



2022 IHSA VIRTUAL JOURNALISM SECTIONALS: YEARBOOK COPY WRITING

DIRECTIONS & RULES

You are a staff member of the Abraham High School (Middleland, Ill.) yearbook staff, *The Annual*. Your editor has assigned you to write the yearbook copy for the student section. Use the information gained from this prompt to help you write your story. Judges will evaluate the efforts as to how well written and organized it is, how accurate it is, and if proper style and mechanics were followed. All information that is available is listed. Do not make up any additional information. At the top of your document, type "School Code: ####" with your individualized code numbers. Copy block should be 350 words. You are permitted to use an AP Stylebook and dictionaries. Type the final word count at the bottom of the story before turning it in

Start Time: 11:30 AM

Work must be complete: 1:00 PM

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Serena Forins, a senior, has been babysitting since she was 13 years old. She started babysitting for neighbors and for members of her church, but soon others were asking for her services. For the past three years she has had a babysitting service after school from 3:30 till 6 at her home. The children range in age from 5 to 12. Usually she has about 10 total. She serves an afternoon snack and has a planned activity that might include art, music, theater or reading. In her backyard she also has a mini-playground with a slide, swings, sandbox and jungle gym. Every day she has one assistant: Jolene Whiting, a junior, or Megan Montgomery, who graduated last year from AHS and attends State Junior College in Middleland. She charges \$7 per day per child. On the weekends she plans her snack menu and activities and goes shopping for the week. She has to buy all food and activity material out of the fee she collects from each child, and she has to pay her assistants. Any profits are being saved for college.

In the summers Serena expands the after-school program to a full day, from 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. In the past she has had one assistant per five kids, so it depends on the enrollment as to how many help her. Because she turned 18 last



year she received her full license. Before then, her mother was the caregiver of record, with Serena as assistant. She is licensed by the department of Children and Family Services of the state of Illinois, which has about 3,000 licensed day care centers, 10,000 licensed day care homes, all serving more than 295,000 children. A license is valid for three years. Serena had to fill out an application and can have no more than 12 children in her home. She had to pass a background check and take 15 hours of in-service training. There was a home inspection to make sure her home conformed to all the state requirements, including a fire-safety check.

Serena wants to be an elementary teacher. She has been admitted to the State College Elementary Education program for the fall.

QUOTES

Serena

- I can never be sick.
- I have to plan time off.
- I am not sure what I am going to do when I graduate. I would like to attend college out of state, so this August may be my last time to do this.
- I will really miss the kids. Some of them I have been babysitting for almost seven years.

Jolene

- I love the kids. Serena always has everything planned, so I just have to come help.

It's so fun, and it is something to do after school. I feel like I am really making a difference.

Maggie Herald, mother of 9-year-old Samantha.

- I trust Serena and her mother. They keep the kids' minds engaged and active after school. I will miss Serena when she goes off to college. She'll make a great teacher.

Phyllis Lawton, Family and Consumer Science teacher

- Serena has done such a good job of applying what she studies in school. She has taken child care class and lots of art classes. I am really proud of her.



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SUBMITTING YOUR WORK

Please follow the instructions below carefully, as this will be very important in our ability to receive, process, and distribute your work for judging.

1. Determine how you are going to get your work to your advisor (email, school network, flash drive, etc.).
2. You will need your Sectional Code & School Code to name your files. If you don't know your codes, you can find them on the prompt email attachment or at: www.ihsa.org/Sports-Activities/Journalism/2022-State-Series
3. Output your story as a PDF. The name of your PDF file should be your Single Digit Sectional number – Event Category – Four-Digit School Code.
Example below:
1 – Yearbook Copy Writing – 1234
4. Submit the file to your advisor and confirm they received it.