

CONTESTANT NUMBER _____



UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

COPY EDITING CONTEST

INVITATIONAL A 2024

This test is produced, and should be graded,
using the 2022-2024 Associated Press Stylebook, 56th edition,
in print or updated on or before June 1, 2022, online.

Students may use the AP Stylebook, dictionary and/or thesaurus
during the exam.

FOR JUDGE'S USE

Points from PART 1

Points from PART 2

FINAL PLACE

POINTS/15

POINTS/10

TOTAL POINTS

FINAL PLACE

Part 3 is used ONLY in case of
tie. Rank them in order, but
do not assign points.

There should be no ties.

DO NOT TURN THIS PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE INSTRUCTED TO DO SO!

RECOMMENDED EDITING MARKS

Students should use clearly understood editing symbols.

Students will NOT be penalized for using other symbols. It is up to the judges to determine if marks are "clearly understood."

¶ LEAGUETOWN, TEXAS — The organization	indent for paragraph
said Thursday. It was the first and last	paragraph
attempts.	no paragraph
With this the president tried	
the Jones Smith company is not	transpose
over a period of sixty or more years	use figures
there were 5 in the group.	spell out
former Captain Kirk attended	abbreviate
The Ala. man was the guest of	don't abbreviate
king charles said it was his	uppercase
as a result This will be	lowercase
the ac cuser pointed to them	remove space
In these times it is necessary	insert space
The order for the later devices	ignore correction
The ruling a fine example	insert word
according to the this source.	delete
	insert comma
	insert apostrophe
	insert quotation marks
	insert period
	insert hyphen
	insert dash
misspelled	Spelling errors should be corrected, not simply marked for correction.
mispeled	

COPY EDITING CONTEST

INVITATIONAL A 2024

DIRECTIONS: This test is divided into three sections. Write all your responses as indicated. You have 15 minutes.

PART 1: Circle the correct response. (1 pt. each)

1. The **further / farther** I dive into metaphysics, the less I understand.
2. Black Joe Lewis and the Honeybears will play at **one pm / 1 p.m. / 1 pm** at Waterloo Records.
3. The plane took off **August 10th / August 10 / Aug. 10th / Aug. 10.**
4. Members of Ethiopia's **LGBTQIA+ / LGBTQ** community say they face a wave of online harassment and physical attacks.
5. He earned his **master's / masters / Masters** in public administration from Syracuse.
6. Veterinarians examined the five **well known / well-known** deaths in horse racing.
7. In the commemoration of the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ, Catholics observed **Good Friday / good friday / good Friday** before Easter.
8. Van Ragsdale, **Director of Fine Arts / Director of fine arts / director of fine arts**, advocated for increased funding for orchestra.
9. The dachshund mix had **three / 3** puppies.
10. More than **25% / 25 percent** of women are part of the #MeToo movement.
11. We are going to **there / their** cookout Sunday evening.
12. She fell **off of / off** her bike.
13. The **black / Black** candidate had more support than the vocal constituent.
14. Windmills killed **alot / allot / a lot** of geese during migration.
15. Ian Roberts has resigned as Millcreek schools **superintendent / Superintendent / Superintendent / superintendant / superintendant.**

TOTAL ____/15

UIL COPY EDITING INVITATIONAL A 2024

PART 2: Edit the following sentences to eliminate/correct **FOUR** (and only four) errors in wordiness, AP style, grammar, spelling or punctuation in each of the five statements below. Use clearly understood editing symbols. Spelling errors should be corrected, not simply marked for correction. Judges will consider only the first four corrections marked. Any others will be ignored. Compound errors such as changing "First Lady" to "first lady" will be considered as one error. (2 pts. each)

You are editing material to be published in the Leaguetown High School (Texas) Press, Friday, Jan. 12, 2024.

