



Feature Photography

IHSA Sample Prompt

Blocks A & B

Computer Lab

Be sure to put your contestant code in the upper right-hand corner of each page of your entry. Do not put your name on the entry. If you do, your entry will be disqualified.

DIRECTIONS

Using a digital camera, you are to complete a photo assignment on a given topic below. All cameras are to be provided by the competitors and will be checked to ensure that there are no previous pictures on the memory card. You will be allowed to go out during Block A of competition to take pictures. You may come in no later than the beginning of Block B to download and prepare your pictures. You will be submitting a total of three photos to be judged.

For each photo you submit, you must include appropriate information that would allow an editor to write an effective cutline/caption for the photograph.

Naming Convention: Place your submitted photos in a desktop file labeled by your contest code. For example if your contest code is 210, that should be the name of your folder.

Sizing of Photos: If the submitted photo is horizontal, it should be saved at 1000 pixels wide (let the height be whatever it is) at a resolution of 72. If the submitted photo is vertical, it should be saved at 480 pixels tall (let the width be whatever it is) at a resolution of 72.

ASSIGNMENT

The subject of the photography competition is "What's going on at your IHSA Sectional site." That includes the journalism competitions themselves as well as anything else occurring on the campus or in the school at your Sectional site. Your focus will be to shoot and present three photos that you believe best represent the subject.

You may submit these photos on the computer in either black and white or color.



Broadcast News Writing

IHSA Sample Prompt

Blocks A & B

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(518) 554-2334 (518) 554-2339 (fax) www.abrahamhs.edu

Mascot: The Loggers

School Colors: Brown and White

Location: Middleland, Ill.

School Size: 789 (9th-12th grades)

School Newspaper: The Standard

Yearbook Name: The Annual

Radio Station Call Letters: WMIL

DIRECTIONS

You are on staff for the Abraham High School's Broadcasting Club (Middleland, Ill.). Your director has assigned you to cover this press conference and present a 90-second audio clip. The press conference will last no more than 10 minutes. From the given information and the presentation at the press conference, edit a 90-second story for the next broadcast. All editing must be done in the event classroom. You may leave the classroom to find a quiet place where you can read your script out loud.

Edit the audio clip for your high school broadcasting station. Decide on story possibilities. Decide on how to develop your story angle. Organize your information and decide on your approach to the story. Edit a clip that would interest your audience. Each story must end with: Reporting from Abraham High School, this is J.T. Jones with WMIL."

You must convert your finished story into an MP3 file and deliver it to the judge on a flash drive. Make sure your contest number is on your flash drive.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This is the Wikipedia entry for the 2010 Haiti earthquake, which was a catastrophic magnitude 7.0 Mw earthquake, with an epicentre near the town of Léogâne, approximately 25 km (16 miles) west of Port-au-Prince, Haiti's capital. The earthquake occurred at 16:53 local time (21:53 UTC) on Tuesday, 12 January 2010. By 24 January, at least 52 aftershocks measuring 4.5 or greater had been recorded. An estimated three million people were affected by the quake; the Haitian Government reported that an estimated 230,000 people had died, 300,000 had been injured and 1,000,000 made homeless. They also estimated that 250,000 residences and 30,000 commercial buildings had collapsed or were severely damaged.

The earthquake caused major damage to Port-au-Prince, Jacmel and other settlements in the region. Many notable landmark buildings were significantly damaged or destroyed, including the Presidential Palace, the National Assembly building, the Port-au-Prince Cathedral, and the main jail. Among those killed were Archbishop of Port-au-Prince Joseph Serge Miot, and opposition leader Micha Gaillard. The headquarters of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH), located in the capital, collapsed, killing many, including the Mission's Chief, Hédi Annabi.

Many countries responded to appeals for humanitarian aid, pledging funds and dispatching rescue and medical teams, engineers and support personnel. Communication systems, air, land, and sea transport facilities, hospitals, and electrical networks had been damaged by the earthquake, which hampered rescue and aid efforts; confusion over who was in charge, air traffic congestion, and problems with prioritisation of flights further complicated early relief work. Port-au-Prince's morgues were quickly overwhelmed with many tens of thousands of bodies having to be buried in mass graves. As rescues tailed off, supplies, medical care and sanitation became priorities. Delays in aid distribution led to angry appeals from aid workers and survivors, and some looting and sporadic violence being observed.

On 22 January the United Nations noted that the emergency phase of the relief operation was drawing to a close, and on the following day the Haitian government officially called off the search for survivors.

Eastern Illinois University is one of many schools that has had a relationship with the country of Haiti for many years. Today, Joe Astrouski (resume attached) and Roy Lanham, the director of campus ministry since 1986 for the Newman Center who runs its Haiti Connection, information attached, will be talking about the work volunteers do in Haiti and the current situation there.

Eastern Illinois University Haiti Connection

- [Home](#)
- [About Us](#)
- [Our Mission](#)
- [Trip Information](#)
- [Projects](#)
- [Contact Us](#)
- [Groups](#)

Bondye fe san di. God acts and doesn't talk.



Welcome to the Webpage for the Haiti Connection at Eastern Illinois University. We have been on campus as part of the Newman Center's mission outreach since 1989. We welcome all to be part of our mission and work both here and in Haiti. Contact the Haiti Connection

Haiti has been devastated by the earthquake. Please support Haiti Connection events that will be happening throughout the semester as we raise funds to aid our Haitian brothers and sisters to rebuild their lives. Please check out our facebook group EIU Haiti Connection Earthquake Relief, or keep coming here. Please keep them in your prayers.

