Common Error Types in L1 vs. L2 Writing

Lunsford & Lunsford (2008)	Ferris (2006)
U.S. college students	ESL university students in California
1. Wrong word	1. Sentence structure
2. Missing comma after an introductory	2. Word choice
element	3. Verb tense
3. Incomplete or missing	4. Noun endings (singular/plural)
documentation	5. Verb form
4. Vague pronoun reference	6. Punctuation
5. Spelling error	7. Articles/determiners
6. Mechanical error with a quotation	8. Word form
7. Unnecessary comma	9. Spelling
8. Unnecessary or missing	10. Run-ons
capitalization	11. Pronouns
9. Missing word	12. Subject-verb agreement
10. Faulty sentence structure	13. Fragments
11. Missing comma with a non-	14. Idioms
restrictive element	15. Informal language
12. Unnecessary shift in verb tense	
13. Missing comma in a compound	
sentence	
14. Unnecessary or missing apostrophe	
15. Fused (run-on) sentence	
16. Comma splice	
17. Pronoun-antecedent agreement	
18. Poorly integrated quotation	
19. Unnecessary or missing hyphen	
20. Sentence fragment	
(Table 7, p. 795)	(from Chaney, 1999, p. 20)

Ferris, D. R. (2006). Does error feedback help student writers? New evidence on the short and long-term effects of written error correction. In K. Hyland & F. Hyland (Eds.), Feedback in second language writing: Contexts and issues (pp. 81—104). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Lunsford, A.A., & Lunsford, K.J. (2008). "Mistakes are a fact of life": A national comparative study. College Composition and Communication, 59, 781—806.