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Bushisms Analysed

From Slate's [The Complete Bushisms](#)

What George W. Bush said	What he meant to say	Error type or speech pattern
"We've had a great weekend here in the Land of the Enchanted ."—Albuquerque, N.M., May 12, 2003 (New Mexico's state nickname is "Land of Enchantment.")	Enchantment	adjective form used instead of noun
"We've got hundreds of sites to exploit, looking for the chemical and biological weapons that we know Saddam Hussein had prior to our entrance into Iraq."—Santa Clara, Calif., May 2, 2003 (Thanks to Michael Shively.)		
"I think war is a dangerous place ."—Washington, D.C., May 7, 2003	event?	improper noun use
"I don't bring God into my life to—to, you know, kind of be a political person."—Interview with Tom Brokaw aboard Air Force One, April 24, 2003		
"You're free. And freedom is beautiful. And, you know, it'll take time to restore chaos and order—order out of chaos. But we will."—Washington, D.C., April 13, 2003		Noun confusion
"Perhaps one way will be, if we use military force, in the post-Saddam Iraq the U.N. will definitely need to have a role. And that way it can begin to get **** its legs, legs of responsibility back."—the Azores, Portugal, March 16, 2003	back up on	Dropped words
"I know there's a lot of young ladies who are growing up wondering whether or not they can be champs. And they see the championship teams from USC and University of Portland here, girls who worked hard to get to where they are, and they're wondering about the example they're setting. What is life choices about?"—Washington, D.C., Feb. 24, 2003		Unclear references
"Now, we talked to Joan Hanover. She and her husband, George, were visiting with us. They are near retirement—retiring—in the process of retiring, meaning they're very smart, active, capable people who are retirement age and are retiring."—Alexandria, Va., Feb. 12, 2003 (Thanks to Dennis Doubleday.)		

"Columbia carried in its payroll classroom experiments from some of our students in America."—Bethesda, Md., Feb. 3, 2003	payload	Sounds-like
"And, most importantly, Alma Powell, secretary of Colin Powell, is with us."—Washington, D.C., Jan. 30, 2003	wife	object adjective applied to subject
"The war on terror involves Saddam Hussein because of the nature of Saddam Hussein, the history of Saddam Hussein, and his willingness to terrorize himself ."—Grand Rapids, Mich., Jan. 29, 2003	his people	improper object
"When Iraq is liberated, you will be treated, tried, and persecuted as a war criminal."—Washington, D.C., Jan. 22, 2003 (Thanks to Chad Conwell.)	Saddam & Co.	improper object
"Many of the punditry—of course, not you (laughter)—but other punditry were quick to say, no one is going to follow the United States of America."—Washington, D.C., Jan. 21, 2003	pundits	improper noun use
"One year ago today, the time for excuse-making has come to an end."—Washington, D.C., Jan. 8, 2003	came	improper verb use
"I think the American people—I hope the American—I don't think, let me—I hope the American people trust me."—Washington, D.C., Dec. 18, 2002		
"The goals for this country are peace in the world. And the goals for this country are a compassionate American for every single citizen. That compassion is found in the hearts and souls of the American citizens."—Washington, D.C., Dec. 19, 2002 (Thanks to Michael Shively.)		
"There's only one person who hugs the mothers and the widows, the wives and the kids upon the death of their loved one. Others hug but having committed the troops, I've got an additional responsibility to hug and that's me and I know what it's like."—Washington, D.C., Dec. 11, 2002	?	
"In other words, I don't think people ought to be compelled to make the decision which they think is best for their family."—Washington, D.C., Dec. 11, 2002 (Thanks to Stephanie Nichols.)	able	verb inversion
"Sometimes, Washington is one of these towns where the person—people who think they've got the sharp elbow is the most effective person." —New Orleans, Dec. 3, 2002 (Thanks to Michael Shively.)	elbows	improper cliché

"The law I sign today directs new funds and new focus to the task of collecting vital intelligence on terrorist threats and on weapons of mass production ."—Washington, D.C., Nov. 27, 2002	destruction	Sounds-like noun inversion
"These people don't have tanks. They don't have ships. They hide in caves. They send suicides out."—Speaking about terrorists, Portsmouth, N.H., Nov. 1, 2002	suicide bombers	improper plural form
"I know something about being a government . And you've got a good one."—Stumping for Gov. Mike Huckabee, Bentonville, Ark., Nov. 4, 2002	governor	Sounds-like
"I need to be able to move the right people to the right place at the right time to protect you, and I'm not going to accept a lousy bill out of the United Nations Senate."—South Bend, Ind., Oct. 31, 2002	States	Sounds-like, noun mix-up
"John Thune has got a common-sense vision for good forest policy. I look forward to working with him in the United Nations Senate to preserve these national heritages."	States	Sounds-like, noun mix-up
"Any time we've got any kind of inkling that somebody is thinking about doing something to an American and something to our homeland, you've just got to know we're moving on it, to protect the United Nations Constitution, and at the same time, we're protecting you."—Aberdeen, S.D., same day (Thanks to George Dupper.)	States	Sounds-like, noun mix-up
"Let me tell you my thoughts about tax relief. When your economy is kind of ooching along, it's important to let people have more of their own money."—Boston, Oct. 4, 2002	inching	Sounds-like
"I was proud the other day when both Republicans and Democrats stood with me in the Rose Garden to announce their support for a clear statement of purpose: you disarm, or we will ."—Speaking about Saddam Hussein, Manchester, N.H., Oct. 5, 2002 (Thanks to George Dupper.)	we will disarm you	Missing expression
"You see, the Senate wants to take away some of the powers of the administrative branch."—Washington, D.C., Sept. 19, 2002	executive	
"We need an energy bill that encourages consumption ."—Trenton, N.J., Sept. 23, 2002	conservation	Sounds-like noun inversion
"People say, how can I help on this war against terror? How can I fight evil? You can do so by mentoring a child; by going into a shut-in's house and say I love you."—Washington, D.C., Sept. 19, 2002		Non Sequitur

"I'm plowed of the leadership of Chuck Grassley and Greg Ganske and Jim Leach."—Davenport, Iowa, Sept. 16, 2002	proud	Sounds-like
"There's an old saying in Tennessee—I know it's in Texas, probably in Tennessee—that says, fool me once, shame on —shame on you. Fool me—you can't get fooled again. "—Nashville, Tenn., Sept. 17, 2002	Fool me twice, shame on me.	Memory failure
"There's no doubt in my mind that we should allow the world worst leaders to hold America hostage, to threaten our peace, to threaten our friends and allies with the world's worst weapons."—South Bend, Ind., Sept. 5, 2002	most deadly	Repeating previous adjective .
"If you don't have any ambitions, the minimum-wage job isn't going to get you to where you want to get, for example. In other words, what is your ambitions? And oh, by the way, if that is your ambition, here's what it's going to take to achieve it."—Speech to students in Little Rock, Ark., Aug. 29, 2002 (Thanks to George Dupper.)	are	Singluar/plural
"See, we love—we love freedom. That's what they didn't understand. They hate things; we love things. They act out of hatred; we don't seek revenge, we seek justice out of love."—Oklahoma City, Aug. 29, 2002		
"There's no cave deep enough for America , or dark enough to hide."—Oklahoma City, Aug. 29, 2002 (Thanks to Michael Shively.)	Osama	Subject confusion
"President Musharraf, he's still tight with us on the war against terror, and that's what I appreciate. He's a—he understands that we've got to keep al-Qaida on the run, and that by keeping him on the run, it's more likely we will bring him to justice."—Ruch, Ore., Aug. 22, 2002 (Thanks to Scott Miller.)	them	Singluar/plural
"I'm a patient man. And when I say I'm a patient man , I mean I'm a patient man ."—Crawford, Texas, Aug. 21, 2002		Repetition
"Nothing he [Saddam Hussein] has done has convinced me—I'm confident the Secretary of Defense—that he is the kind of fellow that is willing to forgo weapons of mass destruction, is willing to be a peaceful neighbor, that is—will honor the people—the Iraqi people of all stripes, will—values human life. He hasn't convinced me, nor has he convinced my administration."—Crawford, Texas, Aug. 21, 2002		