Phone:

217.348.0188

E-mail:

haiticonnection@gmail.com

Meeting Times in the Spring

Tuesdays: 8:00 pm in the Newman Center Lounge (Across from Andrew Hall)

Upcoming Events

Ongoing Tabling for Earthquake Relief

Please feel free to drop off any donations to the Newman Catholic Center. Make checks payable to Newman Haiti Fund. Put "earthquake" in the memo line.

14th Annual Run/Walk for Non-Violence: Saturday, April 24 at 10 am we will hold our annual 5K run/walk for Haiti.. It is a great way for all of us to stand in solidarity against violence. 80% of the money raised goes to projects in Haiti and 20% goes to SACTS (Sexual Assault Counseling Information Services). We stop off at the Newman Center. There is a free lunch at the end of the run/walk. Suggested donation is \$15 and includes a t-shirt to all pre-registered.

Sponsor a Child: The trip to Haiti in January allowed us to continue to strengthen the sponsorship program. We now have 187 kids in need of sponsors. If you would like to sponsor a child or want more information, please contact Geri Lanham, haiticonnection@gmail.com. The cost to sponsor a child is \$30 a year.

May 2010 Mission Trip: We are still on for the mission trip in May. Alumni and students are welcome to go. The dates are May 10-20, 2010. More information as the picture gets clearer in Haiti. A report from the December/January trip with photos of their trip will be posted here soon. Please the Haitian people in your prayers as they continue to struggle for justice.

Camp Haiti: Saturday, March 27 from 9:00 am til 11:30 am. This camp is for first through third grade children. It is designed to engage these children and teach them about Haitian culture, dance, language, arts, and music. The cost is \$3 per child or \$2 if you have more than two children coming. Contact Courtney Meyer at cmeyer2@ciu.edu for a registration form.

[Home](#) | [About Us](#) | [Our Mission](#) | [Trip Information](#) | [Projects](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Groups](#)

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Joe Astrouski

EDUCATION

Eastern Illinois University, Department of Journalism, Charleston, IL. Majoring in Journalism with a concentration in Broadcast News. B.A. anticipated December 2010.

Keene State College, Department of Journalism, Keene, NH. Attended Keene State through the National Student Exchange, Fall 2007.

Dublin City University, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Dublin, Ireland. Attended DCU through a study abroad program, Spring 2008.

JOURNALISM EXPERIENCE

Volunteer, **WEIU-TV Newswatch** Charleston, IL
Have worked studio camera and server and have edited footage for this half-hour nightly newscast on PBS affiliate WEIU-TV. September 2007- Present.

City Editor, **Daily Eastern News** Charleston, IL
Cover city government, local businesses and other issues for this daily, student-run newspaper. Previously worked as university-administration reporter and staff reporter. September 2008- Present.

Staff Reporter, **Keene Equinox** Keene, NH
Covered the 2007 New Hampshire presidential primary race, the Keene mayoral race, a baseball riot, as well as campus news for this student-run weekly newspaper.

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

Children's Supervisor, **Whiteside Elementary School: Summer Program** Belleville, IL
Supervised elementary-age students enrolled in the school's Summer of Academics and Recreation program. June-August 2007 and 2008.

ACTIVITIES AND AWARDS

- National Student Exchange, Bette Worley achievement award winner, 2008.
- Society of Collegiate Journalists, third-place award winner, hard-news division, Spring 2008.
- Presidential Scholar, Eastern Illinois University, since Fall 2006.
- Member, EIU Haiti Connection, Fair Trade Committee Chair, since Spring 2007.



Copy Editing

IHSA Sample Prompt

Block A

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School Newspaper: The Standard

Yearbook Name: The Annual

Radio Station Call Letters: WMIL

DIRECTIONS

You are a staff member of the Abraham High School's The Standard (Middleland, Ill.). You have been assigned to edit the accompanying story. Edit for style, accuracy, attribution, correct paragraphing, grammar, spelling and redundancy. Use copy editing symbols wherever possible. You may write your corrections above the line containing the error. Do not rewrite the story. You are permitted to use an AP stylebook and dictionaries that you provide.

EDITING PROMPT

Fund-raising is underway for the annual trip by the Marching Railsplitters to the Six Flags St. Louis Music Festival on Saturday, May 17th.

The 150 member band needs to raise at least \$9,475.00 for the trip.

Band members have been selling candy bars, candles, fruit, and magazines all year. Spring fundraisers include two car washes and the annual Ham-It-Up Dinner, scheduled for April 30.

Tickets for the Ham-It-Up Dinner are available from any band member and costs \$6.00 dollars each. Tickets will be available for \$7.00 dollars at the door as well. The dinner will run from 5:30 to 8:00 P.M. in the Abraham High School cafeteria.

The menu consists of ham, beans, cornbread, beverages, and a variety of desserts.

At the dinner, attendees can pay \$1.00 to tell a joke. A panel of celebrity judges will decide first-, second- and third-place winners for funniest joke of the night. Winners will receive gift certificates to Q's Music, 514 Lindstrom Avenue, in Middleland. The first place winner will receive a \$50 certificate; the second place winner will receive a \$25.00 certificate; the third-place winner will receive a \$10 certificate. Q's Music owner Sam Quinones is donating the prizes.

The celebrity judges are AHS principle Mark Hanson, school board President James McAvoy and Hilda Swinton, director of the Middleland Community Band.

A silent auction will also take place at the dinner. Donations of auction items may be dropped off at the AHS band room every day after school.

AHS Music Boosters President Estelle Petty said the band has raised \$6,700 towards the cost of the trip. That means \$2,675 still has to be raised.

"I don't think we'll have any problem hitting our target, Mrs. Petty said, "The community is always so supportive of the band. I know they'll come through for us again".

