Fumblerules by William Safire
Fumblerule: A mistake that calls attention to the rule.
1) About sentence fragments
2) Avoid run on sentences they are hard to read the reader may not understand them.
3) A writer must not shift your point of view.
4) Do not put sentences in the negative form.
5) Don't use contractions in formal writing.
6) Make an all out effort to hyphenate when necessary but not when unnecessary.
7) Don't use capital letters without good REASON.
8) Each pronoun should agree with their antecedents.
9) It behooves us to avoid archaic words.
10) Reserve the apostrophe for it's proper use.
11) Write all adverbial forms correct.
12) Use the semicolon properly, use it between complete thoughts; and not between an independent clause and a mere phrase.
13) Don't use no double negatives.
14) When a dependent clause precedes an independent clause put a comma after the dependent clause.
15) If I've told you once I've told you a million times: resist hyperbole.
16) If any word is improper at the end of a sentence, a linking verb is.
17) Avoid commas, that are not necessary.
18) Avoid trendy words or phrases that sound flaky.
19) And don't start a sentence with a conjunction.
20) The passive voice should never be used.
21) Writing carefully, dangling participles should be avoided.
22) Unless you are quoting other people's exclamation, don't use exclamation points!!!
23) Never use a long word when a diminutive word will do.
24) The rigid use of the "i before e except after c" rule raises spelling to a science.
25) Proofread carefully to see if you any words out.
26) Use parallel structure when you write and in speaking.
27) Ixray the use of colloquial words.
28) Resist new verb forms that have snuck into the language.
29) Better to walk through the valley of the shadow of death than to string prepositional phrases together.
30) One will not have needed the future perfect tense in one's entire life.
31) Place pronouns as close as possible, especially in long sentences such as those with ten or more words, to their antecedents.
32) Remember to never split an infinitive.
33) Take the bull by the hand and don't mix metaphors.
34) Always pick on the correct idiom.
35) Never, ever use repetitive redundancies.
36) "Avoid overuse of 'quotation "marks."'"
37) Never use prepositions to end a sentence with.
38) Last, but not least, avoid clichés like the plague.