

Changes in UIL Spelling and Vocabulary for 2015-16

There will no longer be a Part IA and Part IB on the UIL Spelling and Vocabulary Test; instead, there will be simply Part I. This will make the format of the test less confusing, ensure fewer instances of student misunderstanding, and facilitate grading.

There will be the same number and types of questions -- 15 proofreading questions and 15 vocabulary questions. What students and coaches will notice immediately is that there will be a separate answer document for Part I, rather than the contestant writing the answer on the test.

A sample of the Proofreading questions:

University Interscholastic League Spelling and Vocabulary Sample Meet Part I

Questions 1-15 test your ability to recognize and correct misspelled words. From each of the 15 sets, select the one misspelled entry, then write it *correctly* spelled in the corresponding blank on your answer sheet. Questions 16-30 test your knowledge of the meanings and origins of words. For each sentence, select the **best** answer; then, using a **printed capital letter**, write it in the corresponding blank on your answer sheet. You will have 15 minutes to complete questions 1-30, which are worth 1 point each. **Credit will be given ONLY for answers placed on your answer sheet.**

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|-------------------|-----------|------------|--------------|---------------------|
| 1. dejavu | materiel | primordial | sea anemone | demythologize |
| 2. Shakespeariana | Asparagus | Osceola | Z score | Quattara Depression |
| 3. hartebeest | Bora Bora | phocomelia | rejevencence | waterdogging |

A sample of the Vocabulary questions:

16. I can distinguish the heritage of some people through their mode of dress; for example, the ____ is a traditional headdress worn by someone from Saudi Arabia.
A. kaffiyeh B. ao dai C. huarache D. jaconet E. batik
17. One character trait to which Jacob was prone was his ____, which was his tendency toward hyperbole, rhapsody, or otherwise embellished exaggeration.
A. erysipelas B. megalomania C. mythomania D. protanopia E. psittacosis
18. Some oceanographers are generalists who know much about a wide range of aquatic life, while others are specialists, like the ones who have more specific knowledge of ____ life in the extreme depths of the ocean.
A. bathypelagic B. hydrarch C. limicolous D. rupicolous E. xerosere

The new Part I answer document can be downloaded at the link below:

<http://www.uiltexas.org/academics/academic-contests/spelling-and-vocabulary>

Additionally, the 70 words in Part II and the 20 words in Part III (the tie-breaker) will be pronounced at a rate of **four** words per minute - one every 15 seconds. NOTE: This is a change from last year's five words per minute. This will give the pronouncer time to read the definition of each of the words, which was instituted last year.

This is a reminder about the new rule instituted previously that we will continue this year. Students will not be given index cards to write down words they wish to be pronounced again. The two verifiers in the room will mark any word for which they question the pronunciation. After the test, when all words have been pronounced, the pronouncer shall meet with the verifiers outside the contest room to clarify any words in question. The pronouncer shall then pronounce only those words again. After that point, testing will be complete and papers turned in for grading.