

Student Essay Bon Mots

Here are a few extreme examples from student essays to serve as a reminder that good writing requires care and-yes-extensive revision.

The elementary school I first attended was racial towards minorities.
(Poorly expressed thought.)

Women have sat on the back burner long enough.
(Unfortunate figure of speech.)

She was a rabid typist.
(Malapropism.)

Secondly, the American school system is more loose, thus encouraging students to be creative rather than Japanese.
(Faulty comparison.)

Every day at 4:00 thousands of people evacuate on their jobs.
(Poor choice of words and construction.)

Little towns seem to start out as little towns.
(First quick draft became final draft.)

The octopus of communism spread its testacles over the continent.
(Really!)

Do punctual errors count?
(Yes, they do.)

A broader view also prevents the student from charging blindly into a brick wall of unconceptuality.
(Block that metaphor!)

I have a fool-time job.
(Freudian slip?)

Sir Francis Drake circumcised the world with a 106 foot clipper.
(Word choice)

My father is heavily involved with every member of the California legislature.
(Ambiguous wording)

(Examples taken from the text book, and a few from other sources.)