

**Grammar and Style Assignment:**

Look at the following paper excerpt. Note the errors in this excerpt and list them on the third page corresponding to their type according to the rules for grammar and style. Correct the errors in this paper and bring the paper with you to class for the Friday meeting.

A true miracle is to sincerely defy the laws of nature; something that happens without any natural explanation. Laws of nature are fixed and seemingly permanent: gravity causes one to fall, fire burns, and death is guaranteed. Any exception to these would signal something which functions outside of the laws of nature which, by definition, could be termed a miracle. A miracle may not be defined by any natural scientific explanation. Though there is an explanation which may not be natural or scientific. This explanation, though, would never satisfy scientists so they will always claim that there are no miracles; there are only undiscovered natural explanations.

Probably the most significant objection to miracle is the belief in them. Whenever someone claims to have witnessed a miracle, modern-day skepticism almost always dictate a negative response to these claims. Someone may say that they believe the miracles that were performed in biblical times, but if those miracles were to happen today, there would be serious doubts as to their validity. Anyone who performs miracles today is looked upon skeptically and, like Hume, in a doubtful manner. People today can say they believe that Jesus will raise men from the dead, but when that promise is actually fulfilled, how many people will be shocked out of their wits at the apparent world-wide miracle that they've always believed would happen? The 1 problem with miracles is actually believing, in our materialistic world, that God has performed and still performs miracle. In addition C.S. Lewis states "If I find in myself a desire which no

experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world”<sup>1</sup> For the Greek word “ekklesia” means *the called out ones*.

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<sup>1</sup> Clive Staples Lewis, *Mere Christianity* (Harper: San Francisco, 1980), 137.

The following is a list of the errors that you will encounter in this one-page excerpt. You can find more details about these errors in the Grammar and Style Supplement and the Turabian Tutor

- 1.) Colon and semi-colon use
- 2.) Passive constructions: “the door was opened”
- 3.) Vague wording of “this”, “that”, “thing
- 4.) Split infinitive “to boldly go”
- 5.) Parallelism:
- 6.) Wordy- make a phrase more concise by eliminating unnecessary wording
- 7.) Fragment- lacking a subject or a verb or adding a subordinating conjunction
- 8.) Repetition
- 9.) Unnecessary wording: “there is” “there are”
- 10.) Absent or improper article usage “a” “an” “the”
- 11.) Personification- giving human characteristics to non-human entities
- 12.) Pronoun Antecedent Agreement- “Someone should tell their story.”
- 13.) Colloquialism or clichéd expressions
- 14.) Contraction: wasn’t
- 15.) Split Verb: “we are nervously running”
- 16.) First Person
- 17.) Comma usage
- 18.) Quotation marks and italics
- 19.) Footnote and page number error
- 20.) Irrelevancy