

CONTESTANT NUMBER _____



UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

COPY EDITING CONTEST

INVITATIONAL B 2023

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 2023

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. Kremlin officials warned against “provocative” moves **toward / towards** China.
2. The peony bushes have lost **its / their** petals.
3. Average benefits for food stamps will rise more than **25 % / 25 percent**.
4. A rugby team consists of **8 / eight** players in the tight scrum.
5. Reindeer herders have found a carcass of an **ice age / Ice Age** cave bear.
6. More than 100 migrants from the U.S.-Mexico border were dropped off near **Vice President / vice president** Kamala Harris’ home.
7. 2000-21 is the driest **22 year / 22-year** period since A.D. 800.
8. **Womens / Womens’ / Women’s** rights are the fundamental human rights that were enshrined by the United Nations nearly 70 years ago.
9. She said, “I can’t believe **its / it’s / its’** snowing again.”
10. On **Feb. / February** 17, Logan went to the dentist to have his teeth cleaned.
11. Ian came ashore in Florida at 3:05 **p.m. / PM / pm / post mer diem**.
12. Ava Coleman is the **principle / principal** of Abbott Elementary.
13. Adventures of the **Old Testament / old testament** allows you to delve into all 39 books through a number of questlike levels.
14. Nursing schools now recruit more students **in order to / to** address a staffing shortage.
15. With funding on the line, **Superintendant / Superintendent** Denzel Collins dashed the hopes of educators in the district.

UIL COPY EDITING INVITATIONAL B 2023

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

0 ½ 1 1½ 2

1. U.S. Senator Ted Cruz, R-Tex., broke from his own party in voting against a bi-partisan bill that would bar lawmakers from being able to singlehandedly launch an objection to a states presidential election results.

0 ½ 1 1½ 2

2. Every day after work, veteren English teacher Staci Ely pulls into the parking lot of the Spanish Trail Lodge in Fort Stockton, a small town in far west Texas. Her home, room 201, isn't spacious. However, the price is right: \$250.00 per month.

0 ½ 1 1½ 2

3. Three seperate downpours across 4 states over a span of eight days this Summer swept away homes, destroyed crops and left at least 39 people dead. In Eastern Kentucky and central Appalachia, rainfall observed from July 26 to July 30 was over 600% of normal.

0 ½ 1 1½ 2

4. Messages asking for personal information are deceptive fishing attempts to steal money and identities. If the I.R.S. needs your attention, they start with a notice by regular mail via the USPS in most cases.

0 ½ 1 1½ 2

5. City officials want to quickly raise money so they increased fees for a both at the downtown farmer's market at 713 Ohio Avenue.

TOTAL ____/10

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UIL COPY EDITING INVITATIONAL B 2023

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 BUT IS REQUIRED. If you do not make any effort on Part 3, your test will NOT be considered in the event of a tie.

You are editing for the Saturday, March 11, 2023, issue of the Leaguetown School *Press* in Leaguetown Texas.

LEAGUETOWN, Texas — For the past few months, Stephen F. Austin State University, located in Nagadocious, has been speed dating.

The 11300-student school in the East Texas Piney Woods has four suitors; The Texas A&M University System, The Texas State University System, The Texas Tech University System and The University of Texas System, vying for a chance to have the university join its ranks.

S.F.A. is one of just 2 public universities in Texas that are not part of a system. The other is Texas Southern University, an historically black university in Houston.

Earlier this month, the four systems answered a long list of inquiries — a sort of higher education compatibility questionnaire, — submitted by faculty, staff, alumnae, and students.

SFA interim president Steve Westbrook told faculty that the meetings this week were meant to clarify responses to those questionnaires.

“Some were more specific than others,” he said at a faculty senate meeting last week. “We’re trying to develop sort of a more across-the-board, apples to apples comparison in certain areas so we know the real meaning behind some of the verbage”.

In their answers, all four systems boasted about the extra services and perks SFA could access, like academic and research databases, cost saving contracts and skilled government relations teams who could advocate for SFA at the Texas Capital. They all also reassured SFA that they would be able to retain their university name, colors and identity as lumberjacks.

But the systems also tried to set themselves apart from each other.

The Texas State University System championed its hands-off approach as a system and the lack of a flagship school under it’s umbrella as a way to say it treats all universitys in the system equally. The Texas Tech University System hyped its commitment to rural universities, and its recent experience bringing Midwestern State University under its fold.