POINTS

o ½ 1 1½ 2

1. The students in the top five percent of the class each recieved a scholarship and a write-up in "Time" magazine.

o ½ 1 1½ 2

2. The first day the football team finished practice, its hot —110°F. They worked for three hours before going inside at 12 noon.

o ½ 1 1½ 2

3. Wichita Falls police received a rather unique call Thursday, January 4, 2024, involving a student drinking wine in a Wal-mart parking lot. Officers took the student to prison and charged her with misdemeanor public intoxication.

o ½ 1 1½ 2

4. When it came down to it, there were less baritone players in the first drum corps that performed than their we're in the second. To the judges at the Summer championship event, it made a difference.

o ½ 1 1½ 2

5. The field of public relations are evolving rapidly, according to information from the BLS. A Public Relations Specialist can expect to make 62,810 dollars per year.

TOTAL ____/10

CONTESTANT NUMBER _____

UIL COPY EDITING INVITATIONAL A 2024

PART 3: In the space provided, edit the following news brief to make the wording clear and to eliminate wordiness as well as any errors in AP style, grammar, spelling or punctuation. You do NOT have to rewrite the news brief. Make notes of anything you believe needs clarification, additional research or additional reporting. PART 3 WILL BE USED ONLY TO BREAK TIES BUT IS REQUIRED. In the event of a tie, if you do not make any effort on Part 3, your entire entry will be DISQUALIFIED.

You are editing material to be published in the Leaguetown High School (Texas) Press, Friday, Jan. 12, 2024.

LEAGUETOWN, Texas — Here in the Hill Country Southwest of Austin, the Trinity Aquifer is at its lowest level on record. Across the region, iconic natural springs are dwindling or drying up, victims of extreme heat, persistent drought and ever growing demand for water.

Last Summer, Charlie Flatten's conservation district issued a moratorium on groundwater pumping for the 1st time in its history. Meanwhile, he said, a private company called Aqua Texas, which provides water utilities to more than fifty Texas countys, continues pumping millions more gallons than it is authorized to take. And there isn't much he can do about it despite the clear link to climate change.

"Their business model does not benefit from conservation," Flatten said of Aqua Texas, a subsidiary of Essential Utilities, an investor-owned utility with a \$10.4,000,000,000 market capitalization. "Their business model benefits from selling water, and their shareholders expect them to turn a profit every quarter."

Flatten, General Manager of the Hays Trinity Groundwater Conservation District in Dripping Springs, fined Aqua Texas \$450,000 fine for pumping almost twice as much as its permit allowed last year, but the company hasn't paid. Settlement negotiations continue, along with excessive pumping, said Flatten.

Aqua Texas has contested the over pumping fee with the groundwater district and is currently working to get that resolved, spokesperson Jennifer Olohan said.

Modified from a story by Dylan Baddour for Inside Climate News, Aug. 16, 2023, "Heat, drought and population growth have stressed aquifers that supply water to millions of Texans" available online at <https://www.texastribune.org/2023/08/16/texas-drought-heat-aquifers-groundwater-stress/>

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DIRECTIONS: This test is divided into three sections. Write all your responses as indicated. You have 15 minutes.

PART 1: Circle the correct response. (1 pt. each)

1. The **further** / farther I dive into metaphysics, the less I understand.
2. Black Joe Lewis and the Honeybears will play at **one pm** / **1 p.m.** / 1 pm at Waterloo Records.
3. The plane took off **August 10th** / August 10 / Aug. 10th / **Aug. 10**
4. Members of Ethiopia's **LGBTQIA+** / **LGBTQ** community say they face a wave of online harassment and physical attacks.
5. He earned his **master's** / masters / Masters in public administration from Syracuse.
6. Veterinarians examined the five **well known** / **well-known** deaths in horse racing.
7. In the commemoration of the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ, Catholics observed **Good Friday** / good friday / good Friday before Easter.
8. Van Ragsdale, **Director of Fine Arts** / Director of fine arts / **director of fine arts**, advocated for increased funding for orchestra.
9. The dachshund mix had **three** / 3 puppies.
10. More than **25%** / 25 percent of women are part of the #MeToo movement.
11. We are going to **there** / **their** cookout Sunday evening.
12. She fell **off of** / **off** her bike.
13. The **black** / **black** candidate had more support than the vocal constituent.
14. Windmills killed **alot** / allot / **a lot** of geese during migration.
15. Ian Roberts has resigned as Millcreek schools **superintendent** / Superintendent / Superintendent / superintendent / superintendent.