Continued on next page



Copy Editing

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EDITING PROMPT (Continued)

This will be the 6th year the band has participated in the Six Flags Music Festival.

Band members said the day features an exciting competition and then the band members get to go to the theme park.

"It's a cool time," said junior Dave Parker, who plays percussion. "Six Flags is always fun, and we get to hear some good bands, too."

AHS band director Joe Thomas said the band will play two selections during its 30-minute competition time in the Palace Theater at Six Flags.

The band will play "Stars and Stripes Forever" by John Philip Sousa. Mr. Thomas said he is unsure what the second song will be.

"The 'Stars and Stripes Forever' is a rousing crowd-pleaser," Mr. Thomas said. "We've been working on a couple of other pieces, and I'm not sure which one we'll go with for our other number. Whatever it is, we'll play it first and end with 'Stars and Stripes.' Everyone loves a rollicking good march."

The music festival rules state that the two selections played must be of contrasting style. Mrs. Thomas said the band will play one of the pieces it played during concert band season.

The costs for the competition break down as follows:

- \$55 registration fee;
- \$40.00 per student for the festival fee and admission to the park, for a total of \$6 thousand;
- \$28 per chaperone, with 15 chaperones accompanying the band, for a total of \$420;
- \$3,000 for four busses.

Mr. Thomas and Jake Smythe, the band's student teacher this semester, will be admitted free.

Six Flags is located 30 miles Southwest of St. Louis in Eureka, Missouri.

Senior Band Member Whitney Kunkel, who plays first-chair flute, said the festival is always a long day but is fun.

"We have to get up early and be at school by 5:00 a.m.," Kunkel said. "But we can sleep on the bus so we're in good shape when we arrive. Then we check in, rehearse and perform, and then the whole rest of the day is for fun."

If the band raises enough money, it will also be able to cover the cost of lunch and dinner at Six Flags. Otherwise, students will have to provide their own money for meals.

"Last year we made it," said Mrs. Petty. "The kids work so hard, we feel they deserve to have their meals paid for."

The band is hoping to bring home the First Place Trophy, which they won two years ago.

"That would be so cool," said Mariah Flynn, a freshman saxophone player. "I wasn't in the band when we won two years ago. I really hope we win."

Candy sales are continuing. Candy bars are available from any band member for \$1.50 each.

The two car washes are scheduled for May 1 and May 8. They will take place from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the parking lot at Ohno's Pizza at 603 Main St

For more information on how to donate to the silent auction, contact Mrs. Petty at 555-6504 or Music Boosters Vice-President Todd Gray at 555-8137.



News Writing

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School Size: 789 (9th-12th grades)

School Newspaper: The Standard

Yearbook Name: The Annual

Radio Station Call Letters: WMIL

DIRECTIONS

You are a staff writer for the Abraham High School's The Standard (Middleland, Ill.). Your editor has assigned you to cover this press conference and write a Page One story. From the given information and the presentation at the press conference, write a news story for the next issue. The word limit will be 400 words. Stories will be judged on leads, news judgment, clarity and accuracy of details, use of quotations, proper style and mechanics, in addition to style and organization. You are permitted to use the AP Stylebook and dictionaries.

You are writing for your high school newspaper. Decide on story possibilities. Decide on how to develop your story angle. Organize your information and decide on your approach to the story. Write a story that would interest newspaper readers.



Info Graphics

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DIRECTIONS

You are a staff member of the Abraham High School's The Standard. Your newspaper editor has asked for you to prepare a computer-generated graphic based on the provided story. The graphic should follow the specifications outlined in the assignment. Entries will be judged on originality, readability, clarity, and adherence to aesthetic control principles.

ASSIGNMENT

Design a graphic on the computer communicating the statistics reported in the story below. You may use InDesign, Illustrator and/or PhotoShop. Clip Art is not permitted. The graphic should be no larger than what would fit on an 8 1/2 X 11 sheet. It can be vertical or horizontal. It should be black and white.

Poll reveals high incidence of cheating

The Standard polled 127 AHS students to determine the prevalence of cheating within the school.

A total of 92 percent of students interviewed for the poll said they had cheated in some form or another within the last academic year.

A total of 72 percent of students interviewed said they had copied another student's work either on homework or on a test.

Students who had used Cliff's Notes or Spark Notes numbered 62 percent while 41 percent said they had received homework credit by showing or turning in previous work.

Thirty-eight percent of students polled said they had used Internet resources to find homework or test answers.

Only 31 percent claimed to have used a cheat sheet during a test.



Review Writing

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Block A

Genre: Music Review

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DIRECTIONS

You are the entertainment reporter for The Standard. You are sent a press release and a sample of three songs and lyrics from the group Little Boy Jr., who will be appearing at the Middleland Coffee House at 8:30 p.m. next Friday. Write a review of their music for the next issue of The Standard. The word limit will be 350 words. You are permitted to use an AP Stylebook and dictionary.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Joe Courtney (Eastern Illinois English major): guitar and vocals

Dan Lazzarotto (Eastern Illinois kinetic special studies major): lead guitar and vocals

Bob Schroeder (Eastern Illinois industrial technology major): bass

Matt Caponera (Eastern Illinois communications studies): keyboards

Phil Riley/Steve McNamee, not EIU students: drums

Little Boy Jr. originated in Chicago. Dan and Joe met while in Brother Rice high school and played in a band before coming to Eastern Illinois University. Bob lived next to Joe and Matt when they lived in their freshman year in Carmen Hall, a residence hall primarily for freshmen. Matt went to high school with Dan and Joe and started playing keyboards for Little Boy Jr. when they decided they needed a keyboardist. Steve McNamee is also a friend from high school and Phil Riley just slipped in.

