, Excelsior Writing Lab, *Writing for Success*)

Finally, write a paragraph where you reflect on these errors. Do you see a pattern? How might you best avoid making these mistakes in the future? Why do you think you made these errors (lack of proofreading, misunderstanding of a rule, etc.)?