<p>"I'm thrilled to be here in the bread basket of America because it gives me a chance to remind our fellow citizens that we have an advantage here in America—we can feed ourselves."—Stockton, Calif., Aug. 23, 2002 (Thanks to Christopher Baird.)</p>	<p>something else (breadbasket is considered to be the Midwest)</p>	<p>Factual</p>
<p>"There's no bigger task than protecting the homeland of our country."—Stockton, Calif., Aug. 23, 2002 (Thanks to George Dupper.)</p>	<p>either "homeland", or "our country"</p>	<p>Double object</p>
<p>"The federal government and the state government must not fear programs who change lives, but must welcome those faith-based programs for the embetterment of mankind."—Stockton, Calif., Aug. 23, 2002 (Thanks to George Dupper.)</p>	<p>betterment</p>	<p>Sounds-like</p>
<p>"I love the idea of a school in which people come to get educated and stay in the state in which they're educated." —Waco, Texas, Aug. 13, 2002</p>		
<p>"There may be some tough times here in America. But this country has gone through tough times before, and we're going to do it again." —Waco, Texas, Aug. 13, 2002</p>	<p>get through</p>	<p>Dropped verb (2nd get through)</p>
<p>"I promise you I will listen to what has been said here, even though I wasn't here." —Waco, Texas, Aug. 13, 2002</p>	<p>won't be</p>	<p>Improper case</p>
<p>"I can assure you that, even though I won't be sitting through every single moment of the seminars, nor will the vice president, we will look at the summaries." —Waco, Texas, Aug. 13, 2002</p>		
<p>"Tommy [Thompson, Health and Human Services secretary,] is a good listener, and he's a pretty good actor, too." —Waco, Texas, Aug. 13, 2002</p>	<p>speaker</p>	<p>Noun confusion ("speaker" "actor")</p>
<p>"The trial lawyers are very politically powerful. ... But here in Texas we took them on and got some good medical—medical malpractice." "I firmly believe ***** the death tax is good for people from all walks of life all throughout our society." —Waco, Texas, Aug. 13, 2002</p>	<p>elimination of</p>	<p>Dropped phrase</p>
<p>"There was no malfeance involved. This was an honest disagreement about accounting procedures. ... There was no malfeance, no attempt to hide anything."—White House press conference, Washington, D.C., July 8, 2002</p>	<p>malfeasance</p>	<p>Pronunciation</p>
<p>"I also understand how tender the free enterprise system can be."—White House press conference, Washington, D. C., July 9, 2002</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>Improper adjective</p>

"Over 75 percent of white Americans own their home, and less than 50 percent of Hispanos and African Americans don't own their home. And that's a gap, that's a homeownership gap. And we've got to do something about it."—Cleveland, Ohio, July 1, 2002	Hispanics	Pronunciation
"Whether you're here by birth , or whether you're in America by choice, you contribute to the vitality of our life. And for that, we are grateful."—Washington, D.C., May 17, 2002	born here	Infelicitous
"I'd rather have them sacrificing ***** on behalf of our nation than, you know, endless hours of testimony on congressional hill."—National Security Agency, Fort Meade, Maryland, June 4, 2002	themselves	Dropped word
"We're working with Chancellor Schröder on what's called 10-plus-10-over-10: \$10 billion from the U.S., \$10 billion from other members of the G7 over a 10-year period, to help Russia securitize the dismantling—the dismantled nuclear warheads."—Berlin, Germany, May 23, 2002	secure	Noun instead of verb
" Do you have blacks, too? "—To Brazilian President Fernando Cardoso, Washington, D.C., Nov. 8, 2001	nothing	Ignorance
"This is a nation that loves our freedom, loves our country ."—Washington, D.C., May 17, 2002		Repetition, sort-of tautology
"The public education system in America is one of the most important foundations of our democracy. After all, it is where children from all over America learn to be responsible citizens, and learn to have the skills necessary to take advantage of our fantastic opportunistic society."—Santa Clara, Calif., May 1, 2002	opportunity	Adjective instead of noun
"After all, a week ago, there were—Yasser Arafat was boarded up in his building in Ramallah, a building full of, evidently, German peace protestors and all kinds of people. They're now out. He's now free to show leadership, to lead the world."—Washington, D.C., May 2, 2002 (Thanks to M. Bateman.)		
"This foreign policy stuff is a little frustrating."—as quoted by the New York Daily News, April 23, 2002		
"I want to thank the dozens of welfare to work stories, the actual examples of people who made the firm and solemn commitment to work hard to embetter themselves."—Washington, D.C., April 18, 2002 (thanks to George Dupper).	better	Sounds-like

<p>"And so, in my State of the—my State of the Union—or state—my speech to the nation, whatever you want to call it, speech to the nation—I asked Americans to give 4,000 years—4,000 hours over the next—the rest of your life—of service to America. That's what I asked—4,000 hours." — Bridgeport, Conn., April 9, 2002</p>		<p>Repetition</p>
<p>"It would be a mistake for the United States Senate to allow any kind of human cloning ***** to come out of that chamber."—Washington, D.C., April 10, 2002</p>	<p>legislation</p>	<p>Dropped word</p>
<p>"For a century and a half now, America and Japan have formed one of the great and enduring alliances of modern times."—Tokyo, Japan, Feb. 18, 2002</p>	<p>half a century</p>	<p>Noun switch, number confusion</p>
<p>"We've tripled the amount of money—I believe it's from \$50 million up to \$195 million available."—Lima, Peru, March 23, 2002</p>	<p>quadrupled</p>	<p>Minor math error</p>
<p>"We've got pockets of persistent poverty in our society, which I refuse to declare defeat—I mean, I refuse to allow them to continue on. And so one of the things that we're trying to do is to encourage a faith-based initiative to spread its wings all across America, to be able to capture this great compassionate spirit."—O'Fallon, Mo., Mar. 18, 2002</p>	<p>admit</p>	<p>Improper verb</p>
<p>"There's nothing more deep than recognizing Israel's right to exist. That's the most deep thought of all. ... I can't think of anything more deep than that right."—Washington, D.C., March 13, 2002</p>	<p>deeper, deepest, deeper</p>	<p>Awkward comparatives, superlative</p>
<p>"I understand that the unrest in the Middle East creates unrest throughout the region."—Washington, D.C., March 13, 2002</p>		<p>Tautology</p>
<p>"The suicide bombings have increased. There's too many of them."—Albuquerque, N.M., Aug. 15, 2001</p>		
<p>"Brie and cheese."—Taunting a reporter who recently spent time on the West Coast, Crawford, Texas, Aug. 23, 2001</p>	<p>wine</p>	<p>Repetition, mangled cliché</p>
<p>"You'll hear people say it's racist to test. Folks, it's racist not to test. Because guess who gets shuffled through the system oftentimes? Children whose parents don't speak English as a first language, inner-city kids. It's so much easier to quit on somebody than to remediate."—Referring to his education bill, Independence, Mo., Aug. 21, 2001 (Thanks to Julie Reagan.)</p>	<p>educate? mediate?</p>	

