

CONTESTANT NUMBER _____



UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

COPY EDITING CONTEST

INVITATIONAL B 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  or more years	use figures
there were  in the group.	spell out
former  Kirk attended	abbreviate
The  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 misspelled	Spelling errors should be corrected, not simply marked for correction.

COPY EDITING CONTEST

INVITATIONAL B 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 peach cobbler was fresh. "**It's / Its / Its'** yummy," he said.
2. The other **red haired / red-haired** girl looks like me.
3. Comparisons between the post-influenza Roaring **'20s / 20's / 20s** and a post-pandemic era were common.
4. My economics **Professor / professor** won prizes for his lecture last semester.
5. This bible dates back to the **7th / seventh** century.
6. In the U.S., **78 percent / 78%** of Catholics approve of the legalization of abortion.
7. The committee **is / are** meeting today to discuss House Resolution 1231.
8. Two elected leaders in Moscow are denouncing **one another / each other**.
9. Can you grab a **couple / couple of** pizzas for dinner?
10. Officials announced that they are pausing gender-affirming surgeries for minors **in order to / to** review their practices.
11. My **GPA / G.P.A.** this semester is 3.7.
12. The first day of Hanukkah last year was on **Friday / Fri. / friday**.
13. The Doomsday Clock was set at 90 seconds to **12 a.m. / 12 o'clock / midnight**.
14. The nations of the world ran the **gamut / gantlet / gauntlet** in their responses to the COVID-19 pandemic.
15. The lawsuit accuses the defendants, including Jason Quick, the former **principal / Principal / principle / Principle**, of violating his First Amendment rights.

TOTAL ____/15

UIL COPY EDITING INVITATIONAL B 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)

POINTS

o ½ 1 1½ 2

1. Attention, passengers: We are currently waiting on 1 crew member. As soon as they arrive, we will begin boring.

o ½ 1 1½ 2

2. The Texas house, led by speaker Dade Phelan, gave final approval to two bills that would create a fund to invest \$1,000,000,000 to buy more land for the state parks system. The option will appear on the Fall ballot.

o ½ 1 1½ 2

3. In Nov. 2008, millions turned out to vote for the nations first black president, Barack Obama, and there hope for once-in-a-generation political change.

o ½ 1 1½ 2

4. The new company, Keurig Dr. Pepper, plans to expand it's bottled iced coffee offerings, which are sold at supermarkets and convenience stores in TX and 20 other southern states.

o ½ 1 1½ 2

5. PTSD was evident when the solders stationed in Kabul came home from the undeclared war against al Qaeda. Their PTSD cost the country millions of dollars for therapy. It cost the soldiers their way of life.

TOTAL ____/10

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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 for the Friday, Feb. 16, 2024, issue of the Leaguetown School Press in Leaguetown, Texas.

LEAGUETOWN, Texas — Governor Greg Abbot issued a wildfire disaster declaration for about 75 percent of Texas counties, allowing county officials to use all available state resources to respond to any new fires as the state continues to bake under triple-digit temperatures.

The declaration was issued Feb. 16 as wildfires continue to spark across the state. The Texas A&M Forest Service, who monitors wildfire conditions, reports that at least 8,500 acres of Texas land have burned since August 1, 2023.

The governors declaration covers 191 of the state’s 259 counties, including Austin, Dallas, El Paso, Midland, and Travis. County officials across the state have issued their own burn bans, according to the Forest Service.

“As we continue to respond to wildfire conditions across the state, Texas is ready to provide any additional resources and aid to impacted communities,” Abbot said in a press release. He also encouraged residents to remain weather aware and follow the guidance of state and local officials.

On Sunday, forest service officials responded to seventeen new requests for assistance on wildfires that had burned 445.8 acres across the state. Last week, the agency raised it’s wildfire preparedness to level 4, which indicates a large number of fires that are difficult to control and recommends a “heavy commitment” of resources from state and local officials to address fire danger.

Wildfires have destroyed homes, buildings and forests state wide. Last week, a brush fire in Cedar Park, about 32 km north of Austin, tore through apartment complexes and townhomes, forcing evacuations in Williamson County and surrounding areas. Earlier this year, an Eastland County sheriff’s deputy was killed trying to rescue others when a massive, wind whipped wildfire swept into Eastland, about 193 km west of Dallas. Hundreds of families evacuated there homes.

Modified from a story by Alejandra Martinez, Aug. 14, 2023, “Gov. Greg Abbott declares wildfire disaster for three-fourths of Texas” available online at <https://www.texastribune.org/2023/08/14/texas-wildfires-2023-governor-disaster-declaration/>

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

- The peach cobbler was fresh. **It's** / Its / Its' yummy," he said.
- The other **red haired** / **red-haired** girl looks like me.
- Comparisons between the post-influenza Roaring **'20s** / 20's / 20s and a post-pandemic era were common.
- My economics **Professor** / **professor** won prizes for his lecture last semester.
- This bible dates back to the **7th** / **seventh** century.
- In the U.S., **78 percent** / **78%** of Catholics approve of the legalization of abortion.
- The committee **is** / **are** meeting today to discuss House Resolution 1231.
- Two elected leaders in Moscow are denouncing **one another** / **each other**.
- Can you grab a **couple** / **couple of** pizzas for dinner?
- Officials announced that they are pausing gender-affirming surgeries for minors **in order to** / **to** review their practices.
- My **GPA** / **G.P.A.** this semester is 3.7.
- The first day of Hanukkah last year was on **Friday** / Fri. / friday.
- The Doomsday Clock was set at 90 seconds to **12 a.m.** / **12 o'clock** / **midnight**.
- The nations of the world ran the **gamut** / **gantlet** / **gauntlet** in their responses to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The lawsuit accuses the defendants, including Jason Quick, the former **principal** / **Principal** / **principle** / **Principle**, of violating his First Amendment rights.