The band Little Boy Jr. was born in 2008, brother of Big Girl Sr. filled with ooh's, ah's, la la lazz, and yeah yeah yeah's, they excelled at an early age in the areas of rock & roll and rhythm & blues. Their influences are the Everly Brothers, The Kinks, Marie Knight, Edith Piaf, Sam Cooke, James Brown, The Animals, Mando Diao and Dr. Dog.

Part of a story that ran in the Daily Eastern News in 2008:

At the 2008 Battle of the Bands they won \$100 to spend at Positively Fourth Street Records in Charleston Ill., and the opportunity to play a set at Panther Stock in Charleston, where they opened for American English.

Dan Lazzarotto, who plays guitar and sang for Little Boy Jr., said winning felt great, but he gave credit to the crowd that came to see them.

The members of the band said they had only been able to practice three times with their new drummer and keyboard player before the show.

Matt Caponera, who plays keyboard, said he was worried it would be a mess, but when they played, it just flowed together.

Scott Fritz, who plays the drums, said he just had fun playing with the band in the show.

Continued on next page



Review Writing

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION, CONTINUED

"And that's what it's all about... and the music," Caponera added.

Nowadays you can find Little Boy Jr. sharply dressed, occasionally wearing sunglasses to hide the stage fright, and still playing the music their mother taught them. Here's the schedule for their spring shows: April 23 at Friends in Charleston, 10 p.m. April 24 at Woodchuck Festival in Charleston, 8 p.m. May 22 at Silvie's Lounge in Chicago and 8 p.m. May 28 at Bourbon Street in Chicago.

Keep an eye out for a brand new EP soon.

LYRICS

"You Know It" by Joe Courtney

You know it's wrong, but you do it still
Play my heart like you're turning a wheel
I loved you more than any other man before
You might be alone, everybody knows it's true
I know you know

You know it's hard, but you do it still
Play your part till you get your fill
I loved you more than any other man before
You might be alone, everybody knows it's true
I know you know

"Eye Fuqua" by Dan Lazzarotto

Is it too much to ask? For you to look me in the face.
The time we spent together's wasted, but you still invade my space

Refrain
But you know adult turtles and all their pups. Tend to drink their milk from sippy cups.

When I see you walking. You know we've got nothing to say.
I might as well give you the chance to. I know you'll walk away.

Refrain
Still you know adult turtles and all their pups tend to drink their milk from sippy cups.

Shiny Fruit. Turtle Food.



Advertising

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DIRECTIONS

You are a staff member of the Abraham High School's The Standard (Middleland, Ill.). You are to design two business ads on the advertising sheet given to you from the prompts provided.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Ad #1

Design a newspaper advertisement for the corresponding box on your design sheet.

Advertiser: Extreme Elegance, 333 N. Highland St., Middleland, Ill., a women's clothing store.

Product promoted in this ad: Special occasion dresses for proms, pageants, Sweet 16 parties, weddings, homecoming. All AHS students can receive a 15 percent discount on the rental or purchase of any special occasion dress.

Information that can be put in this advertisement:

- It is a locally owned store that specializes in "sophisticated clothing" for "discerning girls and women."
- Business hours are 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday. Closed Sunday.
- On the Web at www.ExtremeElegance.com
- Phone: 217-555-5213

Ad #2

Design a newspaper advertisement for the corresponding box on your design sheet.

Advertiser: Middleland Learning Center, 300 W. Main in Middleland

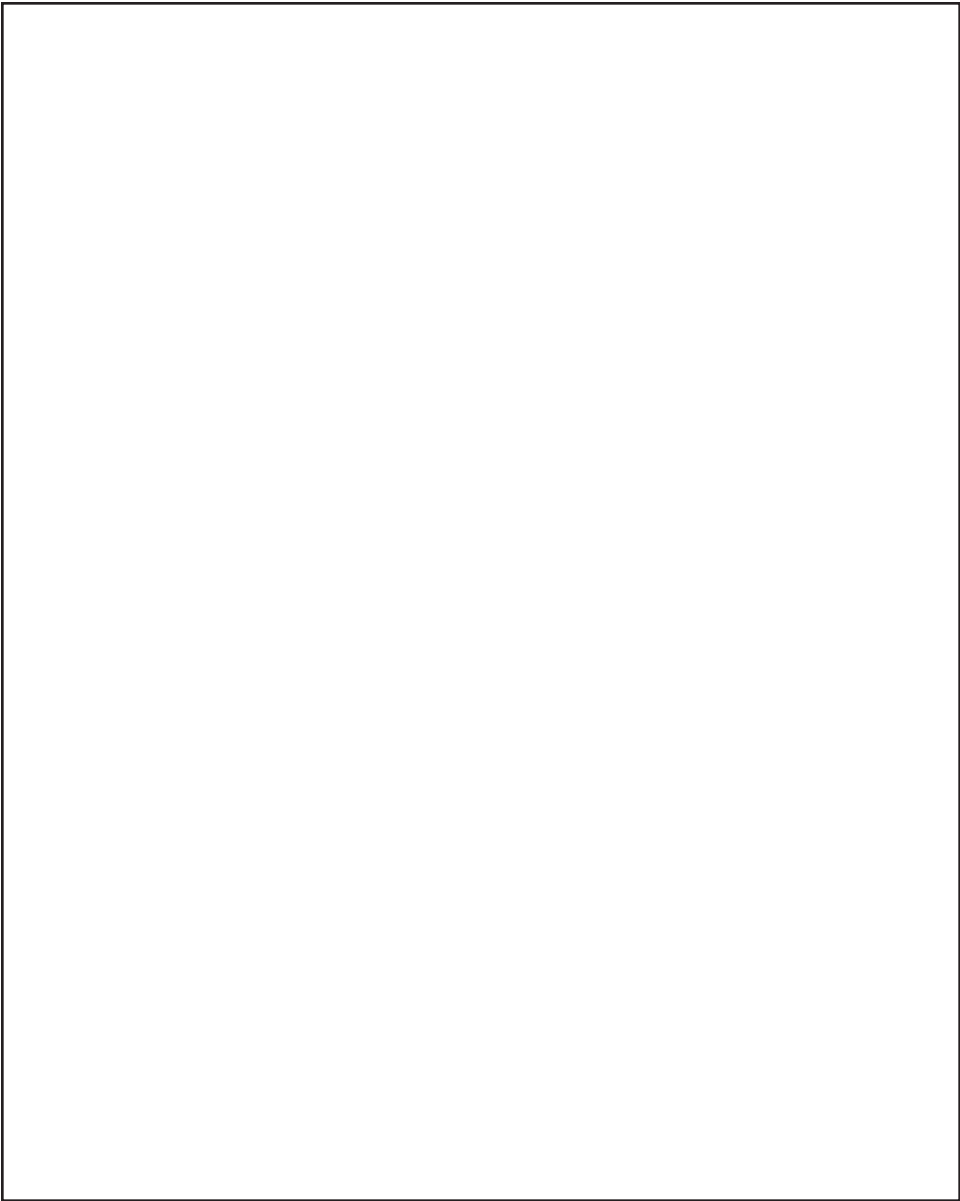
Special Promotion: Discounted prices for AHS students who need tutoring in advanced math, language arts, ACT preparation, study skills.

