COPY EDITING

BRADLEY WILSON, PH.D.
CONTEST DIRECTOR | 2022
EVERYONE NEEDS A COPY EDITOR
Please Wait Here

Associate will you call when their ready

We want to insure all customers have they privacy
HARRIS COUNTY MASK ORDER
FACE COVERINGS REQUIRED IN PUBLIC

Face masks required starting Monday April 27th through 30 days
10 years and older must wear face coverings
Homemade masks, scarfs, bananas
Possible $1,000 fine for not wearing face covering
PLEASE USE TONGUES TO PICK PASTRIES. TAX
ON YOUR SIDE AT 6
Masks & hand sanitizer handed out to undeserved neighborhoods in Richmond
copy editor  Seldom a formal title. Also: copy editing, copy edit.
WHY STUDY COPY EDITING?

**Marketable skills**

- attention to detail
- teamwork
- ability to meet deadlines
- time management
- problem solving
- cultural awareness
WHAT IT’S NOT

- a headline writing contest
- a current events contest
- a spelling contest
WHAT IT IS

a contest that focuses on editing, including
• knowledge of current events
• grammar, spelling, punctuation, style
• sentence structure, including passive voice and word choice
• media law and ethics
HIGH-LEVEL EDITING

• Are there any legal issues (libel)?
• Did the reporter interview the right people?
• Did the reporter interview enough people?
• Did the reporter ask the right questions?
• Does the story cover all sides?
• Is the story in context?
Ebola-free, Dallas nurse returns to North Texas

Jessica gorosko, Associated Press

Oct 24, 2014, 03:43 PM EDT

Pham arrived at Meacham Airport in Fort Worth just before midnight Friday.

Dallas nurse Nina Pham — declared Friday to be free of the Ebola virus — is back home in North Texas after a stint in a Friday that included a meeting with President Obama.

Pham arrived at Meacham Airport in Fort Worth just before midnight Friday.

Uncontroversial topic: Pham's return to safety.

Carter: States should decide on marriage.

Uncut: Frenchy's last stand.

White House working on new Ebola guidelines

Pham got a hug from the president in the Oval Office at the White House. And outside the hospital where she had been since last week, she was embraced by the nations epidemic disease chief, who offered her her own name.
We are officially retracting 'A Rape on Campus.' We are also committing ourselves to a series of recommendations about journalistic practices that are spelled out in the report.

We would like to apologize to our readers and to all of those who were damaged by our story and the ensuing fallout, including members of the Phi Kappa Psi fraternity and UVA administrators and students.
CULTURAL LITERACY

Expect temperatures to be at coldest on Friday morning, near freezing.

By Patrick Beach
pbeach@statesman.com

Yes, it’ll be at least 20 degrees cooler Tuesday than it was Monday, but it’s not slice-open-a-tauntaun-like-Luke-Skywalker-in-“The-Empire-Strikes-Back” cold.

On the other hand, you’ll

CORRECTION

A story about Austin’s cold weather on Tuesday’s Page B1 incorrectly identified the character who sliced open a tauntaun to stay warm in “The Empire Strikes Back.” It was Han Solo.
Does the story flow well? Has the reporter made good use of transitions?

Are sentences structured correctly?

Has writer made appropriate use of passive voice?

Is vocabulary appropriate for the audience?

Is math correct?

Is geography correct?
CULTURAL SENSITIVITY

• Avoiding sexist writing
• Being insensitive
• Cultural awareness
mentally disabled, intellectually disabled, developmentally disabled  The preferred terms, not mentally retarded.

disabled, handicapped  In general, do not describe an individual as disabled or handicapped unless it is clearly pertinent to a story. If a description must be used, try to be specific.
firefighter, fireman  The preferred term to describe a person who fights fire is firefighter.

mailman  Mail or letter carrier is preferable.

transsexual  Use transgender to describe individuals who have acquired the physical characteristics of the opposite sex or present themselves in a way that does not correspond with their sex at birth.
LOW-LEVEL EDITING

- Grammar
- Spelling
- Punctuation
- Style
“No dream is too big, no challenge is too great. Nothing we want for the future is beyond our reach.”

