PW Club Minutes
April 6, 2011
Meeting begin: 6:05 pm
Attending: Kelli Barnett, Courtney Elsten, Sadie Williams, Kasey Cranfill, Lauren Fisher, Joseph Dorgay, Keith Price, Derek Neal, Christina Ripley

Topic: Grammar Workshop Part 2 with Russell Keck

Club Business
> The new PW Club Website is up!
>> www.purdue.edu/pwclub
>> Can make an account and make posts

Grammar Workshop Part 2
Adverbial Clauses
> Whenever: multiple occasions
> When: one occurrence

Commas: 4 Simple Rules
> Lists
>> Periodical: a, b and c → magazines, newspapers, etc
>> Academic: a, b**,** and c → formal papers, grants, etc
> Introductory and Closing Phrases and Clauses
>> "In the essay,"
>> "After the storm,"
>> "During dinner," (gerund phrase)
>> "Although we…," subordinate clauses
>> "In her essay, main clause, *though she also praises free speech*" (closing clause)
>>> If you use "because" after main clause, DO NOT NEED COMMA
> Before coordinating conjunctions
>> and, but, nor, so for, yet (separate 2 complete sentences)
>> "I am tired, and I am hungry."
> Set off non-essential information
>> "Barack Obama, the President of the United States,…"
>> non-restrictive clauses
>> appositives

Colons
> Can only go at end of complete sentence (where a period goes)
> Means: explanation to follow
>> What follows can be a list, phrase (lower case), or clause (upper case)
> "These three things are my favorite subjects: History, English, and Philosophy."
>> capitalized because they are subjects
> "I am most afraid of this: the end of time."

Semi colons
> Separate two sentences
>> Main clause; Main clause
>>> "He loves to run; he also loves to ski."

Main clause; however,
     nevertheless,   Why do commas follow?
     thus,   Because they are
     therefore,   introductory phrases!
     consequently,
     "He loves to run; however, he hates to ski."

- Super comma
  - a; b; and c → list is made up of clauses
  - Or list uses commas: use semi colon as step-up
    - Phrase, modifying information; phrase, modifying information; and phrase.

Dashes
- em dashes: length of letter *m* (typically use this dash)
  - Word will make two dashes into an em dash: --
- en dashes: length of letter *n*
  - Word will automatically go to en dash –
- Function: set off non-essential (tangential) information
  - can happen anywhere in sentence
  - If tangent is long, use a dash
- Function like a colon
  - colon is better for phrases, lists, and clauses
  - dash better for just a few words
- Difference between a dash and a hyphen
  - Hyphen
    - Ranges: 1-10, a-k
    - Connecting a combination of words functioning as adjectives
      - "**seventeenth-century** literature,"
        - "Seventeenth-century" modifies "literature"
        - Use a hyphen only when words come BEFORE the noun
  - Example of a dash:
    - "Shakespeare – often one of the most controversial authors of the Renaissance – was profoundly influential for philosophers and literary critics."

Brackets
- adding information to original text
- This is only use in academic writing

Things to be aware of
- Word choice and diction
  - Be precise without being over the top (don't use a big word just to use it)
  - Err on side of caution, use simpler word
- Subject Verb Agreement
  - **One** of the stores close*s* today.
    - "One" is subject! Don't let object of preposition fool you!
    - To check: take out all prepositional phrases and make sure sentence still makes sense
- Dangling Modifiers
  - "*Having collected the results*, the experiment was concluded."

Dangling modifiers occur when there is nothing the modifier is modifying
to fix: "Having collected the results, *I* concluded the experiment."
The OWL has a good page on dangling modifiers
Be concise, professional, and making things easy to read and understand
For specific questions, email Russell at rlkeck@purdue.edu

Meeting adjourned: 7:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Courtney Elsten