<p>"One of the interesting initiatives we've taken in Washington, D.C., is we've got these vampire-busting devices. A vampire is a—a cell deal you can plug in the wall to charge your cell phone."—Denver, Aug. 14, 2001</p>	?	
<p>"There's a lot of people in the Middle East who are desirous to get into the Mitchell process. And—but first things first. The—these terrorist acts and, you know, the responses have got to end in order for us to get the framework—the groundwork—not framework, the groundwork to discuss a framework for peace, to lay the—all right."—Referring to former Sen. George Mitchell's report on Middle East peace, Crawford, Texas, Aug. 13, 2001 (Thanks to Michael Shively.)</p>		
<p>"My administration has been calling upon all the leaders in the—in the Middle East to do everything they can to stop the violence, to tell the different parties involved that peace will never happen."—Crawford, Texas, Aug, 13, 2001 (Thanks to Michael Shively.)</p>	eventually	Adverb inversion
<p>"You saw the president yesterday. I thought he was very forward-leaning, as they say in diplomatic nuanced circles."—Referring to his meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Rome, July 23, 2001 (Thanks to Alex Hernandez.)</p>	looking	Sounds-like, awkward placement of adjective
<p>"I know what I believe. I will continue to articulate what I believe and what I believe—I believe what I believe is right."—Rome, July 22, 2001</p>		Repetition
<p>"I can't tell you what it's like to be in Europe, for example, to be talking about the greatness of America. But the true greatness of America are the people."—Visiting the Jefferson Memorial, Washington, D.C., July 2, 2001</p>	people are the true greatness of America	Subject/object switch
<p>"Well, it's an unimaginable honor to be the president during the Fourth of July of this country. It means what these words say, for starters. The great inalienable rights of our country. We're blessed with such values in America. And I—it's—I'm a proud man to be ***** the nation based upon such wonderful values."—Visiting the Jefferson Memorial, Washington, D.C., July 2, 2001</p>	President of	Dropped words
<p>"I want to thank you for coming to the White House to give me an opportunity to urge you to work with these five senators and three congressmen, to work hard to get this trade promotion authority moving. The power that be, well most of the power that be, sits right here."—Washington, D. C., June 18, 2001</p>	powers	Singular/plural

"We spent a lot of time talking about Africa, as we should. Africa is a nation that suffers from incredible disease."—Gothenburg, Sweden, June 14, 2001	continent	Noun substitution
"I haven't had a chance to talk, but I'm confident we'll get a bill that I can live with if we don't ."—Referring to the McCain-Kennedy patients' bill of rights, Brussels, Belgium, June 13, 2001	do	Verb inversion
"Can't living with the bill means it won't become law."—Referring to the McCain-Kennedy patients' bill of rights, Brussels, Belgium, June 13, 2001	live	Sounds-like
"Russia is no longer our enemy and therefore we shouldn't be locked into a Cold War mentality that says we keep the peace by blowing each other up. In my attitude , that's old, that's tired, that's stale."—Des Moines, Iowa, June 8, 2001	It's my attitude that or In my opinion	Infelicitous
"Anyway, I'm so thankful, and so gracious —I'm gracious that my brother Jeb is concerned about the hemisphere as well."—Miami, Fla., June 4, 2001	grateful	Sounds-like
"It's important for young men and women who look at the Nebraska champs to understand that quality of life is more than just blocking shots."—Remarks to the University of Nebraska women's volleyball team, the 2001 national champions, Washington, D.C., May 31, 2001		Unnecessary / improper adjective
" Our nation must come together to unite ."—Tampa, Fla., June 4, 2001		Tautology
"So on behalf of a well-oiled unit of people who came together to serve something greater than themselves, congratulations."—Remarks to the University of Nebraska women's volleyball team, the 2001 national champions, Washington, D.C., May 31, 2001		
"If a person doesn't have the capacity that we all want that person to have, I suspect hope is in the far distant future, if at all."—Remarks to the Hispanic Scholarship Fund Institute, Washington, D.C., May 22, 2001		Infelicitous
"Thirdly, the explorationists are willing to only move equipment during the winter, which means they'll be on ice roads, and remove the equipment as the ice begins to melt, so that the fragile tundra is protected."—Conestoga, Pa., May 18, 2001	explorers	Sounds-like, peculiar noun
"Presidents, whether things are good or bad, get the blame. I understand that."—Washington, D.C., May 11, 2001 (Thanks to Jay Schlossberg.)		

"For every fatal shooting, there were roughly three non-fatal shootings. And, folks, this is unacceptable in America. It's just unacceptable. And we're going to do something about it."—Philadelphia, May 14, 2001 (Thanks to John Brooks.)		
"There's no question that the minute I got elected, the storm clouds ***** on the horizon were getting nearly directly overhead."—Washington, D.C., May 11, 2001	that were	Dropped verb
"But I also made it clear to [Vladimir Putin] that it's important to think beyond the old days of when we had the concept that if we ***** blew each other up, the world would be safe."—Washington, D.C., May 1, 2001 (Thanks to Gene Mosher.)	had the capability to [blow]	Bad logic
"Whatever it took to help Taiwan defend themselves ."—On how far we'd be willing to go to defend Taiwan, Good Morning America, April 25, 2001	themselves	Sounds-like, adjective/ pronoun switch
"First, we would not accept a treaty that would not have been ratified, nor a treaty that I thought ***** made sense for the country."—On the Kyoto accord in an interview with the Washington Post, April 24, 2001	didn't make	Dropped verb
"It's very important for folks to understand that when there's more trade, there's more commerce ."—Quebec City, Canada, April 21, 2001		Tautology
"Neither in French nor in English nor in Mexican ."—Declining to answer reporters' questions at the Summit of the Americas, Quebec City, Canada, April 21, 2001	Spanish	Presumably this was a joke
"We must have the attitude that every child in America—regardless of where they're raised or how they're born—can learn."—New Britain, Conn., April 18, 2001 (Thanks to Eric Beerbohm.)	to whom	Incorrect adverb
"It is time to set aside the old partisan bickering and finger-pointing and name-calling that comes from ***** freeing parents to make different choices for their children."—Remarks on "parental empowerment in education," Washington, D.C., April 12, 2001 (Thanks to J.R. Taylor.)	discussing policies intended to [free]	Dropped phrase

