

# COPY EDITING CONTEST

### **INVITATIONAL B 2022**

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.

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."

The organization indent for paragraph

said Thursday. It was the first and last paragraph

attempts. ¬ no paragraph

With this the president tried

<u>the Jones Smith company is not</u> transpose

over a period of sixty or more years use figures

there were 5 in the group. spell out

<u>former Governor Perry attended</u> abbreviate

The Tx. man was the guest of don't abbreviate

<u>prince charles said it was his</u> uppercase

as a result This will be lowercase

the accuser pointed to them remove space

<u>In these times it is necessary</u> 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

# COPY EDITING CONTEST INVITATIONAL B 2022

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 trumpet player was **confident / confident** he could play the solo.
- 2. The class lecture began at 12 p.m. / 12 pm / noon.
- 3. **Sen. / Senator** Ted Cruz sponsored the legislation.
- 4. The photo depicted an African American / African-American man in a tuxedo.
- The Pandora Papers showed King / king Abdullah II used secret shell companies.
- 6. He grew up in a small brick house at 698 Candlewood Ln. / Lane / lane.
- 7. The leak of **2,000,000 / 2 million / two million** files disgraced world leaders.
- The band director and choir instructor seldom agreed with each other / one another.
- 9. We are very proud of the Golden Thunder Marching Band for its / it's / their performance.
- 10. Google is pushing back its return-to-office date to **January / Jan.** 10.
- 11. There's adventure to be found in **North Dakota / N.D. / ND**.
- 12. A real estate agent took them up to the Bronx, where their money would go farther / further.
- 13. John Cornyn decided not to seek re-election / reelection / relection.
- 14. For Arab Americans, it's / its' not Thanksgiving without hashweh.
- 15. Most of us will actually net **fewer / less** than 72 calories burned.

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
- The police took a nine-year-old boy to their station on Washington Dr. after
   12:00 a.m. Officers tried to locate the boys mother the next day.
- 0 ½ 1 1½ 2
- 2. Developers in Dallas, Texas, are developing a growing obsetion with data to improve office buildings and to save \$1 millions annually. But now, the data are raising cybersecurity concerns.
- 0 ½ 1 1½ 2
- 3. Kevin Young, a poet, is currently Director of the Shomburg Center for

  Research in Black Culture. Young said he wanted to explore new areas of

  African-American culture, such as how black music is performed online.
- 0 ½ 1 1½ 2
- 4. The assignment editor didn't know whom was best qualified to cover the City

  Council meeting during which counselors would discuss a security breech.
- 0 ½ 1 1½ 2
- 5. More than 4.26 billion people world wide have recieved a dose of a covid-19 vaccine, equal to about 55.5 percent of the world population.

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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 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 12, 2022, issue of the Leaguetown School Press in Leaguetown Texas.

Even as some Texas schools hadn't yet started the semester, the number of positive covid-19 student cases statewide reported surpassed the peek seen anytime last year, state data released Friday, March 11, 2022 shows.

Between Feb. 1 and Feb. 28, there were 14,033 positive cases reported between students across the state, 34 percent more than the prior month, the department of state health services data show. Last months totals also represent a 182 percent increase from the month ending Jan. 31, though less students were in school then.

Out of these school districts, Corpus Christy is the only district with a mask mandate and it was issued for 30 days after school officials saw a rise in cases.

Gov. Greg Abbot has tried to ban mask mandates in schools. But some school districts have decided to continue the masking orders anyways, joining lawsuits that have had varying degrees of success. Meanwhile, the battle has raged in local school districts for weeks as concerned parents on both sides continue to clash. In one instance in Eanes I.S.D. on the outskirts of Austin, the tension lead to verbal assault and a parent ripping a mask off a teacher.

"If a child walks into a school without a mask, I don't believe it should be the policy of any school district to prevent that child from entering the doors of their public school especially if they have their parents' permission to opt out of that requirement." Leach told lawmakers.

Texas Lt. Gov. Ken Paxten has unleashed another wave of lawsuits against school districts over there masking policies late last Fall.



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#### **Notes for judges**

No. 6 — Use the abbreviations Ave., Blvd. and St. only with a numbered address. Spell them out and capitalize when part of a formal street name without a number. Lowercase and spell out when used alone or with more than one street name. All similar words (alley, drive, road, terrace, etc.) always are spelled out.

No. 8 — Two people look at each other. More than two look at one another.

#### 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



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. The police took nine year-old boy to their station on Washington Or. after midnight

  12:00 a.m. Officers tried to locate the boys mother the next day.
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- 4. The assignment editor didn't know whom was best qualified to cover the City council meeting during which countelors would discuss a security breach.
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#### **Notes to judges**

No. 2 — AP style calls for Dallas to stand alone without the state name attached, unless there's possibility for confusion.

Students could say that "to save \$1 million annually" is correct, I suppose.

#### 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.



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.

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#### **Notes for judges**

¶1 L2 — The two-word term "any time" connotes the idea of any one time. But to be fair, even the AP Stylebook editors acknowledge that there is no difference between "anytime" and "any time."

¶2 L3 — "Data" typically takes singular verbs and pronouns when writing for general audiences and in data journalism contexts: The data is sound. Students need to be consistent with ¶1, L3.

¶4 L2 — Instead of just removing the "s" on "anyways," the student could remove the entire word.

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

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Attorney General

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Modified from a story originally published on the Texas Tribune by Brian Lopez and Kalley Huang, Aug. 27, 2021.