

CONTESTANT NUMBER _____



UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

COPY EDITING CONTEST

DISTRICT 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 the papers 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.
misspelled	

COPY EDITING CONTEST

DISTRICT 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. SpaceX brought four astronauts home with a **12 a.m. / 12 AM / 12 ante meridiem / midnight** splashdown in the Gulf of Mexico.
2. A German shepherd lives at **1600 Pennsylvania Ave. / 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue.**
3. The House passed legislation to **assure / ensure / insure** access to contraception.
4. Texas **governor / Gov. / Governor** Greg Abbott bused migrants out of Texas.
5. A cup sits in **its' / it's / its** saucer.
6. The Round Rock Express scheduled a **makeup / make-up / make up** game for May 7.
7. Democratic CD-14 candidate Nick Lampson of Beaumont claimed partial credit for inventing the **Amber Alert / amber alert / AMBER Alert.**
8. The agreement limits global warming to **two degrees / 2 degrees / 2°** Celsius.
9. His car and boat were left in **its / their** usual places.
10. The violin section leader usually enters after the orchestra **is / are** seated.
11. None of the politicians **were / was** ready to legalize marijuana.
12. “Maverick: Top Gun” depicts Tom Cruise piloting an aircraft at **Mach 10 / mach 10.**
13. The speed limit in rural West Texas is **eighty five / 85** mph.
14. The **U.S. Postal Service / USPS / U.S.P.S.** raised the price of a first-class stamp.
15. Camp David is in Catocin Mountain Park, **MD / Md. / Maryland.**

UIL COPY EDITING DISTRICT 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

o ½ 1 1½ 2

1. On new years day, 9 members of the choir got together to sing holiday songs: "We wanted to have a little fun before classes started", senior Matthew Balewa said.

o ½ 1 1½ 2

2. As world leaders met at the Group of Twenty summit in Rome, Italy, U.S. President Joe Bidon did not even get the chance to have a face to face meeting with his Russian counterpart, Vladimir Putin.

o ½ 1 1½ 2

3. Her colleagues welcomed Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, the 1st black woman to serve on the Supreme Court, at an investiture ceremony at the court live-Tweeted by NPR.

o ½ 1 1½ 2

4. Twitter suspended the accounts of journalists who cover the social media platform and it's new owner Elon Musk, among them reporters working for the New York Times. "Banning journalists for doing there jobs is not the free speech Elon Musk promised," journalist Tony Webster, who was permanently suspended, said in an e-mail.

o ½ 1 1½ 2

5. The sports reporter on KHID Radio wracked her brain to explain how Roger Federer and Serena Williams would distribute the income from sale of their racquets between dozens of needy organizations.

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. If you do not make any effort on Part 3, your entire entry will be disqualified.

You are editing for the Saturday, March 25, 2023, issue of the Leaguetown School Press in Leaguetown, Texas.

LEAGUETOWN, TEXAS — Residents in Denton, San Marcos, Killeen, Elgin, and Harker Heights overwhelmingly approved ballot measures that sought to ban arrests and citations for carrying fewer than four oz. of marijuana in most instances. It also approved new rules blocking cities from funding tetrahydrocannabinol concentration tests, plus removing weed smell as a probable cause for search and seizure in most cases.

Winning over voters was just half the battle.

The battle has been the toughest in Harker Heights, a town of 33,000 about 88.5 kilometers Southwest of Waco. Despite the proposition's winning more than 60 percent of the votes, the city council decided to repeal the ordinance just two weeks later. City manager David Mitchell said in a subsequent letter that the decision to decriminalize should be left to the State.

For Harker Heights residents who supported decriminalizing cannabis, the repeal is a stinging show of disrespect for their exercise of Democracy.

"I don't do any kind of drugs nor does my wife, but we're here for the vote," Brian Burt, who casted his ballot for the proposition, said.

To force the City Councils hand, Burts and hundreds of other residents backed a new petition by Ground Game Texas, a progressive group that co-led the decriminalization campaign, to put the council's decision to repeal on the May ballot and revive the ordinance in the meantime.

Julie Oliver, the group's Executive Director, said the council's decision to revoke a popular choice by voters has back-fired.

"Shutting down someone's vote is ill-advised, so this has really brought the community together," said she.

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

- SpaceX brought four astronauts home with a **12 a.m.** / **12 AM** / **12 ante meridiem** / **midnight** splashdown in the Gulf of Mexico.
- A German shepherd lives at **1600 Pennsylvania Ave.** / **1600 Pennsylvania Avenue**.
- The House passed legislation to **assure** / **ensure** / **insure** access to contraception.
- Texas **governor** / **Gov.** / **Governor** Greg Abbott bused migrants out of Texas.
- A cup sits in **its'** / **it's** / **its** saucer.
- The Round Rock Express scheduled a **makeup** / **make-up** / **make up** game for May 7.
- Democratic CD-14 candidate Nick Lampson of Beaumont claimed partial credit for inventing the **Amber Alert** / **amber alert** / **AMBER Alert**.
- The agreement limits global warming to **two degrees** / **2 degrees** / **2°** Celsius.
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- The violin section leader usually enters after the orchestra **is** / **are** seated.
- None of the politicians **were** / **was** ready to legalize marijuana.
- "Maverick: Top Gun" depicts Tom Cruise piloting an aircraft at **Mach 10** / **mach 10**.
- The speed limit in rural West Texas is **eighty five** / **85** mph.
- The **U.S. Postal Service** / **USPS** / **U.S.P.S.** raised the price of a first-class stamp.
- Camp David is in Catocin Mountain Park, **MD** / **Md.** / **Maryland**.

