



## The Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, Inc. 2010 Intern Program Controlled Editing Exercise

For Fund Use: SCORE \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant's Name \_\_\_\_\_

College/University \_\_\_\_\_

Name and Title of Monitor \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Monitor's Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Date Exam Given \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/09

### Instructions

Please read these instructions before beginning. **The 5-page test has a one-hour time limit.** It consists of five parts for a total of 100 points: Part 1, grammar; Parts 2, 3 and 4, current events; and Part 5, editing and headline writing.

**Answers must be written on the test. Test-takers are permitted to have only blank paper, pens and pencils.**

The exercise will test your basic copy editing skills and will give you an opportunity to demonstrate your news judgment and your ability to deal with a deadline.

The headlines should be written in the spaces provided in Part 5. Each line of the headlines should be no more than FOUR units short of the total count and must not exceed the total. Don't forget to leave a space between words. Count each character (from a comma, to a capital W, to a space) as one unit. For example, the headline below would have the following counts:

**Editing Test (12 units)**

**Called Easy (11 units)**

**By Students (11 units)**

For the editing component, you should look for spelling, grammar and usage mistakes, as well as contradictions and/or gaps in the stories.

**Do not begin the test until you have been instructed to do so by the monitor.**

Participants and monitors for this national competition should not divulge the contents of this exercise. No parts of this exercise can be reproduced without written permission of the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund.

## Part 1—Grammar and Usage: Circle the correct choice in each example.

1. It's hard to judge what **affect/effect** his story will have on readers.
2. **Who/Whom** did the reporter interview?
3. The publisher **convinced/persuaded** the editor to take a 10 percent pay cut.
4. Democrats or Republicans: Whose health plan is **better/best**?
5. The nearsighted editor has trouble seeing objects that are **close/far away**.
6. The adviser will choose **whoever/whomever** he thinks will make the best editor.
7. She is one of the **few/only** people to serve as both publisher and editor.
8. The publisher is the **principal/principle** figure in a publication's hierarchy.
9. The section, **that/which** isn't well read, still won several awards for design.
10. An average of 20 people **are/is** laid off at the newspaper every year.
11. Neither the editors nor the reporter **has/have** enough information to proceed.
12. The doctor told him to **lay/lie** down immediately.
13. The photo editor is the one person **who/whom** the staff respects.
14. The story **that/which** the reporter uncovered took several months of reporting.
15. The board of directors **has/have** yet to approve the items for discussion.
16. The editor and the publisher rarely agreed with **each other/one another**.
17. The **farther/further** she dug into the story, the more interesting it became.
18. **Latitude/Longitude** is the distance east or west of Greenwich, England.
19. It has been five years since the editor **emigrated/immigrated** from Scotland.
20. The publisher didn't care **who/whom** the board selected as his successor.

**Part 2—Current (and past) Events:** Provide the correct answer in the blank space.

1. The U.S. Senate confirmed Judge \_\_\_\_\_ to the Supreme Court.
2. The H1N1 virus, also known as \_\_\_\_\_ has health authorities worried worldwide.
3. Bernie \_\_\_\_\_ was convicted of orchestrating the world's largest \_\_\_\_\_ scheme.
4. Former president \_\_\_\_\_ traveled to \_\_\_\_\_ to obtain the release of two TV journalists.
5. President Obama hosted a “\_\_\_\_\_” summit with Henry Louis Gates and Sgt. James Crowley to discuss race relations.
6. A so-called cash-for- \_\_\_\_\_ program revitalized, at least briefly, the auto industry this summer.
7. Alaska Gov. \_\_\_\_\_ resigned, surprising supporters and critics alike.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ abruptly quit as a judge of “American Idol.”
9. Controversy surrounded the return of \_\_\_\_\_ to the National Football League following his prison sentence for being a ringleader of a dog-fighting scandal.
10. \_\_\_\_\_’s Liberal Democratic Party was ousted after nearly five decades in power.
11. The year 2009 marked the 50th anniversary of the admission of \_\_\_\_\_ as the 49th state and \_\_\_\_\_ as the 50th state. In addition, it was the 40th anniversary of \_\_\_\_\_ walking on the moon and of the lovefest known as \_\_\_\_\_, held in upstate New York.
12. Nadya Suleman, known as “Octomom,” gave birth to \_\_\_\_\_ children in January.
13. The \_\_\_\_\_ asset relief program, known as TARP, provided some \$700 billion in aid to financial institutions.