Information that can be put in this advertisement:

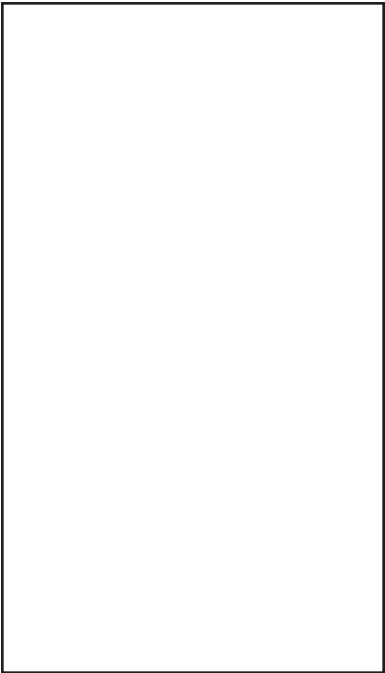
- Call 555-4980 to make an appointment or get additional information.

Advertising Ad Layout Sheet

Ad #1



Ad #2





Yearbook Theme Development

IHSA Sample Prompt

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Duo or Single Event

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DIRECTIONS

1. Mark an "X" through each photo rectangle and write a brief description of the picture or graphic effect in the photo area.
2. Indicate caption locations.
3. If the theme development includes art work, feel free to sketch it or offer an explanation of its style and content.
4. Write "copy" in the areas where you have placed copy. Side bars may also be included. The more information you can give regarding type style, leading, size, etc., the better able judges will be to evaluate your work.
5. Write headlines in or indicate their placement with a wavy line.
6. Submit your explanation along with your design.

ASSIGNMENT

You are a member of the Abraham High School's yearbook staff. Your editor has asked you to design the cover/title page with graphics for this year's book. Use the information below to develop a theme. You are to assume that all information below is correct and that it is all that you will have to work with. Do not make up additional information.

Theme: Making Every Minute Count

You are to use this theme/concept development by designing and providing detailed instructions for the following:

1. Cover of the book
2. Title page of the book

Use of graphics to enhance the development of the theme/concept will be considered necessary. Write a brief explanation discussing the theme development /concept and the use of graphics in its development. Explanation of how the theme/concept can relate to each section should be included, as well as a brief description of how the copy could help develop the theme. The following items may be used: magazines, markers, colored pencils, scissors, glue or glue sticks.

You will be judged on your use of the theme/concept idea and on your ability to design. Use special effects and graphics to develop the idea. Any special effects you might use should be explained in detail on the layout page and in your written explanation.

The cover is four color; the title page will be black and white



Newspaper Design

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DIRECTIONS

The Standard is a 5-column tabloid, 16 inches deep. The nameplate (flag) may be either 5 columns or 3 columns in width. The nameplate, including information normally located in the folio, may not exceed a depth of 2 inches.

An index of stories is attached that summarizes each story available to you. It also tells you the approximate column inches of each story and mentions if a photo goes with the story. Every story and photo available cannot be used. You will be judged not only on your design but also on the news judgment used in selecting the stories and photos and the manner in which you place them on the page. You will not be judged on the quality of the photos, only your cropping and sizing of them.

Attached is an index of available stories and copies of the available photos.

The design must be done on the computer using InDesign.

1. Open the Newspaper Design folder on the desktop. Here you will find an InDesign document named "page one dummy." Open the page one dummy.

2. Design your page. To import stories or photos into your design, return to the Newspaper Design folder. Inside you will find a Stories folder and a Photos folder. Open either one of them and find the story or photo you want to import into your design. Do not write real headlines for your stories, but include dummy heads in the size and style you want. Also write dummy captions for the photos you use. Text must be in 10-point Times Regular, captions must be in 10-point Times Bold, and the nameplate and all headlines must be in Helvetica (regular, bold, italic, bold italic). Obviously, you determine the size and style of all heads.

