THE GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO STRUNK & WHITE*

- 1. Form the possessive singular of nouns by adding 's.
- 2. In a series of three or more terms with a single conjunction, use a comma after each term except the last.
- 3. Enclose parenthetic expressions between commas.
- 4. Place a comma before a conjunction introducing an independent clause.
- 5. Do not join independent clauses by a comma.
- 6. Do not break sentences in two.
- 7. Use a colon after an independent clause to introduce a list of particulars, an appositive, an amplification, or an illustrative quote.
- 8. Use a dash to set off an abrupt break or interruption and to announce a long appositive or summary.
- 9. The number of the subject determines the number of the verb.
- 10. Use the proper case of pronoun.

- 11. A participial phrase at the beginning of a sentence must refer to the grammatical subject.
- 12. Choose a suitable design and hold to it.
- 13. Make the paragraph the unit of composition.
- 14. Use the active voice.
- 15. Put statements in positive form.
- 16. Use definite, specific, concrete language.
- 17. Omit needless words.
- 18. Avoid a succession of loose sentences.
- 19. Express co-ordinate ideas in similar form.
- 20. Keep related words together.
- 21. In summaries, keep to one tense.
- 22. Place the emphatic words of a sentence at the end.