Notes for judges

No. 9 – **couple of** The of is necessary.

No. 14 – **gamut, gantlet, gauntlet** A gamut is a scale of notes or any complete range or extent. A gantlet is a flogging ordeal, literally or figuratively. A gauntlet is a glove.

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

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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)

1. Attention, passengers: We are ~~currently~~ waiting on ~~1~~ crew member. As soon as ~~they~~ ^{he or she} arrive, we will begin ~~boarding~~ ^s boarding.

Notes to judges

No. 1 – Fixing the pronoun in the second sentence also requires fixing the verb. Together, this is one error of the four. They as a singular pronoun may be confusing to some readers and amount to a roadblock that stops them from reading further. Students may have other ways of fixing the sentence, but the pronoun and verb need to agree.

No. 5 – The shorthand PTSD is acceptable on first reference, but spell out on second reference. Pick one. The students need to spell it out either the first time or the second.

No. 5 – The city in Afghanistan carries the name of the country. Students may choose to replace the name of the city with the country or just to add the country.

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.

2. The Texas house, led by speaker Dade Phelan, gave final approval to two bills that would create a fund to invest ~~\$1,000,000,000~~ ^{\$1 billion} to buy more land for the state parks system. The option will appear on the ~~Fall~~ ballot.
3. In ~~Nov.~~ 2008, millions turned out to vote for the nations ['] first black president, Barack Obama, and ~~there~~ ^{their} hope for once-in-a-generation political change.
4. The new company, Keurig Dr. Pepper, plans to expand its bottled iced coffee offerings, which are sold at supermarkets and convenience stores in ~~TX~~ and 20 other southern states.
5. ~~PTSD~~ was evident when the solders ⁱ stationed in ~~Kabul~~ ^{, Afghanistan,} came home from the undeclared war against ~~al Qaeda~~ ^{al-Qaida}. Their PTSD cost the country millions of dollars for therapy. It cost the soldiers their way of life.

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Notes for judges

¶1 – Gov. Greg Abbott is spelled with two t’s. This also occurs in ¶4. This is a mid-level error and consistency is critical.

¶2 – Use the day of the week, not today or tonight, in news stories. The story is being published today, Friday.

¶2 – wildfires Use square miles to describe the size of fires. It’s better to say the fire burned 13.3 square miles or an area about the 20 times the size of the UT Austin campus.

¶3 – Bonus points to the students who know Texas has 254 counties. Is this referring to Austin County or the city of Austin? These sound like cities but are, indeed, counties. Austin is in Travis County.

¶5 – 445.8 acres is 0.7 square miles. Is that right?

¶6 – Students should somehow indicate that kilometers need to be converted to miles. They do NOT need to do the conversion (although they can).

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

LEAGUETOWN, Texas — Governor Greg Abbot^t issued a wildfire disaster declaration for about 75 percent of Texas counties, allowing county officials to use all available state resources to respond to any new fires as the state continues to bake under triple-digit temperatures.

The declaration was issued ^{passive} Friday, Feb. 16 as wildfires continue to spark across the state. The Texas A&M Forest Service, which ~~who~~ monitors wildfire conditions, reports that at least 8,500 acres ^{convert to square miles} of Texas land have burned since August, 2023.

The governor’s ^v declaration covers 191 of the state’s ²⁵⁴ ~~259~~ counties, including Austin, Dallas, El Paso, Midland, and Travis. County officials across the state have issued their own burn bans, according to the Forest Service.

“As we continue to respond to wildfire conditions across the state, Texas is ready to provide any additional resources and aid to impacted communities,” Abbot^t said in a press release. He also encouraged residents to remain weather aware and ^{to} follow the guidance of state and local officials.

On Sunday, forest service officials responded to seventeen new requests for assistance on wildfires that had burned 445.8 acres ^{convert to square miles} across the state. Last week, the agency raised its wildfire preparedness to level 4, which indicates a large number of fires that are difficult to control and recommends a “heavy commitment” of resources from state and local officials to address fire danger.

Wildfires have destroyed homes, buildings and forests state^J wide. Last week, a brush fire in Cedar Park, about 32 km ^{convert to miles} north of Austin, tore through apartment complexes and townhomes, forcing evacuations in Williamson County and surrounding areas. Earlier this year, an Eastland County sheriff’s deputy was killed trying to rescue others when a massive, wind^v whipped wildfire swept into Eastland, about 193 km ^{convert to miles} west of Dallas. Hundreds of families evacuated their ~~there~~ homes.

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