**Part 3—Politics and more:** Place the number that corresponds with the people/descriptions below in the correct state.

1. Gov. Mark Sanford of this state admitted to an affair with a “soul mate” from Argentina.
2. Sen. John Ensign of this state admitted to an affair with a campaign aide.
3. Former Gov. Rod Blagojevich of this state was indicted on numerous charges.
4. Forty-four officials and others in this state were caught in a massive FBI sting.
5. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison resigned to run for governor of this state in a primary against incumbent governor Rick Perry.
6. The newest U.S. Supreme Court justice hails from this state.

**Part 4—Legends:** Match the name of the famous person in the left column who died in 2009 with the description that applies to him or her.

1. Walter Cronkite	—	“Heeeeere’s Johnny”
2. Robert McNamara	—	Maude & the Golden Girls
3. Farah Fawcett	—	The King of Pop
4. Michael Jackson	—	“And that’s the way it is”
5. Ed McMahon	—	“60 Minutes” producer
6. Bea Arthur	—	Charlie’s Angel
7. Don Hewitt		

**Part 5—Editing and headline writing:** Edit the following story and write a headline that has three lines with a maximum character count of 16 per line.

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— — — — —  
— — — — —

WASHINGTON – White House and congressional budget officials are predicting a 2009 deficit of \$1.6 trillion for 2009, far wider than the \$445 billion deficit for 2008.

To put that in perspective, that amounts to some \$50,000 of debt for each man, woman and child in the United States, a figure that White House adviser Christina Romer says reflects a recession “worse than the information that we forecasters had back last fall.”

Treasury Secretary Ben Bernanke said projections can be “wildly inaccurate” and cautioned that the numbers could change based on the amount of income taxes collected.

Much of the projected deficit increase stems from rising health-care costs and Social Security payments. “The number of seniors participating in the programs have risen to more than 20 million from only eight million 10 years ago, said Thomas D. Jones, a spokesman for the Social Security Administration.

The outlook for total deficits over the next 10 years was even more bleak, with the White House projecting the figure at nearly \$9 billion, assuming the White House keeps its pledge to retain tax cuts for families earning less than \$250,000 a year.

(Part 5, editing, continued on back page)

**Part 5—Editing and headline writing, continued:** Edit the following story and write a headline that has two lines with a maximum character count of 35 per line.

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Edward M. Kennedy, “the lion of the Senate,” died late Tuesday at his home in Hyannis Port, Mass., after a long battle with brain cancer. He was 77.

He was first elected to the Senate in 1962, filling a seat held by his brother John, who was elected president in 1960 and assassinated two years later in Dallas.

Kennedy, the most liberal and effective member of the Senate, was instrumental in passing landmark legislation in areas ranging from civil rights to education to health care. He was the patriarch of a family whose actions captured Americans’ interest for decades.

President Barak Obama, addressing Kennedy’s 45-year career in the Senate, said, “his ideas and ideals are stamped on scores of laws and reflected in millions of lives.” He added, “For his family, he was a guardian. For America, he was a defender of a dream.

Vice President Joe Biden said, “For 36 years, I had the privilege of going to work every day and sitting next to him and being part of history.”

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**FINAL INSTRUCTIONS:** When you have finished or when time runs out, return this exercise to your monitor. The monitor’s signature will certify that the exercise was completed within the 60-minute period. The monitor must mail your completed exercise postmarked by Nov. 2, 2009, to the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund, PO Box 300, Princeton, NJ, 08543-0300.