President Donald J. Trump
BILL WOULD ALLOW CANNIBALS TASTING ROOMS
THE AP STYLEBOOK

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS STYLEBOOK

55TH EDITION

THE INDUSTRY'S BESTSELLING REFERENCE FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS, ESSENTIAL FOR JOURNALISTS, STUDENTS, EDITORS AND WRITERS IN ALL PROFESSIONS

2020-2022

FULLY UPDATED WITH MORE THAN 200 NEW AND REVISED ENTRIES

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AP Stylebook
The 2020-2022 Edition of the Associated Press Stylebook and Briefing on Media Law includes about 200 new or modified entries, with chapters covering data journalism, business, fashion, food, religion and sports terms, as well as media law, news values, punctuation, social media and a new chapter on polls and surveys.
STYLE
ARE THE CONTESTANTS ABLE TO USE THE AP STYLEBOOK DURING THE CONTEST?

YES.

Per the UIL Contest Rules and Regulations: “(6) Contest Materials. Contestants may use an electronic or printed thesaurus, dictionary and Associated Press Stylebook during the News, Feature, Editorial, Headline and Copy Editing contests. No other reference materials shall be used.”

HTTPS://WWW.UILTEXAS.ORG/POLICY/CONSTITUTION/ACADEMICS/JOURNALISM
Proofreader's Marks

**SYMBOLS**

**IN MARGIN**  **IN TEXT**

- Insert word or letter
- Delete space
- Delete — no one cares
- Close up entirely
- Less space — between
- Move to right
- Move to left
- Align horizontally
- Align vertically
- Begin a paragraph
- No paragraph
- Run in
- Flush
- No paragraph ind
- Treat as italic
- Boldface
- Less-Known Editing and Proofreading Marks
- Insert comma
- Insert period or colon
- Insert quotation marks (The Catbird Seat)
- Insert single quotation mark or apostrophe (today's newspaper)
- Insert hyphen (first class)
- Insert en dash (3-1 credits)
- Insert em dash (required courses — stand-alones or clusters)
- Insert question mark (Who's on first)
- Small capital letters
- Change from lowercase to capital (Capital)
- Set in italic or slanted type (italic)
- Set in Roman type (Roman)
- Set in boldface type (boldface)
- Wrong front or type style or size
- Set in correct type (correct type)
- Insert 4-letter word for emphasis
- Remove permanently from your lexicon
- Too long
- Too silly
- You wish
- Pls revisit your politics
- Pls cut the crap
- Pls paraphrase — obviously stolen from Web
- Pls don't eat Pringles while you work
- Set superscript or subscript (π² or H₂)
- Spell out (set 1 hr. as one hour)
SYMBOLS

USE CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD EDITING SYMBOLS.
SYMBOLS

SEE P. 519 OF THE 2020-2022 STYLEBOOK.

Students will NOT be penalized for using other symbols. It is up to the judges to determine if marks are “clearly understood.”
LET’S LOOK AT A TEST
PART 1

COPY EDITING CONTEST
STATE 2019

DIRECTIONS: This test is divided into three sections. Write all your responses as indicated. Editing should be made using The Associated Press Stylebook 2018 version. Students are not held accountable for updates made after the book was published. You have 15 minutes.

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

1. The two men are close friends and have appeared **side-by-side** / **side by side** frequently since Abbott took office.

2. Research has found that boys are more **affected** / **effected** than girls.

3. The **mugshots** / **mug shots** of each of the criminals are available in the media.

4. The grand marshal of the Macy's Day Parade gave his **counsel** / **council** / **counsel** about the order of the floats.

5. Each of the participants from St. Mary's All-Girl Catholic School took her / their turn at "keionza" at the spelling bee.

6. It's easy to see the difference between **she** / **her** and me.

7. She must **of** / **have** driven around the block three times before finding a parking spot.

8. There's not much to look **forwards** / **forward** to on the stock market.

9. The director gave the solos to five top-notch players, splitting time **among** / **between** tuba, trombone, euphonium and trumpet players.

