

This homework is due Monday, 4/29, and involves collecting data (10 points) for an in-class exercise (5 points).

Your job is to document speech errors involving production and comprehension. Although Dick Clark's TV Bloopers and errors involving **song lyrics** (see <http://www.kissthisguy.com/>) **are off-limits**, just about anything else is fair game. Keep your ears open during lectures, during news and radio reports, during Presidential addresses, on the bus, at the gym, at parties, etc. for anything that gets misspoken or misheard. Each error that you collect is worth 1 point for a maximum of 10 points. I repeat--you may **not** use song lyrics in any way, shape, or form.

As you encounter each error, write down the following four things:

For a slip of the tongue

1. what was said
2. what was intended
3. whether the slip was corrected
4. the date and context

For a slip of the ear

1. what was perceived
2. what was intended
3. whether the slip was corrected
4. the date and context

Make sure that you record the entire utterance--not just the word that was affected.

"Context" refers to the **person** who made the error and the **situation**. If the error happens in the public domain (e.g., Letterman bungles a line), it's okay to name that person. In other situations you might want to use generic terms, such as "friend," to preserve speaker anonymity.

The 10 errors (and the four-part description of each) that you bring to class must be typed and grouped according to error type (production vs. comprehension).

If you're not sure what is meant by "speech error," here are a few examples:

- saying "frosted wini meats" instead of "frosted mini wheats"
- saying "condensation" instead of "concentration"
- saying "Did you have Chris with dinner and Susan?" instead of "Did you have dinner with Chris and Susan?"
- hearing "Open the floor" instead of "Open the door"
- hearing "Hillary killed Hoffa" instead of "Hillary killed Foster"

Speech errors come in many varieties, so if the error you observe doesn't look like one of the above, include it on your list anyway. Note that saying "melk" for "milk" (as many Northern Ohioans do) or saying "gonna" instead of "going to" does not count as a speech error. Not everything that is said differently from the way that you would say it is an error. In order for something to be an error, the speaker has to **intend** to produce a form that she or he did not make. Accents, dialects, and registers (as in formal vs. informal styles of speaking) do not fall into this category.