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Signature of Monitor

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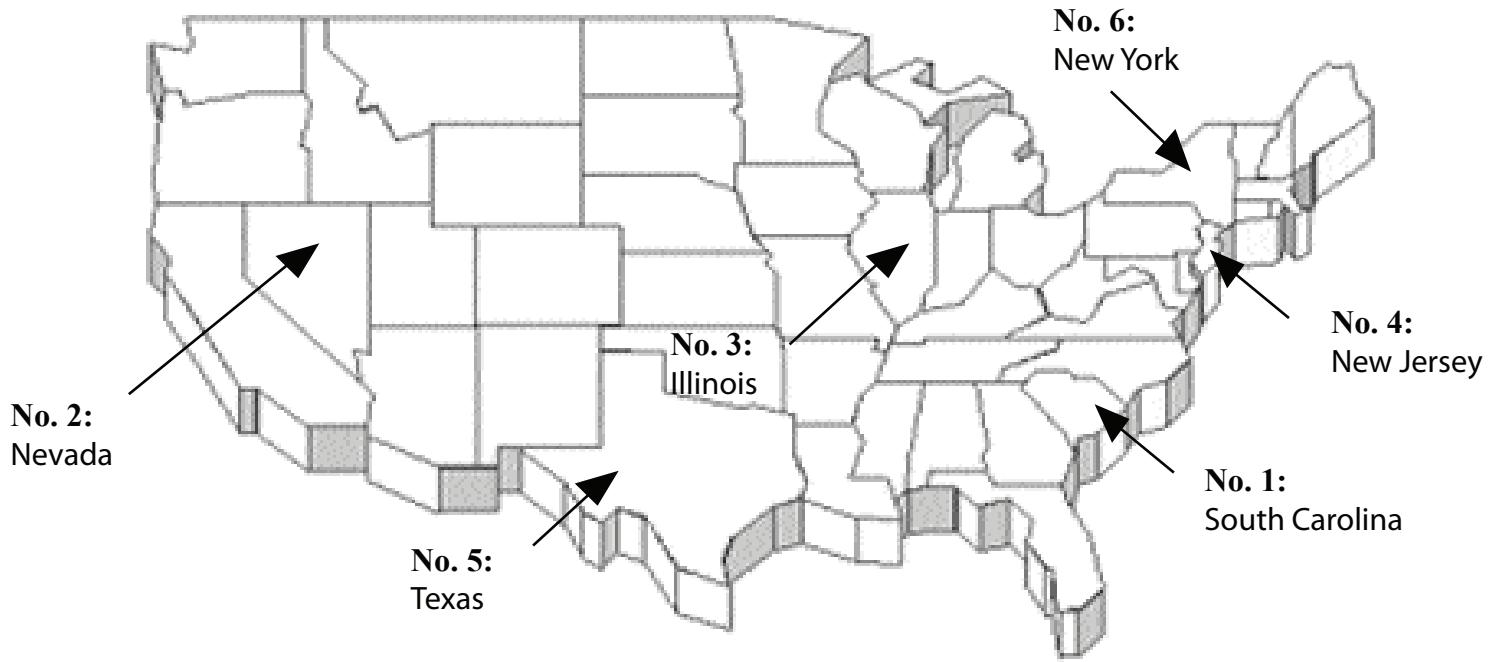
Date

**Part 1—Grammar and Usage:** Circle the correct choice in each example.

1. It's hard to judge what **affect/effect** his story will have on readers.
2. **Who/Whom** did the reporter interview?
3. The publisher **convinced/persuaded** the editor to take a 10 percent pay cut.
4. Democrats or Republicans: Whose health plan is **better/best**?
5. The nearsighted editor has trouble seeing objects that are **close/far away**.
6. The adviser will choose **whoever/whomever** he thinks will make the best editor.
7. She is one of the **few/only** people to serve as both publisher and editor.
8. The publisher is the **principal/principle** figure in a publication's hierarchy.
9. The section, **that/which** isn't well read, still won several awards for design.
10. An average of 20 people **are/is** laid off at the newspaper every year.
11. Neither the editors nor the reporter **has/have** enough information to proceed.
12. The doctor told him to **lay/lie** down immediately.
13. The photo editor is the one person **who/whom** the staff respects.
14. The story **that/which** the reporter uncovered took several months of reporting.
15. The board of directors **has/have** yet to approve the items for discussion.
16. The editor and the publisher rarely agreed with **each other/one another**.
17. The **farther/further** she dug into the story, the more interesting it became.
18. **Latitude/Longitude** is the distance east or west of Greenwich, England.
19. It has been five years since the editor **emigrated/immigrated** from Scotland.
20. The publisher didn't care **who/whom** the board selected as his successor.