<p>I think we're making progress. We understand where the power of this country lay. It lays in the hearts and souls of Americans. It must lay in our pocketbooks. It lays in the willingness for people to work hard. But as importantly, it lays in the fact that we've got citizens from all walks of life, all political parties, that are willing to say, I want to love my neighbor. I want to make somebody's life just a little bit better."—Concord Middle School, Concord, N.C., April 11, 2001</p>		
<p>"This administration is doing everything we can to end the stalemate in an efficient way. We're making the right decisions to bring the solution to an end."—Washington, D. C., April 10, 2001</p>	<p>problem</p>	<p>Noun inversion</p>
<p>"The Senate needs to leave enough money in the proposed budget to not only reduce all marginal rates, but to eliminate the death tax, so that people who build up assets are able to transfer them from one generation to the next, regardless of a person's race."—Washington, D.C., April 5, 2001</p>		
<p>"It would be helpful if we opened up ANWR (Arctic National Wildlife Refuge). I think it's a mistake not to. And I would urge you all to travel up there and take a look at it, and you can make the determination as to how beautiful that country is."—Press conference, Washington, D.C., March 29, 2001</p>	<p>uninteresting or unattractive</p>	<p>Adjective inversion</p>
<p>"I've coined new words, like, misunderstanding and Hispanically."—Radio-Television Correspondents Association dinner, Washington, D.C., March 29, 2001</p>		<p>Joke</p>
<p>"And we need a full affront on an energy crisis that is real in California and looms for other parts of our country if we don't move quickly."—Press conference, Washington, D.C., March 29, 2001</p>	<p>effort/frontal-attack</p>	<p>Sounds-like</p>
<p>"I assured the prime minister, my administration will work hard to lay the foundation of peace in the Middle—to work with our nations in the Middle East, give peace a chance. Secondly, I told him that our nation will not try to force peace, that we'll facilitate peace and that we will work with those responsible for a peace."—Photo opportunity with Ariel Sharon, Washington, D.C., March 20, 2001 (Thanks to Scott Beber.)</p>		

<p>"There are some monuments where the land is so widespread, they just encompass as much as possible. And the integral part of the—the precious part, so to speak—I guess all land is precious, but the part that the people uniformly would not want to spoil, will not be despoiled. But there are parts of the monument lands where we can explore without affecting the overall environment."—Media round table, Washington, D.C. March 13, 2001</p>		
<p>"A lot of times in the rhetoric, people forget the facts. And the facts are that thousands of small businesses—Hispanically owned or otherwise—pay taxes at the highest marginal rate."—to the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; Washington, D.C., March 19, 2001</p>	Hispanic	Constructed adjective
<p>"But the true threats to stability and peace are these nations that are not very transparent, that hide behind the—that don't let people in to take a look and see what they're up to. They're very kind of authoritarian regimes. The true threat is whether or not one of these people decide, peak of anger, try to hold us hostage, ourselves; the Israelis, for example, to whom we'll defend, offer our defenses; the South Koreans."—Media roundtable, Washington, D.C., March 13, 2001 (Thanks to Peter Sagal)</p>		
<p>"I do think we need for a troop to be able to house his family. That's an important part of building morale in the military."—Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida, March 12, 2001</p>	trooper	
<p>"I suspect that had my dad not been president, he'd be asking the same questions: How'd your meeting go with so-and-so? ... How did you feel when you stood up in front of the people for the State of the Union Address—state of the budget address, whatever you call it."—Interview with the Washington Post, March 9, 2001</p>		Incorrect repetition
<p>"I think there is some methodology in my travels." — Washington, D.C., March 5, 2001</p>		
<p>"I'm also honored to be here with the speaker of the House—just happens to be from the state of Illinois. I'd like to describe the speaker as a trustworthy man. He's the kind of fellow who says when he gives you his word he means it. Sometimes that doesn't happen all the time in the political process."—Chicago, March 6, 2001 (Thanks to Gary Belkin.)</p>	omit	Defeats message

"Ann and I will carry out this [un]equivocal message to the world: Markets must be open."—Swearing-in ceremony for Secretary of Agriculture Ann Veneman, Washington, D.C., March 2, 2001	un	Missing negative
"Of all states that understands local control of schools, Iowa is such a state."—Council Bluffs, Iowa, Feb. 28, 2001 (Thanks to Peter Sagal)		
"Those of us who spent time in the agricultural sector and in the heartland, we understand how unfair the death penalty is."—Omaha, Neb., Feb. 28, 2001		
"My pan plays down an unprecedented amount of our national debt."—Budget address to Congress, Feb. 27, 2001	plan pays	Spoonerism
"The budget caps were busted, mightily so. And we are reviewing with people like Judd Gregg from New Hampshire and others some budgetary reform measures that will reinstate—you know, possibly reinstate budgetary discipline. But the caps no longer—the caps, I guess they're there. But they didn't mean much."—Washington, D.C., Feb. 5, 2001 (Thanks to Ehren Meditz)		
"I have said that the sanction regime is like Swiss cheese—that meant that they weren't very effective."—White House press conference, Washington, D.C., Feb. 22, 2001		
"You teach a child to read, and he or her will be able to pass a literacy test."—Townsend, Tenn., Feb. 21, 2001	she	Adjective for pronoun
"Home is important. It's important to have a home."—Crawford, Texas, Feb. 18, 2001		Tautology
"One reason I like to highlight reading is, reading is the beginnings of the ability to be a good student. And if you can't read, it's going to be hard to realize dreams; it's going to be hard to go to college. So when your teachers say, read—you ought to listen to her."—Nalle Elementary School, Washington, D.C., Feb 9, 2001	them	Singular/plural
"It's good to see so many friends here in the Rose Garden. This is our first event in this beautiful spot, and it's appropriate we talk about policy that will affect people's lives in a positive way in such a beautiful, beautiful part of our national—really, our national park system, my guess is you would want to call it."—Washington, D.C., Feb. 8, 2001		
"We're concerned about AIDS inside our White House—make no mistake about it."—Washington, D.C., Feb. 7, 2001		