3. Once you have finished your page, print it out at 59 percent to fit an 8 1/2 X 11 page.

Index of Available Stories

Accident Blamed on Parking (approximately 2 column inches)

Illegally parked cars and an apparent prank in the senior parking lot led to a two-car collision during sixth period on Thursday, April 14.

Electronics on Probation (approximately 11 column inches)

The privilege to use cell phones and MP3 players at lunch is in jeopardy.

The administration, dissatisfied with the abuse of this probational leniency, may reinstate the previous ban on electronic devices.

Overdue Books (approximately 12.5 column inches)

With the school year coming to a close and 1,404 books currently checked out of the library, students should start to worry about the books they forgot to return.

So far, 600 homes have been called with a recording that reports the overdue books. "But we still only get about 50 books back that way," head librarian Judi Martin said.

Nationals Next Stop (approximately 10 column inches) PHOTO B GOES WITH THIS STORY

After months of preparation and eight trials, the IHS Mock Trial Blue team won the state championship April 9 in Chicago. The students defeated William Mason High School in the finals, qualifying for the national competition in Oklahoma City May 11-13.

Outdoor School Funding (approximately 7 column inches)

When Elizabeth Larson went to Outdoor School as a sixth grader, she hated it.

But Larson, now a junior, has been back three times since then.

But after 40 years and over a quarter million sixth-grade students, the program is in danger of being cut for AHS students due to the district's continuing budget problems.

Superintendent Resigns (approximately 11 column inches) PHOTO C GOES WITH THIS STORY

After a lengthy discussion April 19, the School Board unanimously accepted the resignation of Superintendent Dr. Beverly Geltner by a 7-0 vote.

The Board appointed Assistant Superintendent Dr. Wanda Cook-Robinson as the interim superintendent.

AHS Habitat Club (approximately 8 column inches) PHOTO A GOES WITH THIS STORY

The AHS Habitat for Humanity Club is hosting a fundraising show May 1 featuring the New York Harlem Ambassadors. The show will take place in the AHS Gym starting at 7 p.m. Admission is \$3 for students and 45 for adults. Tickets can be purchased from any club member, at the AHS Administration Office or at many local merchants. All profits will go toward the Habitat Club's projects.



Photo A

AHS senior Anda Brown displays her oil painting techniques. She recently won \$10,000 in an art competition in Houston.



PHOTO B

Workers at the construction site for the new AHS gymnasium.



Photo C

Food waste in the AHS cafeteria is becoming a big concern to food service workers and the administration.



Sports Writing

IHSA Sample Prompt

Block A

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School Colors: Brown and White

Location: Middleland, Ill.

School Size: 789 (9th-12th grades)

School Newspaper: The Standard

Yearbook Name: The Annual

Radio Station Call Letters: WMIL

DIRECTIONS

You are a sports writer for the Abraham High School's The Standard (Middleland, Ill.). You are to write a story based on the interview information listed below. In addition to well-written and organized articles, judges will be looking for the use of an interesting lead that pulls the reader into the story, accurate details about the information given, and proper style and mechanics. The word limit will be 400 words. You are permitted to use an AP Stylebook and dictionaries.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

"Snowmageddon 2010," the record-shattering snowfall, dropped about 22 inches of snow during last weekend, causing problems for coaches' and athletes' schedules.

Winter sports are in the middle of conference and regional tournaments and spring sports are having tryouts. Teams and volunteers pitched in to shovel the snow covering the athletic fields and the track. However, the space remained largely covered.

Without fields to play on, teams were forced to split time in the main and auxiliary gyms and boys' varsity baseball showed up before school to fit in part of their tryout.

The coaches' decision process was also strained. With such conditions, some coaches had a hard time evaluating the players. There are a lot of new coaches in multiple sports and they had to figure out how to handle the situations. Some did not know the players. Baseball coach Justin Janis is in his first year as head coach. He came to AHS from Iowa. Softball coach Warren Kasper is also new. He came to AHS from Kentucky.

Athletes spent months preparing for spring, in many cases hitting the track and scaling the bleachers only a week after the fall season ended. But when the snow came, training was halted in the middle of the crucial that lead up to tryouts.

Being cooped up inside because of the blizzard for nearly two weeks, athletes' pre-season workout routines were interrupted. They had to find other ways to get in shape.

Schedules for spring sports have been delayed as well. Teams may not be able to complete their non-conference schedules traditionally at the beginning of the season, so the season will be abbreviated.

Continued on next page



Sports Writing

IHSA Sample Prompt

Block A

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION, CONTINUED

QUOTES

senior baseball player Nick Ward

- Coach Janis took the initiative and got us a field. We probably wouldn't have had that kind of leadership in the past.

baseball coach Justin Janis

- The snow has had a major effect on our tryouts and season. We would love for each player to have about three intrasquad scrimmages to prove themselves in a game situation. This year we will be lucky if the players have one scrimmage on the field.

junior softball player Amanda Bailey

- We couldn't work out outside before tryouts, so I'm not as well conditioned as I'd like to be. I ran on the treadmill and lifted weights on my own to make up for it. I tried to set an example for the others.

junior baseball player Walker Webster

- We couldn't hit or throw outside so our arms aren't as warmed up as they usually are. I don't think my tryout was as good as it could have been.

softball coach Manny Bradley

- And the biggest concern is that we have this abbreviated schedule. We use those pre-conference games to fine-tune our skills and learn to play as a team. Now we have to go right into the season and conference play with no real warm-ups. I think that will really hurt us.