Notes for judges

No. 7 – "AMBER Alert," based on the back-formed acronym for America's Missing: Broadcast Emergency Response is actually named for a girl named Amber. AP sticks with "Amber Alert."

No. 11 – In this case, "none" means "no single one" and, therefore, takes a singular verb.

No. 14 – Use U.S. Postal Service or the Postal Service on first reference.

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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1. On new years day, 9 members of the choir got together to sing holiday songs. "We wanted to have a little fun before classes started," senior Matthew Balewa said.

Notes to judges

No. 1 – New Year's Day is a single entry hence fixing it is a single error. It's wrong to fix any one part of it without fixing the rest.

No. 2 – Group of 20. A general description rather than the full name is preferred on first reference: leading rich and developing nations. So, students may change the beginning of the sentence to "As leaders of leading rich and developing nations met at a summit..."

No. 3 – Use of the capitalized Black recognizes that language has evolved, along with the common understanding that especially in the U.S., the term reflects a shared identity and culture rather than a skin color alone.

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. As world leaders met at the Group of Twenty summit in Rome, Italy, U.S. President Joe Biden did not even get the chance to have a face-to-face meeting with his Russian counterpart, Vladimir Putin.

3. Her colleagues welcomed Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson, the 1st black woman to serve on the Supreme Court, at an investiture ceremony at the court live-tweeted by NPR.

4. Twitter suspended the accounts of journalists who cover the social media platform and it's new owner Elon Musk, among them reporters working for the New York Times. "Banning journalists for doing their jobs is not the free speech Elon Musk promised," journalist Tony Webster, who was permanently suspended, said in an e-mail.

5. The sports reporter on KHID radio racked her brain to explain how Roger Federer and Serena Williams would distribute the income from sale of their rackets among dozens of needy organizations.

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Notes for judges

¶1 – Use less when referring to volume, quantity or degree, mass or bulk nouns. “It’s 40 pounds or less. The 40 pounds is considered a single quantity.”

THC – Acceptable in all references for tetrahydrocannabinol, the compound that gives pot its high.

¶3 – Despite the best efforts of everyone else in the world, we still don’t use the metric system. 88.5 kilometers = 55 miles.

Both “more than” and “over” are now acceptable in all uses to indicate greater numerical value.

¶5 – Many people object to casted, but that doesn’t change the fact that it is catching on and not likely to go away soon. Still, the dictionary says “cast” is the past tense version. AP goes with the dictionary.

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.

The entry will be disqualified if the student made no effort on Part 3 and the entry is involved in a tie.

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

When judging Part 3, holistically read the changes the student indicated starting with the highest level of editing.

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

LEAGUETOWN, TEXAS — Residents in Denton, San Marcos, Killeen, Elgin, and Harker

Heights overwhelmingly approved ballot measures that sought to ban arrests and citations for carrying ^{less} ~~fewer~~ than four ^{oz.} ~~oz.~~ of marijuana in most instances. ^{They} ~~It~~ also approved new rules blocking ^{cities} ~~cities~~ from funding ^{THC} ~~tetrahydrocannabinol~~ concentration tests, ^{and removed the smell of marijuana} ~~plus removing weed smell~~ as a probable cause for search and seizure in most cases.

Winning over voters was just half the battle.

The battle has been the toughest in Harker Heights, a town of 33,000 about ^{55 miles} ~~88.5 kilometers~~ southwest of Waco. Despite the proposition’s winning more than 60 ~~percent~~ of the votes, the city council decided to repeal the ordinance just two weeks later. City manager David Mitchell said in a subsequent letter that the decision to decriminalize should be left to the state.

For Harker Heights residents who supported decriminalizing cannabis, the repeal is a stinging show of disrespect for their exercise of Democracy.

“I don’t do any kind of drugs nor does my wife, but we’re here for the vote,” Brian Burt, who ^{cast} ~~casted~~ his ballot for the proposition, ^{said} ~~said~~.

To force the City Councils hand, Burt, ~~I~~ and hundreds of other residents backed a new petition by Ground Game Texas, a progressive group that co-led the decriminalization campaign, to put the council’s decision to repeal on the May ballot and revive the ordinance in the meantime.

Julie Oliver, the group’s ^{council's} ~~executive~~ director, said the ~~council's~~ decision to revoke a popular choice by voters has ~~backfired~~ ~~I~~.

“Shutting down someone’s vote is ill-advised, so this has really brought the community together,” ^{said she} ~~said~~.