<p>"I appreciate that question because I, in the state of Texas, had heard a lot of discussion about a faith-based initiative eroding the important bridge between church and state."—Question and answer session with the press, Jan. 29, 2001 (Thanks to Tim Santry.)</p>	<p>wall</p>	<p>Noun inversion</p>
<p>"I confirmed to the prime minister that we appreciate our friendship."—After meeting with Prime Minister Jean Chrétien of Canada, Feb. 5, 2001</p>	<p>I or "this nation appreciates"</p>	<p>Imprecise subject</p>
<p>"There's no such thing as legacies. At least, there is a legacy, but I'll never see it."—To Catholic leaders at the White House, Jan. 31, 2001</p>		
<p>"I am mindful not only of preserving executive powers for myself, but for predecessors as well."—Washington, D.C., Jan. 29, 2001</p>	<p>successors</p>	<p>Noun inversion</p>
<p>"My pro-life position is I believe there's life. It's not necessarily based in religion. I think there's a life there, therefore the notion of life, liberty and pursuit of happiness."—Quoted in the San Francisco Chronicle, Jan. 23, 2001</p>	<p>pursuit</p>	<p>Noun confusion</p>
<p>"Then I went for a run with the other dog and just walked. And I started thinking about a lot of things. I was able to—I can't remember what it was. Oh, the inaugural speech, started thinking through that."—Pre-inaugural interview with U.S. News & World Report, Jan. 22, 2001 issue</p>		
<p>"Redefining the role of the United States from enablers to keep the peace to enablers to keep the peace from peacekeepers is going to be an assignment."—Interview with the New York Times, Jan. 14, 2001 (Thanks to Rachael Contorer.)</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>Repetition, failed to convey idea</p>
<p>"The California crunch really is the result of not enough power-generating plants and then not enough power to power the power of generating plants."—Interview with the New York Times, Jan. 14, 2001</p>		<p>Repetition</p>
<p>"I'm hopeful. I know there is a lot of ambition in Washington, obviously. But I hope the ambitious realize that they are more likely to succeed with success as opposed to failure."—Interview with the Associated Press, Jan. 18, 2001 (Thanks to M. Bateman.)</p>		<p>Tautology</p>

<p>"If he's—the inference is that somehow he thinks slavery is a —is a noble institution I would—I would strongly reject that assumption—that John Ashcroft is a open-minded, inclusive person."—NBC Nightly News With Tom Brokaw, Jan. 14, 2001</p>	omit	Comingle two sentences
<p>"She's just trying to make sure Anthony gets a good meal—Antonio."—On Laura Bush inviting Justice Antonin Scalia to dinner at the White House. NBC Nightly News With Tom Brokaw, Jan. 14, 2001</p>	Antonin	Sounds-like
<p>"I want it to be said that the Bush administration was a results-oriented administration, because I believe the results of focusing our attention and energy on teaching children to read and having an education system that's responsive to the child and to the parents, as opposed to mired in a system that refuses to change, will make America what we want it to be—a literate country and a hopefuller country."—Washington, D.C., Jan. 11, 2001</p>	more hopeful	Sounds-like, peculiar adjective
<p>"I would have to ask the questioner. I haven't had a chance to ask the questioners the question they've been questioning. On the other hand, I firmly believe she'll be a fine secretary of labor. And I've got confidence in Linda Chavez. She is a—she'll bring an interesting perspective to the Labor Department."—Austin, Texas, Jan. 8, 2001</p>		Repetition
<p>"I do remain confident in Linda. She'll make a fine labor secretary. From what I've read in the press accounts, she's perfectly qualified."—Austin, Texas, Jan. 8, 2001</p>		
<p>"I mean, these good folks are revolutionizing how businesses conduct their business. And, like them, I am very optimistic about our position in the world and about its influence on the United States. We're concerned about the short-term economic news, but long-term I'm optimistic. And so, I hope investors, you know—secondly, I hope investors hold investments for periods of time—that I've always found the best investments are those that you salt away based on economics."—Austin, Texas, Jan. 4, 2001</p>		
<p>"The person who runs FEMA is someone who must have the trust of the president. Because the person who runs FEMA is the first voice, often times, of someone whose life has been turned upside down hears from."—Austin, Texas, Jan. 4, 2001</p>		End in proposition

"She is a member of a labor union at one point."— Announcing his nomination of Linda Chavez as secretary of labor. Austin, Texas, Jan. 2, 2001	was	Tense
"Natural gas is hemispheric . I like to call it hemispheric in nature because it is a product that we can find in our neighborhoods."—Austin, Texas, Dec. 20, 2000	abundant in the Western Hemisphere ?	Peculiar adjective
"I also have picked a secretary for Housing and Human Development. Mel Martinez from the state of Florida."— Austin, Texas, Dec. 20, 2000	Urban	Confusion with Health and Human Services
"Let me put it to you this way, I am not a revengeful person."— Interview with Time magazine in the Dec. 25, 2000, issue.	vengeful	Sounds-like
"I am mindful of the difference between the executive branch and the legislative branch. I assured all four of these leaders that I know the difference, and that difference is they pass the laws and I execute them."—Washington, D.C., Dec. 18, 2000		
"The great thing about America is everybody should vote."— Austin, Texas, Dec. 8, 2000	can	Improper verb
"Dick Cheney and I do not want this nation to be in a recession. We want anybody who can find work to be able to find work ."—60 Minutes II, Dec. 5, 2000		Tautology
"I knew it might put him in an awkward position that we had a discussion before finality has finally happened in this presidential race." —Describing a phone call to Sen. John Breaux. Crawford, Texas, Dec. 2, 2000	a clear outcome	Improper repetition
"As far as the legal hassling and wrangling and posturing in Florida, I would suggest you talk to our team in Florida led by Jim Baker."—Crawford, Texas, Nov. 30, 2000		
"The legislature's job is to write law. It's the executive branch's job to interpret law."—Austin, Texas, Nov. 22, 2000	executive: administer judicial: interpret	Ignorance
"They mis underestimated me."—Bentonville, Ark., Nov. 6, 2000	mis	Additional prefix
"Think about that. Two hundred and eighty-five new or expanded programs, \$2 trillion more in new spending, and not one new bureaucrat to file out the forms or answer the phones?"—Minneapolis, Nov. 1, 2000		

"They want the federal government controlling Social Security like it's some kind of federal program ."—St. Charles, Mo., Nov. 2, 2000		Ignorance
"They said, 'You know, this issue doesn't seem to resignate with the people.' And I said, you know something? Whether it resignates or not doesn't matter to me, because I stand for doing what's the right thing, and what the right thing is hearing the voices of people who work."—Portland, Ore., Oct. 31, 2000	resonates	Sounds-like
"Anyway, after we go out and work our hearts out, after you go out and help us turn out the vote, after we've convinced the good Americans to vote, and while they're at it, pull that old George W. lever, if I'm the one, when I put my hand on the Bible, when I put my hand on the Bible, that day when they swear us in, when I put my hand on the Bible, I will swear to not —to uphold the laws of the land."—Toledo, Ohio, Oct. 27, 2000		Improper negative
"It's your money. You paid for it."—LaCrosse, Wis., Oct. 18, 2000	earned	Verb reversal
"That's a chapter, the last chapter of the 20th, 20th, the 21st century that most of us would rather forget. The last chapter of the 20 th century. This is the first chapter of the 21 st century."—On the Lewinsky scandal, Arlington Heights, Ill., Oct. 24, 2000	20th	Confusion
"It's important for us to explain to our nation that life is important. It's not only life of babies, but it's life of children living in, you know, the dark dungeons of the Internet."—Arlington Heights, Ill., Oct. 24, 2000		
"I don't want nations feeling like that they can bully ourselves and our allies. I want to have a ballistic defense system so that we can make the world more peaceful, and at the same time I want to reduce our own nuclear capacities to the level commiserate with keeping the peace."—Des Moines, Iowa, Oct. 23, 2000	commensurate	Sounds-like
"Families is where our nation finds hope, where wings take dream ."—LaCrosse, Wis., Oct. 18, 2000	dreams take wing	Subject/object switch
"If I'm the president, we're going to have emergency-room care, we're [not] going to have gag orders."	not	Missing negative
"Drug therapies are replacing a lot of medicines as we used to know it ."	medicine, them	Singular/plural
"It's one thing about insurance, that's a Washington term."		

