COMMON ERROR TYPES FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS
(Short Form)

Group A: BIG IMPACT ON READER / RULE BASED
Strategies: Consult resources (Azar)/Use scaffolding
- Subject-Verb Agreement Errors
- Verb Tense Errors
- Verb Form Errors
- Singular/Plural Noun Ending Errors
- Word Form Errors (Writing Center handout)

Group B: BIG IMPACT ON READER / LESS SCAFFOLD-ABLE
- Sentence Structure Errors (Ask intended meaning)
  - Word missing
  - Extra word
  - Word order
  - Run-ons
  - Often contain other types of errors
- Word Choice Errors (Use learner’s dictionary)
  - Incorrect word use
  - Connotation off
  - Use of antiquated forms
  - Using words together that do not go together (Use collocation dictionary)

Group C: LESS IMPACT ON A READER / RULE-BASED
Strategies: Consult resources/Use scaffolding (All have Writing Center handouts)
- Articles
- Prepositions of Location, Time or Direction
- Phrasal Verbs

Group D: LESS IMPACT ON READER / LESS SCAFFOLD-ABLE
Strategy: Act as native speaker resource
- Idioms
- Cultural References
- More Complicated Lexical Questions
- Exceptions to Rules

(adapted from “Editing Line byline” by Cynthia Linville)