Notes for judges

No. 4 – A 2022 revision now has LGBTQ+ (adj.) However, the 56th printed edition still uses LGBTQ. See p. 122.

Tips for judges

Part 1

There is some subjectivity involved in all editing. If you find an error in the answer key, report it to the UIL office

UIL COPY EDITING INVITATIONAL A 2024

PART 2: Edit the following sentences to eliminate/correct FOUR (and only four) errors in wordiness, AP style, grammar, spelling or punctuation in each of the five statements below. Use clearly understood editing symbols. Spelling errors should be corrected, not simply marked for correction. Judges will consider only the first four corrections marked. Any others will be ignored. Compound errors such as changing "First Lady" to "first lady" will be considered as one error. (2 pts. each)

You are editing material to be published in the Leaguetown High School (Texas) Press, Friday, Jan. 12, 2024.

1. The students in the top ~~five percent~~ of the class each received a scholarship and a write-up in "Time" magazine.

2. The first day the football team finished practice, ~~it was~~ ^{degrees Fahrenheit,} ~~its~~ hot —110°. ~~They~~ ^{The players} worked for three hours before going inside at ~~12~~ noon.

3. Wichita Falls police received a ~~rather~~ unique call ~~Thursday, January 4, 2024,~~ involving a student drinking wine in a Wal^lmart parking lot. Officers took the student to ~~prison~~ ^{jail} and charged her with misdemeanor public intoxication.

4. When it came down to it, there were ~~less~~ ^{fewer} baritone players in the first drum corps that performed than ~~they~~ ^{there} were in the second. To the judges at the ~~summer~~ championship event, it made a difference.

5. The field of public relations ~~are~~ ^{is} evolving rapidly, according to information from the ~~BLS~~. A ~~Public Relations~~ ^Specialist can expect to make ~~62,810~~ ^{\$} dollars per year.

Notes to judges

No. 1 – "Five percent" should be "5%." Two separate errors. Fixing one has nothing to do with the other. Indeed, until a few years ago, it would have been correct to say "5 percent."

No. 2 – In cases that require mention of the scale, use these forms: 86 degrees Fahrenheit or 86 F. So 110 F would also be acceptable.

The pronoun "they" does not agree with its antecedent, "team." There are several ways students could fix this error.

No. 5 – BLS stands for Bureau of Labor Statistics. Students can just circle it to indicate that it needs to be spelled out.

Tips for judges

Part 2

There are four errors per item.

If fixing one error creates another, it counts as one.

There is some subjectivity in all editing. If a student finds another "error" or rewrites a sentence, the judges will have to consider how to award points.

This section is worth a maximum of 10 points.

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Notes for judges

¶2 – Saying there is a “clear link” without evidence is a violation of AP style – “Avoid attributing single occurrences to climate change unless scientists have established a connection.” Consider taking this out.

¶4 – In general, the subject comes before the verb. Spot ran. Flatten said. However, some writers take license particularly when there is a long title before a name. It’s not wrong to write “said Flatten,” but it’s better to write “Flatten said.”

¶5 – Spokesperson is more of a job description; it is not a proper title and should not be capitalized.

Tips for judges

Part 3

This section is ranked to break a tie in the combined scores of parts 1 and 2. Assign no points.

Judges should compare the papers of students who tied, ranking them accordingly.

When grading Part 3, holistically read the changes the student indicated starting with the highest level of editing. Remember, there are multiple levels of copy editing.

- Highest level: Are there any legal or ethical issues with the story?
- Middle level: Does the story use the right sources? Does it flow?
- Lowest level: Grammar, spelling, punctuation, style