"I think we ought to raise the age at which juveniles can have a gun."		
"Mr. Vice President, in all due respect, it is—I'm not sure 80 percent of the people [do not] get the death tax. I know this: 100 percent will [not] get it if I'm the president."	do not, not	Missing negative
"Quotas are bad for America. It's not the way America is all about."		
"If affirmative action means what I just described, what I'm for, then I'm for it."—St. Louis, Mo., October 18, 2000		Tautology
"Our priorities is our faith."—Greensboro, N.C., Oct. 10, 2000	priority	Singular/plural
"I mean, there needs to be a wholesale effort against racial profiling, which is illiterate children."—Second presidential debate, Oct. 11, 2000 (Thanks to Leonard Williams.)	?	Confusion
"It's going to require numerous IRA agents."—On Gore's tax plan, Greensboro, N.C., Oct. 10, 2000	IRS	Sounds-like
"I think if you know what you believe, it makes it a lot easier to answer questions. I can't answer your question."—In response to a question about whether he wished he could take back any of his answers in the first debate. Reynoldsburg, Ohio, Oct. 4, 2000 (Thanks to Peter Feld.)		
"I would have my secretary of treasury be in touch with the financial centers, not only here but at home."—Boston, Oct. 3, 2000 (Thanks to M. Bateman.)	abroad	Noun inversion
"I know the human being and fish can coexist peacefully."—Saginaw, Mich., Sept. 29, 2000	in peace	Adjective for phrase
"I will have a foreign-handed foreign policy."—Redwood, Calif., Sept. 27, 2000	even-	Sounds-like, Spoonerism
"One of the common denominators I have found is that expectations rise above that which is expected."—Los Angeles, Sept. 27, 2000		Repetition
"It is clear our nation is reliant upon big foreign oil. More and more of our imports come from overseas."—Beaverton, Ore., Sep. 25, 2000	oil	Noun substitution (from other concept)

"Well, that's going to be up to the pundits and the people to make up their mind. I'll tell you what is a precedent for him, for example, talking about my record in the state of Texas. I mean, he's willing to say anything in order to convince people that I haven't had a good record in Texas."—MSNBC, Sept. 20, 2000 (Thanks to Gregory H. Monberg.)	precedent	Sounds-like
"I am a person who recognizes the fallacy of humans."—Oprah, Sept. 19, 2000	fallibility	Sounds-like
"A tax cut is really one of the anecdotes to coming out of an economic illness."—The Edge With Paula Zahn, Sept. 18, 2000	antidotes	Sounds-like
"The woman who knew that I had dyslexia—I never interviewed her ."—Orange, Calif., Sept. 15, 2000	She never interviewed me.	Subject/object switch
"The best way to relieve families from time is to let them keep some of their own money."—Westminster, Calif., Sept. 13, 2000	financial difficulties (?)	Noun substitution
"They have miscalculated me as a leader."—Ibid.	either misjudged or my ability to be	Sentence construction
"I don't think we need to be subliminable about the differences between our views on prescription drugs."—Orlando, Fla., Sept. 12, 2000	subliminal	Verb-"al"+"able" instead of proper adjective
"This is what I'm good at. I like meeting people, my fellow citizens, I like interfacing with them."—Outside Pittsburgh, Sept. 8, 2000		
"That's Washington. That's the place where you find people getting ready to jump out of the foxholes before the first shot is fired."—Westland, Mich., Sept. 8, 2000	in to the	Preposition inversion
"Listen, Al Gore is a very tough opponent. He is the incumbent. He represents the incumbency. And a challenger is somebody who generally comes from the pack and wins, if you're going to win . And that's where I'm coming from."—Detroit, Sept. 7, 2000 (Thanks to Michael Butler, Houston, Texas.)		Tautology
"We'll let our friends be the peacekeepers and the great country called America will be the pacemakers ."—Houston, Texas, Sept. 6, 2000	pacemakers	Sounds-like

"We don't believe in planners and deciders making the decisions on behalf of Americans."—Scranton, Pa., Sept. 6, 2000		Noun substitution (from other concept)
"I regret that a private comment I made to the vice presidential candidate made it through the public airways ."—Allentown, Pa., Sept. 5, 2000.	was made public	Awkward expression with common verb
"The point is, this is a way to help inoculate me about what has come and is coming."--on his anti-Gore ad, in an interview with the New York Times, Sept. 2, 2000	from	Improper preposition
"As governor of Texas, I have set high standards for our public schools, and I have met those standards."--CNN online chat, Aug. 30, 2000	they	Noun substitution (from other concept)
"Well, I think if you say you're going to do something and don't do it, that's [un] trustworthiness."--Ibid	un	Missing negative
"I don't know whether I'm going to win or not. I think I am. I do know I'm ready for the job . And, if not , that's just the way it goes."—Des Moines, Iowa, Aug. 21, 2000		Inserted sentence , followed by comment on first one.
"This campaign not only hears the voices of the entrepreneurs and the farmers and the entrepreneurs , we hear the voices of those struggling to get ahead."—Ibid.	the entrepreneurs	Repetition
"We cannot let terrorists and rogue nations hold this nation hostile or hold our allies hostile ."—Ibid.	hostage	Repetition, Sounds-like, similar theme (terrorists:hostile)
"I have a different vision of leadership. A leadership is someone who brings people together."—Bartlett, Tenn., Aug. 18, 2000 (Thanks to Tarja Black.)	A	Unneeded preposition
"I think he needs to stand up and say if he thought the president were wrong on policy and issues, he ought to say where."—Interview with the Associated Press, Aug. 11, 2000 (Thanks to Ryan Rhodes.)	was	Improper verb
"I want you to know that farmers are not going to be secondary thoughts to a Bush administration. They will be in the forethought of our thinking."—Salinas, Calif., Aug. 10, 2000 (Thanks to Kris Sester.)	second, forefront	Sounds-like