Yearbook Copy Writing

IHSA Sample Prompt

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School Size: 789 (9th-12th grades)

School Newspaper: The Standard

Yearbook Name: The Annual

Radio Station Call Letters: WMIL

DIRECTIONS

You are a staff writer for the Abraham High School's yearbook. 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 how proper style and mechanics were followed. All information that is available is listed. Do not make up any additional information. Copy block should be 350 words. You are permitted to use an AP Stylebook and dictionaries.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

A new Community Service office at AHS has started this year to organize volunteerism. Daniel Johnson, guidance counselor, is the office's administrator. He has been working this year to coordinate volunteer events at the school and in the community. The office is a central location so that people in the community who need volunteers can call the office and Johnson will match students with volunteer events and situations.

For example: Michelle Carlson, sophomore, volunteers two times a week at the St. Peter's Catholic Church at the After-School Program. She also volunteers throughout the year in the main office and Special Olympics. She says volunteering doesn't take up much time, and it makes her feel better about herself.

Katie O'Brien, senior, said it feels good to help people, especially people in need. She helped at the Hilltop Convalescent Center to set up for a family night. She volunteers to get hours for her service club, the Key Club. O'Brien volunteers to give back to the community and help people in need.

Lindley McCormack, senior, and Brittanie Ellis, junior, both volunteer at the Teen Reach center. McCormack said he likes helping kids because everyday is different, while Ellis says she likes talking to the children because she was just like them. Ellis said that volunteering makes her happy to see that she has helped other people. Along with helping others, students can also find other students with common interests while volunteering.

Johnson released some statistics about the Community Service office.

- In the office's first year - Student Community Service increased the number of service hours by 10 percent bringing the total of service hours to 14,000 hours of volunteer work by AHS students
- This year more than 300 students have specifically volunteered through the Community Service office
- AHS students currently volunteer and assist more than 30 different non-profits in the community
- Fourteen different service events were created in fall 2009
- The Community Service has initiated three All School Service Events
- The reach of AHS students is tremendous and varied. Students have assisted with groups of all ages and needs from after school programs to senior programming and everything in between.
- Approximately 40 percent of our school volunteers on a routine basis throughout the school year.

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Yearbook Copy Writing

IHSA Sample Prompt

Block B

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION, CONTINUED

Places to volunteer in the community:

County Animal Rescue & Education
After-School Programs
Big Brothers/Big Sisters
Middleland Public Library
Hilltop Convalescent Center
Teen Reach
American Red Cross
Soup Stop
Habitat for Humanity
Salvation Army
Camp New Hope for the Disabled

QUOTES

Daniel Johnson, guidance counselor

- This has been a bit more than I imagined, but it has been so successful. We have had calls from more people as the word about the program has gotten around town. In this day and age we all need to help each other. I am glad the school has taken this step.

Michelle Carlson, sophomore

- To me volunteering is giving your time to help somebody else. I am thinking that I might want to study social work in college. Then I could really help people.

Katie O'Brien, senior

- Not only is this looking good for my college applications, but it really makes me feel good. I might be tired when I head out to work, but I always feel refreshed at the end. Plus, I have met some wonderful people I would never have met before.

Rodger Lambert, principal

- I cannot believe how this program had taken off. Mr. Johnson has been the perfect person to inspire the school. And people come up to me all the time in town and tell me how grateful they are that our kids are helping in the community.



Feature Writing

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Radio Station Call Letters: WMIL

DIRECTIONS

You are a staff writer for the Abraham High School's The Standard (Middleland, Ill.). Your editor has assigned you to cover this press conference and write a feature story. From the given information and the press conference, write a feature story for the next issue. The word limit will be 500 words. You are permitted to use an AP Stylebook and dictionaries.

Stories will be judged on leads, clarity and accuracy of details, proper style and mechanics, use of quotations, in quotations, in addition to style and organization.



Yearbook Layout: Double Page Spread

IHSA Sample Prompt Block B

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DIRECTIONS

This contest is designed to test your ability to plan a two-page yearbook spread. It will demand knowledge of layout and design, photo cropping and sizing and copy positioning (including headlines and captions).

You will be doing a spread on the fall flooding that plagued the area in the fall and caused substantial damage to the high school. All the copy and photos available do not have to be used.

Attached is a copy of the available text and photos with caption information. You will not be judged on the quality of the photos, only how you crop, size and integrate them into your design.

The design must be done on the computer using InDesign.

1. Open the Yearbook Design folder. Here you will find an InDesign document called "YB dummy." Open it. Type your contestant number in at the very top of your pages.
2. To import text or photos into your design, return to the Yearbook Design folder. Inside you will find a Copy folder and a Photos folder. Open either one of them and find the text or photo you want to import into your design. Include headlines and cutlines for your design.
3. You may use only three type fonts--Palatino, Gil Sans or Times. Within each font you may use the styles of regular, bold, italic or bold italic.
4. Once you have finished both pages, the proctor will give you instructions on how to save your work and print it out. The layout will be printed on an 8 1/2 X 11 sheet of paper at 56 percent.

Story for double-page yearbook spread

2009 will always be remembered as the year of the “Great Flood” by present AHS students and the residents of Midland.

Rain began falling on Sept. 15 and continued almost constantly for five days. The official rainfall total for the period was 12.7 inches. The Lincoln River that flows just south of the high school over flowed its banks, flooding all the high school’s buildings and grounds. Officials said that at the peak of the flood, the river was nine inches over flood stage.

Due to the flooding, school was canceled for two weeks. Classes resumed Sept. 28 in makeshift facilities at four area churches.

School officials estimated damage to school facilities exceeded \$7 million. Damage in the Midland area was estimated at \$35 million.

