

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



UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

# COPY EDITING CONTEST

## REGION 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

## REGION 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. The union flag on top of the palace was lowered at 6:30 **PM / p.m. / post meridiem.**
2. King Charles denied there was any **wrongdoing / wrong doing.**
3. The bayous held alligators and other **noisy / noisome** creepers.
4. Ian intensified into a Category 4 hurricane with maximum sustained winds of 155 **miles per hour / m.p.h. / mph.**
5. Gwen Berry protested on the **pulpit / podium / lectern** during the trials.
6. Alfonso Ribeiro is the **cohost / co-host / co host** on “Dancing with the Stars.”
7. “Ted Lasso,” “The White Lotus,” “Succession” and “Abbott Elementary” led the 2022 **Emmys / Emmies / Emmy’s.**
8. “Whole” milk is just over **3% / 3 percent / three percent** fat.
9. Neither Dorothy nor Betty has completed **their / her** preparations for the trip to the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League reunion.
10. The jury reached **its / their** verdict of guilty on all three counts.
11. Mavs owner Mark Cuban was outspoken against critics of NBA players kneeling during **The Star-Spangled Banner / “The Star-Spangled Banner” / National Anthem.**
12. Making a pleasing **cat litter / Kitty Litter** drives a \$700 million industry.
13. The Dallas region is just the latest locale to flood this past **Summer / summer.**
14. Ken Paxton personally issued the **attorney general’s / attorney generals** opinion.
15. Texas opened an investigation into alleged violations of children’s privacy by **Tiktok / TikTok / Tik-Tok / tiktok.**

# UIL COPY EDITING REGION 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**

○ ½ 1 1½ 2

1. It is enough for the policy to assure for an amount that covers the contents of the apartment but its even better too get a policy for the market value of the apartment.

○ ½ 1 1½ 2

2. Squatters jerry-rig there electricity connections and make-due with wells and primitive septic tanks drilled into the rocky soil the combination of which is problematic.

○ ½ 1 1½ 2

3. The SAAM acquired two hundred and eighty six portraits from the 1840's of abolitionists and other photographs related to the Underground Railroad, with special attention to the women — both black and white — who worked to raise money for the operation.

○ ½ 1 1½ 2

4. From birthday cakes decorated with charcoal-colored frosting to wobbly cakes made of jello, the whimsical, whacky-looking cakes were a wake up call for confectioners in Bronx.

○ ½ 1 1½ 2

5. The school's principle earned her masters degree in psychology. She has completed the coursework for her PhD and is now ABD.

TOTAL \_\_\_\_/10

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

## UIL COPY EDITING REGION 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. If you do not make any effort on Part 3, and you're in a tie, your entire entry will be disqualified.**

**You are editing for the Saturday, April 22, 2023, issue of the Leaguetown School Press in Leaguetown, Texas.**

The Legislature that convened Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2023, for its 2023 session is still mostly White and male. 70 percent of lawmakers are men. At least 54 percent of lawmakers are white, and nearly half are white men. But the incoming legislature also has the highest number of women lawmakers in at least the last five sessions.

“The demographics of the Legislature generally follow patterns in terms of the party. The Republican base remains an older and Anglo party, so the Republican members tend to be in those categories,” said University of Houston political science Professor Brandon Rottinghaus in a Jan. 9, 2023, article by Aaron Torres in the Dallas Morning News. “For the Democrats, the base of the party is always solidly African-American and, to an increasing extent, Hispanic, so your seeing those trends too. I would throw down the gantlet to get legislators to diversify their ideas as well.”

Though still significantly outnumbered by the more than 5000 men who have served over the years the addition of 13 new woman lawmakers pushed the all time tally of woman elected to the states halls of power to 192 — up from 179 at the start of the last legislative session two years ago, insuring that their voice was heard.