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- The peony bushes have lost **its** / **their** petals.
- Average benefits for food stamps will rise more than **25 %** / **25 percent**.
- A rugby team consists of **8** **eight** players in the tight scrum.
- Reindeer herders have found a carcass of an **ice age** / **Ice Age** cave bear.
- More than 100 migrants from the U.S.-Mexico border were dropped off near **Vice President** / **vice president** Kamala Harris’ home.
- 2000-21 is the driest **22 year** / **22-year** period since A.D. 800.
- Womens** / **Womens’** / **Women’s** rights are the fundamental human rights that were enshrined by the United Nations nearly 70 years ago.
- She said, “I can’t believe **its** / **it’s** / **its’** snowing again.”
- On **Feb.** / **February** 17, Logan went to the dentist to have his teeth cleaned.
- Ian came ashore in Florida at 3:05 **a.m.** / **PM** / **pm** / **post mer diem**.
- Ava Coleman is the **principle** / **principal** of Abbott Elementary.
- Adventures of the **Old Testament** / **old testament** allows you to delve into all 39 books through a number of questlike levels.
- Nursing schools now recruit more students **in order to** / **to** address a staffing shortage.
- With funding on the line, **Superintendant** / **Superintendent** Denzel Collins dashed the hopes of educators in the district.

Notes for judges

No. 13 – Capitalize, without quotation marks, when referring to the Scriptures in the Old Testament or the New Testament.

No. 14 – wordy

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. U.S. Senator Ted Cruz, R-Tex. broke from his own party in voting against a bi-partisan bill that would bar lawmakers from being able to singlehandedly launch an objection to a states presidential election results.

Notes to judges

No. 3 – July 26 to July 30 could be written as July 26-30. However using "to" is not wrong, and, hence, is not corrected. AP allows both versions.

No 4 – The "IRS" is a collective noun and gets singular verbs and pronouns. Changing "they" to "it" forces a change from "start" to "starts." Hence, this is one error. Students may also choose to change "they" to a word such as "officials."

Use U.S. Postal Service or the Postal Service on first reference.

No. 5 – If splitting a verb results in an awkward sentence, don't do it. "To raise money quickly" puts the adverb after the phrase which makes more sense and sound better.

2. Every day after work, veteren ^a English teacher Staci Ely pulls into the parking lot of the Spanish Trail Lodge in Fort Stockton, a small town in far west Texas. Her home, room 201, isn't spacious. However, the price is right: \$250.~~00~~ per month.
3. Three sepearate ^a downpours across 4 states over a span of eight days this Summer swept away homes, destroyed crops and left at least 39 people dead. In Eastern Kentucky and central Appalachia, rainfall observed from July 26 to July 30 was over 600% of normal.
4. Messages asking for personal information are deceptive phishing attempts to steal money and identities. If the IRS needs your attention, officials they start with a notice by regular mail via the USPS in most cases.

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.

5. City officials want to quickly raise money so they increased fees for a both at the downtown farmer's market at 713 Ohio Avenue.

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You are editing for the Saturday, March 11, 2023, issue of the Leaguetown School Press in Leaguetown Texas.

Notes for judges

¶12 – The original story capitalized the “The” before each system. Unlike Ohio State, the reference for each system was inconsistent. Hence, I made them lowercase. However, a case can be made for capitalizing them. (The Ohio State University has successfully trademarked the word “the.”)

¶13 – Use the article a before consonant sounds: a historic event.

¶18 – This paragraph only references two of the four systems. A mid-level error would be making note of that.

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.

However, it is required. Students who do not make any effort on Part 3 will not be considered in the event of a tie. However, they will not be disqualified.

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 — For the past few months, Stephen F. Austin State University, located in ~~Nagadoctous~~ ^{Nacogdoches}, has been speed dating.

The 11300-student school in the East Texas Piney Woods has four suitors: The Texas A&M University System, ~~The Texas State University System~~, ~~The Texas Tech University System~~ and ~~The University of Texas System~~, vying for a chance to have the university join ~~its~~ ^{their} ranks.

~~SFA~~ ^{SFA} is one of just 2 public universities in Texas that are not part of a system. The other is Texas Southern University, ~~a~~ ^{an} historically black university in Houston.

Earlier this month, the four systems answered a long list of inquiries — a sort of higher education compatibility questionnaire — submitted by faculty, staff, ~~alumnus~~ ^{alumni}, and students.

~~SFA~~ ^{SFA} interim president Steve Westbrook told faculty that the meetings this week were meant to clarify responses to those questionnaires.

“Some were more specific than others,” he said at a faculty senate meeting last week. “We’re trying to develop sort of a more across-the-board, apples ~~to~~ ^{vs} apples comparison in certain areas so we know the real meaning behind some of the ~~verbiage~~ ^{verbiage}”.

In their answers, all four systems boasted about the extra services and perks SFA could access, like academic and research databases, cost ~~saving~~ ^{saving} contracts and skilled government relations teams who could advocate for SFA at the Texas Capitol. ~~They~~ ^{it} all also reassured SFA that ~~they~~ ^{it} would be able to retain ~~their~~ ^{its} university name, colors and identity as lumberjacks.

But the systems also tried to set themselves apart from ~~each other~~ ^{one another}.

The Texas State University System championed its hands-off approach as a system and the lack of a flagship school under its umbrella as a way to say it treats all ~~universities~~ ^{universities} in the system equally.

The Texas Tech University System hyped its commitment to rural universities, and its recent experience bringing Midwestern State University under its fold. *What about the other two systems?*