Inversions

(strong highlighting device; use sparingly, for special emphasis)

pattern:

Particularly important + BE + noun phrase

Many people move to the suburbs because they want more space and more privacy. Of even greater concern to those with children, however, is the school system.

Especially interesting is . . .
Rather more significant is . . .
Especially noteworthy is . . .
Of greater concern is . . .
Particularly important is . . .

Negative inversions

Never
Rarely
Hardly ever
Seldom
Not until

Rarely do architecture students get more than five hours sleep.

Hundreds lined up to hear Calatava speak. Never before had room 10-250 been so crowded.

1. The events of September 11 deeply shocked the American people. Never before
   ________________________________________________________________.

2. The Indian Ocean tsunami of January 2005 took the world by surprise. Warning systems
   were not in place, since rarely ________________________________.

3. The presidential election of 2000 was decided by 500 votes. ____________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________________.

4. One of your own: ____________________________________________________________
   ____________________________________________________________________________.