

UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

# COPY EDITING CONTEST

## UIL COPY EDITING INVITATIONAL A 2021

**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. A victory for the **government** / ~~governmen~~ could remake Google.
2. The students in the virtual class made ~~their~~ / **they're** suggestion to the instructor.
3. Things have been going **alot** / ~~alot~~ / **a lot** better since the weather got warmer.
4. It's only October, and it feels like ~~winter~~ / **Winter**.
5. Texas Tech filled the game against Kansas with embarrassing moments, but the ending goes down as one of the most ~~egregious~~ / **egregous** in living memory.
6. With Novak Djokovic's defensive style favored on the clay, it seems that he will be victorious **Mon.** / ~~Monday~~ / **monday**.
7. Border Patrol agents shot and killed the driver of a car that had been carrying unauthorized immigrants in Laredo, **TX** / **Tex.** / ~~Texas~~.
8. Skylar Fields, ~~sophomore~~ / **Sophomore**, frequently posts Instagram stories showing her solidarity for the Black Lives Matter movement.
9. His lunch cost ~~\$6~~ / **six dollars**.
10. The baseball coach at Oklahoma had a one-day **try out** / ~~tryout~~ for walk-ons.
11. ~~It's~~ / **Its** / **Its'** Google's world. We just live in it.
12. Hindu priests chose Wednesday, and specifically at **12:44 PM** / **12:44 o'clock** / ~~12:44 p.m.~~, as the most auspicious time to begin building the new temple.
13. The **Coach** / ~~coach~~ of the U.S. women's volleyball team tries to be a master of disguise.
14. The candidate insisted on filing though told the deadline had ~~passed~~ / **past**.
15. The N95 masks were available Jan. **6th** / **6**

### 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 2021

**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. 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. The arresting officer was black, as ~~was~~<sup>were</sup> the city’s police chief, its mayor and the majority of the Yoakum city council.

2. ~~their~~ Texas colleges and universities spent the summer months bulking up its testing capacity. For example, University of Texas at Austin officials said they could test up to 5,000 asymptomatic people weekly, about 7 percent of the student body.

3. Sunday’s stay at home request from city officials — and the announcement of the 10 ~~PM~~<sup>p.m.</sup> county curfew — came 9 days ahead of Election Day and as El Paso follows a trend of record turnout during early voting.

4. Attorney Gen Ken Paxton’s office sidelined four of the seven senior aids who told law enforcement ~~he~~<sup>they</sup> believed Paxton had committed bribery and abuse of office while working in the Texas Capital Complex.

5. David Dewhurst was the perfect combination of the elements that went into the standard Texas republican circa the turn of the millenium, a wealthy Houston businessman with a national security background — the Central Intelligence Agency (~~CIA~~), no less.

## Notes to judges

No. 5 — The student may choose to delete “Central Intelligence Agency” OR the acronym. The *Stylebook* says, “CIA is acceptable in all references.” It does not say you MUST use the acronym on first reference.

## Tips for judges

## Part 2

There are four errors per item.

If fixing one error creates another, it counts as one. For example, in the fourth sentence, removing “mutual” requires the editor to change “a” to “an.” That is all one error.

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.

# UIL COPY EDITING INVITATIONAL A 2021

**Part 3:** In the space provided, edit the following news brief to make the wording clear, 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.**

You are editing the article to be published Friday, Oct. 23, 2020.

The unusually large voter turnout in Tex has persisted through the first ten days of the early voting period, leading experts to predict that the State could reach overall turnout levels unseen so far this century.

“It’s a very different election this year because of COVID, concerns with vote by mail and other potential shenanigans,” said Michael Li, Senior Council at New York Universities Brennan Center for Justice.

“A lot of people are being encouraged to vote early, so it remains to be seen whether were just moving some votes from Election Day to the early voting period or whether it’s a huge overall turnout increase.”

According to the latest data from the Texas Secretary of State,

6.4 million Texans — 37.6 percent of registered voters — had already cast their ballots. Nearly 90 percent of those have been cast in person. With a full

week left, that’s surpassing the total percentage turnout for early voting in 2012, though still a couple of percentage points short of 2016’s early voting turnout. Early voting in 2012 and 2016 about 1 fewer week.

At Governor Greg Abbott’s order, Texas voters have an extra six days of early voting in hopes that the polls will be less crowded during the pandemic. The added time, coupled with a push from leaders in both parties for Texans to cast his ballot early, could be a reason for a boost in turnout so far, experts say.

### Notes for judges

None.

### Tips for judges

#### Part 3

This section is ONLY 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

CONTESTANT NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_



UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

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## INVITATIONAL A 2021

This test is produced, and should be graded,  
using the *2020-2022 Associated Press Stylebook*  
in print or updated on or before May 27, 2020 online.

### FOR JUDGE'S USE

Points from PART 1

Points from PART 2

FINAL PLACE

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POINTS/15

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POINTS/10

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TOTAL POINTS

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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!**

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**POINTS**

0   ½   1   1½   2

1. The arresting officer was black, as was the city’s police cheif, it’s mayor and the majority of the Yoakum city council.

0   ½   1   1½   2

2. Texas colleges and universities spent the Summer months bulking up its testing capacity. For example, University of Texas at Austin officials said they could test up to 5000 asymptomatic people weekly, about 7 percent of the student body.

0   ½   1   1½   2

3. Sundays stay at home request from city officials — and the announcement of the 10 PM county curfew — came 9 days ahead of Election Day and as El Paso follows a trend of record turnout during early voting.

0   ½   1   1½   2

4. Attorney Gen. Ken Paxton’s office sidelined four of the seven senior aids who told law enforcement he believed Paxton had committed bribery and abuse of office while working in the Texas Capital Complex.

0   ½   1   1½   2

5. David Dewhurst was the perfect combination of the elements that went into the standard Texas republican circa the turn of the millenium; a wealthy Houston businessman with a national security background — the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), no less.

TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_/10

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