“Virtually all high school classrooms and offices were damaged by the flooding,” explained Superintendent Dr. Beverly Geltner. “The school library and auditorium suffered the heaviest damage. We lost thousands of dollars worth of books that will be hard to replace.”

Two fall football games were canceled because of the flood, and the team had to find temporary practice facilities at Midland Area Community College for the remainder of the season. The team played in last three home games 40 miles away at Lincoln State University.

Since the school gym was still undergoing repairs in February, The boys and girls basketball teams had to practice all year at MACC and played their games at LSU.

Students and teachers moved back into the high school in January after extensive cleanup and repairs. Dr. Geltner said insurance covered most of the \$7 million cost of cleanup and repair.

In addition to school damage, many AHS students, faculty and staff had their lives turned upside down by the flood. Dr. Geltner estimated that 60 percent of the homes of students and school employees were damaged by the flood.

“I certainly wouldn’t want to go through that again,” explained senior Harold Weeks. “I’ll certainly remember it the rest of my life. Not only did it impact by senior of school, but my house had five inches of water in it. My family life just got back to normal in February. It was hard continuing school work when your personal life had been turned upside down.”



PHOTO A: Junior John Perkins gets in a little diving practice near his home during the “Great Flood of 2009.”



PHOTO B: Cars trapped in eight feet of water near the high school.



PHOTO C: Flooding was extensive in the high school cafeteria. It reopened Feb. 1.



PHOTO D: The flooded Lincoln River behind the high school.



PHOTO E: Flooding was extensive in the AHS Auditorium.



PHOTO F: Flooding in the library destroyed or damaged thousands of dollars' worth of books.



PHOTO G: The AHS Library suffered extensive damage in the flood.



PHOTO H: Sandbags were a common sight all around Middleland during the September 2009 flood.



Editorial Writing

IHSA Sample Prompt

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DIRECTIONS

You are a staff member of the Abraham High School's The Standard (Middleland, Ill.). Your editor has assigned you to write an editorial appropriate for the topic covered in the background material. Your editorial will be for the next issue of The Standard. The word limit will be 350 words. You are permitted to use an AP Stylebook and dictionaries.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

As budgets are being cut and school districts have to find ways to trim their finances, the AHS school board is voting next week on whether to cancel the football team and the boys' and girls' basketball teams at the freshman and sophomore levels for the next two years. The move will save approximately \$1.5 million in coaches' and officials' salaries, transportation, uniforms, insurance, etc.

However, the move has created controversy in the school with many sides debating the issue.

Principal Rodger Paxton is supportive but cautious. "This is bad news, but I am so sorry about this. Hundreds of students who have dreamed of serving their school will have their dreams smashed."

Booster Club President

"This is outrageous. How can a school support a competitive program with no training at the lower levels? We need those programs to stay competitive with our conference and maintain our strong sports tradition. We have parks and rec to teach fundamentals, but we will lose out in the developing years. This is a travesty."

Student Body President Charlie Baker

"This is probably the best solution for the moment. But the teams will suffer, and many students will no longer feel connected to the school. We hope they can redirect their interests to other activities. We have lots of good organizations at the school as other sports as well. I hope they all try to join other things."

Football Captain Reggie Johnson

"This is awful. We are really pissed off. Why does the football team have to suffer? We actually bring in money from both Boosters and from ticket sales. This is so unfair. We plan to protest at the board meeting. We have to show solidarity for the underclassman."

Freshman Football Captain Manny Walters

"I don't know what will happen. I will try out for JV, but if I don't make it, I don't know what I will do. Maybe try out for cross country to get ready for track season."

Sophomore basketball player Sarah Pellegrino

"We are so upset. The team has been talking about it all week. We want to protest this. There has to be another way to save money. Or at least we should be allowed to try to raise the money to save our team."

The issue has created a lot of discussion in the school. The policy will be decided at the next school board meeting.



Editorial Cartooning

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DIRECTIONS

You are a member of the Abraham High School's The Standard (Middleland, Ill.). You are expected to read and study the material and then design an editorial cartoon appropriate for the topic covered in the background material.

Judges will look for the following in evaluating the cartoon:

1. A clear editorial statement relative to the material
2. Evidence of artistic ability
3. A creative approach
4. Neatness
5. Absence of trite imagery

Submit a cartoon on plain paper (not ruled) provided by the site

Be original and do not bring any examples into the contest room

Final entries must be submitted in black ink and artwork must be original

You may bring rulers, pens, pencils or black felt-tipped pens

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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Headline Writing

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DIRECTIONS

You are to write six headlines for the six stories provided. Heads should be written downstyle with only the first letter of the first word and proper nouns capitalized. Headlines must be designed to fit the required space.

1. Open the Headline Writing document in InDesign.
2. Type in your contest number in the upper left where indicated.
3. Write headlines for the six stories provided. With the exception of the "School Security" story at the bottom of the page, the size and space for each headline is already set. EXCEPT FOR THE "SCHOOL SECURITY" STORY, YOU CANNOT CHANGE THE SIZE OR SPACE FOR THE HEADS.

The descriptions of the headlines you'll be writing:

- Habitat for Humanity: five columns, 48 points, one line
 - Poetry Slam: three columns, 30 points, two lines
 - Volleyball: one column, 18 points, three lines
 - State of the Child Conference: two columns, 30 points, two lines
 - Wellness Policy: four columns, 36 points, one line
 - School Security: Create your own headline or headlines in the space above the story. You must use the space appropriately based upon the story's placement on the page.
4. When you are finished writing the heads, print the document at 59 percent to fit on an 8 1/2 X 11 sheet of paper.