This year, women lawmakers took 54 of the 181 seats at the capital. There are twice as many Democratic women lawmakers as Republican. Both the Speaker of the Texas House, Dade Phelan, R-Beaumont, and the Texas Senate, lieutenant governor Greg Abbott, R-Houston are white males.

Despite lack of diversity in some measures, lawmakers hope to legislate diversity.

House Bill 1006, for example, sponsored by Carl Tepper, R-Lubbock, would mandate changes to the Texas Education Code. One would “foster a diversity of viewpoints” and “maintain political, social, and cultural neutrality.” Another would prohibit the funding, promotion, sponsorship, or support of any office of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

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12. Making a pleasing **cat litter** / Kitty Litter drives a \$700 million industry.
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### Notes for judges

No. 9 – The nouns that follow these words do not constitute a compound subject; they are alternate subjects and require a verb that agrees with the nearer subject.

No. 12 – Kitty Litter A brand of absorbent material used in cat litter boxes. Use a generic term such as cat litter.

### 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 REGION 2023

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1. It is enough for the policy to ~~secure~~ <sup>insure</sup> for an amount that covers the contents of the apartment, but its even better to ~~get~~ <sup>buy</sup> a policy for the market value of the apartment.

2. Squatters ~~jury-rig~~ <sup>jury-rig</sup> ~~their~~ <sup>their</sup> electricity connections and ~~make do~~ <sup>make do</sup> with wells and primitive septic tanks drilled into the rocky soil, the combination of which is problematic.

3. The ~~SAAM~~ <sup>SAAM</sup> acquired ~~two hundred and eighty six~~ <sup>two hundred and eighty six</sup> portraits from the 1840's of abolitionists and other photographs related to the Underground Railroad, with special attention to the women — both ~~black and white~~ <sup>black and white</sup> — who worked to raise money for the operation.

4. From birthday cakes decorated with charcoal-colored frosting to wobbly cakes made of ~~jello~~ <sup>Jell-O</sup>, the whimsical, ~~wacky~~ <sup>wacky</sup>-looking cakes were a wake-up call for confectioners in ~~Bronx~~ <sup>the Bronx, New York</sup>.

## Notes to judges

No. 3 – Smithsonian American Art Museum

No. 4 – ... in the Bronx, a borough of New York City. Or less formally, in the Bronx, New York. Or even just New York City.

Jell-O or gelatin

No. 5 - Preferred: "who has completed the coursework for a doctorate."

Perhaps Ph.D. candidate would be clearer. Or eliminate the "and is now ABD" since it means that the person has completed coursework. Or, at the least, spell out all but dissertation or clarify that that means having completed all the work for a higher degree except the dissertation.

## 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. The school's ~~principle~~ <sup>principal</sup> earned her masters degree in psychology. She has completed the coursework for her ~~PhD~~ <sup>doctorate</sup> and is now ~~ABD~~.

# UIL COPY EDITING REGION 2023

## Notes for judges

¶1 – “at least” – be more specific

¶1 – In general, female and male are adjectives. Woman or women is increasingly common as an adjective. In this context, “female” is probably better, but “women” is not wrong. Same later in the story.

Spell out 70 as a number that begins a sentence. Students may choose to rewrite this sentence so it becomes 70% but not at the beginning of the sentence.

¶2 – Lowercase professor before a name as more of a job description than a formal title.

The Dallas Morning News

¶3 – If left as “women,” change to plural.

¶4 – Greg Abbott is the governor. Dan Patrick is the lieutenant governor.

181 is correct – 31 senators; 150 representatives

## 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 use the right sources? Does it flow?
- Lowest level: Grammar, spelling, punctuation, style

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Though still ~~significantly~~ <sup>female</sup> outnumbered by the more than 5000 men who have served over the years the addition of 13 new ~~women~~ <sup>female</sup> lawmakers pushed the all time tally of ~~women~~ <sup>females</sup> elected to the states halls of power to 192 — up from 179 at the start of the last legislative session two years ago, ~~ensuring~~ <sup>ensuring</sup> that their voice was heard.

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