<p>"You might want to comment on that, Honorable."--To New Jersey's secretary of state, the Hon. DeForest Soaries Jr., as quoted by Dana Milbank in the Washington Post, July 15, 2000</p>	<p>DeForest</p>	<p>Mistake title for name</p>
<p>"This case has had full analyzation and has been looked at a lot. I understand the emotionality of death penalty cases."--Seattle Post-Intelligencer, June 23, 2000 (Thanks to Johnny Green.)</p>	<p>analysis</p>	<p>Sounds-like, repetition ("anal-", "looked-")</p>
<p>"States should have the right to enact reasonable laws and restrictions particularly to end the inhumane practice of ending a life that otherwise could live."—Cleveland, June 29, 2000 (Thanks to Douglas Basford.)</p>		<p>Tautology</p>
<p>"Unfairly but truthfully, our party has been tagged as being against things. Anti-immigrant, for example. And we're not a party of anti-immigrants. Quite the opposite. We're a party that welcomes people."—Cleveland, July 1, 2000 (Thanks to M. Bateman.)</p>	<p>it's true that</p>	<p>Improper phrasing</p>
<p>"The fundamental question is, 'Will I be a successful president when it comes to foreign policy?' I will be, but until I'm the president, it's going to be hard for me to verify that I think I'll be more effective."—In Wayne, Mich., as quoted by Katharine Q. Seelye in the New York Times, June 28, 2000</p>	<p>prove that</p>	<p>Improper verb</p>
<p>"The only things that I can tell you is that every case I have reviewed I have been comfortable with the innocence or guilt of the person that I've looked at. I do not believe we've put a guilty ... I mean innocent person to death in the state of Texas." All Things Considered, NPR, June 16, 2000 (Thanks to Andy Nourae.)</p>		<p>Adjective confusion</p>
<p>"I'm gonna talk about the ideal world, Chris. I've read—I understand reality. If you're asking me as the president, would I understand reality, I do."—On abortion, Hardball, MSNBC; May 31, 2000</p>		
<p>"There's not going to be enough people in the system to take advantage of people like me."—On the coming Social Security crisis; Wilton, Conn.; June 9, 2000 (Thanks to Andy Mais.)</p>	<p>take care</p>	<p>Improper verb</p>
<p>"I think anybody who doesn't think I'm smart enough to handle the job is underestimating [me]."—U.S. News & World Report, April 3, 2000 (Thanks to Alfred Stanley, Austin, Texas.)</p>	<p>me</p>	<p>Missing object</p>

<p>Bush: "First of all, Cinco de Mayo is not the independence day. That's dieciséis de Septiembre, and ..."</p> <p>Matthews: "What's that in English?"</p> <p>Bush: "Fifteenth of September." (Dieciséis de Septiembre = Sept. 16)</p> <p>—Hardball, MSNBC, May 31, 2000 (Thanks to numerous readers.)</p>		
<p>"Actually, I—this may sound a little West Texan to you, but I like it. When I'm talking about—when I'm talking about myself, and when he's talking about myself, all of us are talking about me."—Ibid.</p>		
<p>"This is a world that is much more uncertain than the past. In the past we were certain, we were certain it was us versus the Russians in the past. We were certain, and therefore we had huge nuclear arsenals aimed at each other to keep the peace. That's what we were certain of. ... You see, even though it's an uncertain world, we're certain of some things. We're certain that even though the 'evil empire' may have passed, evil still remains. We're certain there are people that can't stand what America stands for. ... We're certain there are madmen in this world, and there's terror, and there's missiles and I'm certain of this, too: I'm certain to maintain the peace, we better have a military of high morale, and I'm certain that under this administration, morale in the military is ***** dangerously low."—Albuquerque, N.M., the Washington Post, May 31, 2000</p>	starting out	Dropped clarifier
<p>"He has certainly earned a reputation as a fantastic mayor, because the results speak for themselves. I mean, New York's a safer place for him to be."—On Rudy Giuliani, The Edge With Paula Zahn, May 18, 2000 (Thanks to Peter Goldman.)</p>	to be in	Inappropriate phrase
<p>"The fact that he relies on facts—says things that are not factual—are going to undermine his campaign."—New York Times, March 4, 2000 (Thanks to Garry Trudeau.)</p>	not clear	Internal contradiction
<p>"I think we agree, the past is over."—On his meeting with John McCain, Dallas Morning News, May 10, 2000</p>		Tautology
<p>"It's clearly a budget. It's got a lot of numbers in it."-- Reuters, May 5, 2000 (Thanks to Allison Fansler.)</p>		

<p>GOV. BUSH: Because the picture on the newspaper. It just seems so un-American to me, the picture of the guy storming the house with a scared little boy there. I talked to my little brother, Jeb—I haven't told this to many people. But he's the governor of—I shouldn't call him my little brother-- my brother, Jeb, the great governor of Texas.</p> <p>JIM LEHRER: Florida.</p> <p>GOV. BUSH: Florida. The state of the Florida.—The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer, April 27, 2000</p>	<p>Florida</p>	<p>Noun substitution</p>
<p>"I hope we get to the bottom of the answer. It's what I'm interested to know."—On what happened in negotiations between the Justice Department and Elián González's Miami relatives, as quoted by the Associated Press, April 26, 2000 (Thanks to Saul Selzer.)</p>	<p>either "to the bottom of it" or "the answer"</p>	<p>Double object</p>
<p>"Laura and I really don't realize how bright our children is sometimes until we get an objective analysis."—CNBC, April 15, 2000</p>	<p>are</p>	<p>Singular/plural</p>
<p>"You subscribe politics to it. I subscribe freedom to it."—Responding to a question about whether he and Al Gore were making the Elián González case a political issue. In Palm Beach, Fla., as quoted by the Associated Press, April 6, 2000 (Thanks to Helen Kennedy.)</p>	<p>ascribe</p>	<p>Sounds-like</p>
<p>"I was raised in the West. The west of Texas. It's ***** pretty close to California. In more ways than Washington, D.C., is close to California."—In Los Angeles as quoted by the Los Angeles Times, April 8, 2000</p>	<p>culturally / socially</p>	<p>Dropped adverb</p>
<p>"Reading is the basics for all learning."—Announcing his "Reading First" initiative in Reston, Va., March 28, 2000 (Thanks to Carl LaRocca.)</p>	<p>basic -or- one of the basics</p>	
<p>"We want our teachers to be trained so they can meet the obligations, their obligations as teachers. We want them to know how to teach the science of reading. In order to make sure there's not this kind of federal—federal cufflink."—At Fritsche Middle School, Milwaukee, March 30, 2000</p>	<p>handcuff</p>	<p>Sounds-like, Spoonerism</p>

<p>"I've got a reason for running. I talk about a larger goal, which is to call upon the best of America. It's part of the renewal. It's reform and renewal. Part of the renewal is a set of high standards and to remind people that the greatness of America really does depend on neighbors helping neighbors and children finding mentors. I worry. I'm very worried about, you know, the kid who just wonders whether America is meant for him. I really worry about that. And uh, so, I'm running for a reason. I'm answering this question here and the answer is, you cannot lead America to a positive tomorrow with revenge on one's mind. Revenge is so incredibly negative. And so to answer your question, I'm going to win because people sense my heart, know my sense of optimism and know where I want to lead the country. And I tease people by saying, 'A leader, you can't say, follow me the world is going to be worse.' I'm an optimistic person. I'm an inherently content person. I've got a great sense of where I want to lead and I'm comfortable with why I'm running. And, you know, the call on that speech was, beware. This is going to be a tough campaign."— Interview with the Washington Post, March 23, 2000</p>		
<p>"People make suggestions on what to say all the time. I'll give you an example; I don't read what's handed to me. People say, 'Here, here's your speech, or here's an idea for a speech.' They're changed. Trust me."—Interview with the New York Times, March 15, 2000</p>		
<p>"It's evolutionary, going from governor to president, and this is a significant step, to be able to vote for yourself on the ballot, and I'll be able to do so next fall, I hope."—In an interview with the Associated Press, March 8, 2000 (Thanks to Joshua Micah Marshall.)</p>		
<p>"It is not Reaganesque to support a tax plan that is Clinton in nature."—Los Angeles, Feb. 23, 2000</p>	Clintonian	Misconstructed adjective. -"ian"
<p>"I don't have to accept their tenants. I was trying to convince those college students to accept my tenants. And I reject any labeling me because I happened to go to the university."—Today, Feb. 23, 2000</p>	tenets	Sounds-like
<p>"I understand small business growth. I was one."—New York Daily News, Feb. 19, 2000</p>	a small businessman	Reference ("one") to unstated noun ("businessman")