10. At the home show, the vendors displayed quite a variety of **whirlpool** spas / **jacuzzis**.

11. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez will be the youngest member of the 116th Congress. She is in **her** **20s** / **20's** / **twenties**.

12. My favorite style is **Southern fried chicken** / **southern fried chicken**.

13. On March 10, 2019, **daylight saving time** / **Daylight Saving Time** / **daylight savings time** begins.

14. He enjoys his chai tea latte with **espresso** / **espresso**.

15. The paramedics administered **Narcan** / **naloxone** to the student who had apparently overdosed on opioids.
PART 1
GRADING

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

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. 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 softball team, which won the championship last year ended their season with a 13-0 record begins its new season next month.

2. Brad Weldon has lived in Paradise, CA his entire life, and wasn’t about to leave his home or his blind, ninety-year-old Mother behind when the fire hit. And Welton, a Firefighter himself, is not going to leave now that the fire is gone, though not much is left of the town he remembers.

3. Nobel Peace Prize Recipient, Denis Mukwege, the helper who devoted his life to helping victims of war crimes said an important part of his life have been the people that stood by me.

4. It’s a tradition. He gave his mother, the First Lady of the United States, an extravagant gift on the occasion of the state of the union speech. In spite of everything.

5. As the national debt approaches $21.8 billion and the deficit approached $800 billion, Treasury secretary Adam J. Szubin suggested that the rising deficit was the result of “irresponsible and unnecessary spending”.
GRADING

Four errors.

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.
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.

You are editing the article to be published Friday, May 3, 2019.

Former South San Antonio ISD Supt. Abelardo Saavedra was paid more than $138,000 after leaving the District, according to a resignation and separation agreement with the board obtained from a source who wished to remain anonymous.

Under the agreement, Saavedra was owed $59,775 in salary he would have earned had he stayed at South San through August 11, plus $88,237 dollars for his 82 unused days of leave. His contract was to expire at the end of the physical year and he gave up $41,490 in pay he was entitled to in an effort to exit the district amicably, the agreement knot available online said.

Trustees voted unanimously to approve successor Flores’ contract earlier this month.

“The one that’s responsible, ultimately, for that, is of course the superintendent,” Pradis said. “Why do we pay him money to leave when he’s left our district in bad standing?”

The TCEA was investigating South San (ISD) and he was its 5th superintendent in fewer than 3 years when he was hired in 2014, having recently retired as superintendent of Houston ISD, the state’s largest.
Judges should compare the papers of students who tied, ranking them accordingly.
CHANGES FOR 2021-2022

- **PART 3 IS NOW REQUIRED**: To have some form of tie-breaker.

- **CONTESTANTS MAY USE A DICTIONARY AND STYLE MANUAL**: To conform with other journalism contests, a dictionary and AP Stylebook may be used.

- **ADD DATELINE**: To help with correct style regarding dates and locations. Part 2 and part 3 will now include a dateline: "You are writing for the <date> issue of the Leaguetown School Press in Leaguetown, Texas."

- **CONTESTANTS MUST CORRECT SPELLING in Part 2**: To make students think about the correct answer. Don’t just mark words as misspelled.

- **AP DOES PROVIDE SUGGESTED SYMBOLS**: To provide students some guidance. The “Editing marks” provided by AP on p. 519 of the current Stylebook are only recommendations designed to avoid ambiguity. Students must use clearly understood editing symbols. Judges will determine if the corrections marked are clearly understood and will NOT count off if students use symbols other than these.
Copy edit This!
No. 11 Quiz

The Times’s standards editor, Philip B. Corbett, invites readers to correct grammatical errors in recent New York Times articles. You can take other quizzes here.

Here’s the latest installment of our copy editing quiz. Each of the passages below, from recent Times articles, contains at least one clear error in grammar or word usage. I’m not counting less-than-elegant phrasing that could be improved, or other more subjective editing judgments.

You don’t have to explain the error or fix it; just click on the part you think is wrong. If I agree, you’ll see my explanation. If you’re off base, try again.
GRAMMAR GUIDE QUIZ 78

Quiz 78 must be viewed in a new window.
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