

CONTESTANT NUMBER _____



UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

COPY EDITING CONTEST

DISTRICT 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

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!

COPY EDITING CONTEST

DISTRICT 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. **Tyranny / Tyrany** by law enforcement won't win the war on drugs.
2. The hybrid class would meet on Zoom and in **room / Room** 128.
3. Round Rock school district staff will see a 2 % / **percent** boost in pay.
4. It's been a long time since a Democrat won **Nebr. / NE / Nebraska** in a presidential race.
5. If the Longhorn Band plays "The Eyes of Texas" again, it won't be because music education **Senior / senior** Ally Morales, the band's drum major, conducted it.
6. My daughter is **13 years old / 13-years-old** today, so I let her sign up for Facebook.
7. England **Head Coach / head coach** Eddie Jones appointed two new coaches ahead of this year's Six Nations rugby tournament.
8. None of the actors **was / were** in the right place when the curtain went up.
9. Donald G. McNeil, **Jr. / Jr. / junior** is a science and health reporter specializing in plagues and pestilences.
10. Biden quoted the Irish poet Seamus Heaney on how, every now and again, "hope and history **rime / rhyme**."
11. PBS may still execute many programs better than **it's / its' / its** rivals.
12. Since the others went to the rally, just the editor and I **were / was** left in the newsroom.
13. The jury in Norristown **has / have** been sequestered for little more than a week.
14. There are **fewer / less** doses of the vaccine than people who need it.
15. The dance team at all of the high schools allowed **men / boys** to try out as long as they were in ninth grade.

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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. 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

0 ½ 1 1½ 2

1. On KXAS, the no. 1 television station in the DFW area, mayor Eric Johnson said the city was going to start figuring out when it will be safe enough to transfer the homeless back to shelters.

0 ½ 1 1½ 2

2. When the Trump administration decided to prohibit fruit, mint and desert flavors in refillable cartridge-based ecigarettes like Juul, they carved out a few exceptions to mollify the Vape shop owners who complained.

0 ½ 1 1½ 2

3. A Zip code may determine destiny,” Jay Wamsted, a high-school math teacher in Houston, Texas, said. “Past and present racism still determine too much of my students’ futures. Race shapes the map of Houston.”

0 ½ 1 1½ 2

4. Hurricane Zeta, a level 2 storm, made landfall, flooding numerous coastal cities including Biloxi, Miss. She had winds exceeding 100 m.p.h..

0 ½ 1 1½ 2

5. Frozen French fries — ready for the deep-fryer — are a leading export from India. The famous chef Anthony Bourdain recommended adding 28 oz. Roguefort cheese and 1 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese when making cheese fries.

TOTAL _____/10

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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, March 26, 2021.

A Houston appeals court has pressed pause on a ruling that would have allowed Texas AG Ken Paxton to stand trial for felony securities fraud in his home town in Collin County.

That February 23rd ruling came almost a decade after the case was first sent to Harris County, with prosecutors arguing he could not get a fair trial prosecuting Paxton in a part of the state where he and his wife, State Sen. Angela Paxton are deeply politically connected.

“Paxton thinks he won’t face justice before a Harris County jury because two judges have told him he won’t”, said Brian Wice, one of the Special Prosecutors. “We believe the First Court of Appeals will tell him that’s not how the law works”.

Paxton is accused by people he calls “rogue employees” of persuading investors to buy stock in a technology firm without disclosing he would be compensated for it. He has maintained his innocence and dismissed the charges as politically motivated.

The First Court of Appeals in Houston has, for now, blocked the case from resuming in Collin County - likely further delaying the five-year-old case - as they consider the issues.

Paxton was indicted in 2015, but has yet to go to trial amid side battles like the venue dispute and an argument over how much the prosecutors should be paid. Paxton once represented Collin County in the legislature, and now his wife, Paxton, represents the region.

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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. **tyranny** / Tyranny by law enforcement won't win the war on drugs.
2. The hybrid class would meet on Zoom and in **room** / **Room** 28.
3. Round Rock school district staff will see a **%** / **percent** boost in pay.
4. It's been a long time since a Democrat won **Nebr.** / **NE** / **Nebraska** in a presidential race.
5. If the Longhorn Band plays "The Eyes of Texas" again, it won't be because music education **Senior** / **senior** Ally Morales, the band's drum major, conducted it.
6. My daughter is **13 years old** / **13-years-old** today, so I let her sign up for Facebook.
7. England **Head Coach** / **head coach** Eddie Jones appointed two new coaches ahead of this year's Six Nations rugby tournament.
8. None of the actors **was** / **were** in the right place when the curtain went up.
9. Donald G. McNeil, **Jr.** / **Jr.** **junior** is a science and health reporter specializing in plagues and pestilences.
10. Biden quoted the Irish poet Seamus Heaney on how, every now and again, "hope and history **rime** / **rhyme**."
11. PBS may still execute many programs better than **it's** / **its'** / **its** rivals.
12. Since the others went to the rally, just the editor and I **were** / **was** left in the newsroom.
13. The jury in Norristown **has** / **have** been sequestered for little more than a week.
14. There are **fewer** / **less** doses of the vaccine than people who need it.
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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. 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)

- On KXAS, the no. 1 television station in the DFW area, mayor Eric Johnson said the city was going to start figuring out when it will be safe enough to transfer homeless people ~~the homeless~~ back to shelters.
- When the Trump administration decided to prohibit fruit, mint and desert ^s flavors in refillable cartridge-based ~~v~~ ^e cigarettes like Juul, ~~they~~ ^{it} carved out a few exceptions to mollify the ~~vape~~ shop owners who complained.
- [✓] A Zip code may determine destiny,” Jay Wamsted, a high school math teacher in Houston, ~~Texas~~, said. “Past and present racism still determine too much of my students’ futures. Race shapes the map of Houston.”
- Hurricane Zeta, a Category ~~level 2~~ storm, made landfall, flooding numerous coastal cities including Biloxi, Miss. ^{It} She had winds exceeding 100 mph ~~m.p.h.~~.
- Frozen ~~F~~ French fries — ready for the deep-fryer — are a leading export from India. The famous ~~ch~~ ^Ief Anthony Bourdain recommended adding 28 oz. ^g Roguefort cheese and 1 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese when making cheese fries.

Notes to judges

No. 3 Use all-caps ZIP for Zone Improvement Plan, but always lowercase the word code

No. 4 mph is acceptable in all references for miles per hour or miles an hour.

No. 4 The contestant could also change “She” to “The hurricane.”

No. 5 Lowercase french because it refers to the style of cut, not the nation.

Tips for judges

Part 2

There are four errors per item.

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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You are editing the article to be published Friday, March 26, 2021.

Notes for judges

In the first paragraph, it says his hometown (one word) is Collin County. Collin County is not a town. Paxton lives in McKinney. His wife's district has headquarters in Allen. A contestant could change Collin County to one of those cities (or Frisco or Plano) or could change it to "home county."

There are several cases of passive voice in this story. However, the one in the fourth paragraph is the most annoying. And the "rogue employees" are more important in that sentence than Paxton, so they should be the subject of the sentence.

In the last paragraph, you need Angela Paxton's first name.

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

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"Paxton thinks he won't face justice before a Harris County jury because two judges have told him he won't, said Brian Wice, one of the special prosecutors. "We believe the First Court of Appeals will tell him that's not how the law works."

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Paxton was indicted in 2015, but has yet to go to trial amid side battles like the venue dispute and an argument over how much the prosecutors should be paid. Paxton once represented Collin County in the legislature, and now his wife, Angela Paxton, represents the region.