"The senator has got to understand if he's going to have—he can't have it both ways. He can't take the high horse and then claim the low road."—To reporters in Florence, S.C., Feb. 17, 2000	take	Verb substitution (related to claim the moral high ground)
"Really proud of it. A great campaign. And I'm really pleased with the organization and the thousands of South Carolinians that worked on my behalf. And I'm very gracious and humbled."—To Cokie Roberts, This Week, Feb. 20, 2000	gratified	Sounds-like
"I don't want to win? If that were the case why the heck am I on the bus 16 hours a day, shaking thousands of hands, giving hundreds of speeches, getting pillared in the press and cartoons and still staying on message to win?"—Newsweek, Feb. 28, 2000	pillared	pronunciation
"I thought how proud I am to be standing up beside my dad. Never did it occur to me that he would become the gist for cartoonists."—ibid.	grist	Sounds-like
"If you're sick and tired of the politics of cynicism and polls and principles , come and join this campaign."—Hilton Head, S.C., Feb. 16, 2000	lack of principles	Missing negative
"How do you know if you don't measure if you have a system that simply suckles kids through?"—Explaining the need for educational accountability in Beaufort, S.C., Feb. 16, 2000	shuffles	Sounds-like
"We ought to make the pie higher ."—South Carolina Republican Debate, Feb. 15, 2000	bigger	Adjective substitution
"I do not agree with this notion that somehow if I go to try to attract votes and to lead people toward a better tomorrow somehow I get subscribed to some—some doctrine gets subscribed to me."—Meet The Press, Feb. 13, 2000	ascribed	Sounds-like
"I've changed my style somewhat, as you know. I'm less—I pontificate less, although it may be hard to tell it from this show. And I'm more interacting with people."—ibid	interactive	Sounds-like
"I think we need not only to eliminate the tollbooth to the middle class, I think we should knock down the tollbooth."—Nashua, N.H., as quoted by Gail Collins in the New York Times, Feb. 1, 2000		
"The most important job is not to be governor, or first lady in my case ."—Pella, Iowa, as quoted by the San Antonio Express-News, Jan. 30, 2000		Irrelevant and wrong

"Will the highways on the Internet become more few ?"— Concord, N.H., Jan. 29, 2000	fewer	Misconstructed adjective
"This is Preservation Month. I appreciate preservation. It's what you do when you run for president. You gotta preserve ."—Speaking during "Perseverance Month" at Fairgrounds Elementary School in Nashua, N.H. As quoted in the Los Angeles Times, Jan. 28, 2000		Meaningless repetition
"I know how hard it is for you to put food on your family ."— Greater Nashua, N.H., Chamber of Commerce, Jan. 27, 2000	family's table	Missing object
"What I am against is quotas. I am against hard quotas, quotas they basically delineate based upon whatever. However they delineate, quotas, I think vulcanize society. So I don't know how that fits into what everybody else is saying, their relative positions, but that's my position."— Quoted by Molly Ivins, the San Francisco Chronicle, Jan. 21, 2000 (Thanks to Toni L. Gould.)	Balkanize	Sounds-like
"When I was coming up, it was a dangerous world, and you knew exactly who they were," he said. "It was us vs. them, and it was clear who they were. Today, we are not so sure who they are, but we know they're there."—Iowa Western Community College, Jan 21, 2000		
"The administration I'll bring is a group of men and women who are focused on what's best for America, honest men and women, decent men and women, women who will see service to our country as a great privilege and who will not stain the ***** house."—Des Moines Register debate, Iowa, Jan. 15, 2000	reputation of the White	Missing phrase
"This is still a dangerous world. It's a world of madmen and uncertainty and potential mential losses."—At a South Carolina oyster roast, as quoted in the Financial Times, Jan. 14, 2000	?	Infelicitous
"We must all hear the universal call to like your neighbor just like you like to be liked yourself."—ibid.		Repetition
"Rarely is the question asked: Is our children learning?"— Florence, S.C., Jan. 11, 2000	Are	Singular/plural
"Gov. Bush will not stand for the subsidation of failure."— ibid.	subsidy	Sounds-like, peculiar adverb
"There needs to be debates, like we're going through. There needs to be town-hall meetings. There needs to be travel. This is a huge country."—Larry King Live, Dec. 16, 1999	need	Singular/plural

<p>"I think it's important for those of us in a position of responsibility to be firm in sharing our experiences, to understand that ***** the babies out of wedlock is a very difficult chore for mom and baby alike. ... I believe we ought to say there is a different alternative than the culture that is proposed by people like Miss Wolf in society. ... And, you know, hopefully, condoms will work, but it hasn't worked."—Meet the Press, Nov. 21, 1999</p>	<p>having</p>	<p>Dropped verb</p>
<p>"It is incredibly presumptive for somebody who has not yet earned his party's nomination to start speculating about vice presidents."—Keene, N.H., Oct. 22, 1999, quoted in the New Republic, Nov. 15, 1999</p>	<p>presumptuous</p>	<p>Sounds-like</p>
<p>"The important question is, How many hands have I shaken?"—Answering a question about why he hasn't spent more time in New Hampshire, in the New York Times, Oct. 23, 1999</p>		
<p>"I don't remember debates. I don't think we spent a lot of time debating it. Maybe we did, but I don't remember."—On discussions of the Vietnam War when he was an undergraduate at Yale, Washington Post, July 27, 1999</p>		
<p>"The only thing I know about Slovakia is what I learned first-hand from your foreign minister, who came to Texas."—To a Slovak journalist as quoted by Knight Ridder News Service, June 22, 1999. Bush's meeting was with Janez Drnovsek, the prime minister of Slovenia.</p>		<p>Sounds-like</p>
<p>"If the East Timorians decide to revolt, I'm sure I'll have a statement."—Quoted by Maureen Dowd in the New York Times, June 16, 1999</p>	<p>Timorese</p>	<p>Misconstructed plural noun</p>
<p>"Keep good relations with the Grecians."—Quoted in the Economist, June 12, 1999</p>	<p>Greeks</p>	<p>Misconstructed plural noun</p>
<p>"Kosovians can move back in."—CNN Inside Politics, April 9, 1999</p>	<p>Kosovars</p>	<p>Misconstructed plural noun</p>
<p>"It was just inebriating what Midland was all about then."—From a 1994 interview, as quoted in First Son, by Bill Minutaglio</p>	<p>?</p>	<p>Improper verb</p>

