

## Extra Credit Criteria

As mentioned earlier, I will allow up to 5 points extra credit (1 point per mistake) for those students who find examples of usage mistakes pointed out in P. T. O'Conner's book or discussed in class. If you find five mistakes by 7/23, you qualify to earn another five points by 8/13, which is the last day I'll accept submissions.

I want this to be an exercise that motivates you to be alert to everything you read throughout the quarter, not something you do as a special project to improve your grade at the end of the quarter.

But not every mistake is acceptable. Here are the criteria I will use:

- Typos don't count. If it's the kind of mistake that someone just didn't catch and would know was wrong right away as soon it was pointed out, it doesn't count.
- Badly written sentences don't count unless they illustrate a particular usage problem from O'Conner or discussed in class.
- Punctuation errors can count, but they have to be egregious, such as a comma splice or using a semicolon where a colon should be used.
- Signage used in billboard advertisements or for retailing purposes doesn't count. Copy in magazine advertisements doesn't count.
- While I advise against the use of the Oxford comma, it's not a mistake you can get extra credit for.
- You're allowed two of any one mistake overall, and one of the same mistake in a single article or book.
- In order to obtain the extra credit, you need to show me the mistake by bringing in the printed source or photocopying the page on which the mistake occurred, circle the mistake is, and then tell me how you would fix it. Also if it's not a mistake discussed in class tell me on what page in PTO the mistake is discussed.