**Part 2—Current (and past) Events:** Provide the correct answer in the blank space.

1. The U.S. Senate confirmed Judge Sonia Sotomayor to the Supreme Court.
2. The H1N1 virus, also known as swine flu, has health authorities worried worldwide.
3. Bernie Madoff was convicted of orchestrating the world's largest Ponzi scheme.
4. Former president Bill Clinton traveled to North Korea to obtain the release of two TV journalists.
5. President Obama hosted a “beer” summit with Henry Louis Gates and Sgt. James Crowley to discuss race relations.
6. A so-called cash-for-clunkers program revitalized, at least briefly, the auto industry this summer.
7. Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin resigned, surprising supporters and critics alike.
8. Paula Abdul abruptly quit as a judge of “American Idol.”
9. Controversy surrounded the return of Michael Vick to the National Football League following his prison sentence for being a ringleader of a dog-fighting scandal.
10. Japan's Liberal Democratic Party was ousted after nearly five decades in power.
11. The year 2009 marked the 50th anniversary of the admission of Alaska as the 49th state and Hawaii as the 50th state. In addition, it was the 40th anniversary of Neil Armstrong walking on the moon and of the lovefest known as Woodstock, held in upstate New York.
12. Nadya Suleman, known as “Octomom,” gave birth to eight children in January.
13. The troubled asset relief program, known as TARP, provided some \$700 billion in aid to financial institutions.



**Part 3—Politics and more:** Place the number that corresponds with the people/descriptions below in the correct state.

1. Gov. Mark Sanford of this state admitted to an affair with a “soul mate” from Argentina. **South Carolina**
2. Sen. John Ensign of this state admitted to an affair with a campaign aide. **Nevada**
3. Former Gov. Rod Blagojevich of this state was indicted on numerous charges. **Illinois**
4. Forty-four officials and others in this state were caught in a massive FBI sting. **New Jersey**
5. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison resigned to run for governor of this state in a primary against incumbent governor Rick Perry. **Texas**
6. The newest U.S. Supreme Court justice hails from this state. **New York**

**Part 4—Legends:** Match the name of the famous person in the left column who died in 2009 with the description that applies to him or her.

1. Walter Cronkite	5	“Heeeeere’s Johnny”
2. Robert McNamara	6	Maude & the Golden Girls
3. Farah Fawcett	4	The King of Pop
4. Michael Jackson	1	“And that’s the way it is”
5. Ed McMahon	7	“60 Minutes” producer
6. Bea Arthur	3	Charlie’s Angel
7. Don Hewitt		

**Part 5—Editing and headline writing:** Edit the following story and write a headline that has three lines with a maximum character count of 16 per line.

## Budget deficit for 2009 pegged at \$1.6 trillion

WASHINGTON (misspelled) — White House and congressional budget officials are predicting a 2009 deficit of \$1.6 trillion for 2009, far wider than the \$445 billion deficit for 2008.

To put that in perspective, that amounts to some \$50,000 (should be \$5,000) of debt for each man, woman and child in the United States, a figure that White House adviser Christina Romer says reflects a recession “worse than (should be "than") the information that we forecasters had back last fall.”

Treasury Secretary (should be Fed chief) Ben Bernanke said projections can be “wildly inaccurate” and cautioned that the numbers could change based on the amount of income taxes collected.

Much of the projected deficit increase stems from rising health-care costs and Social Security payments. “The number of seniors participating in the programs have (should be has) risen to more than 20 million from only eight (should be figure 8) million 10 years ago, (needs end quote) said Thomas D. Jones, a spokesman for the Social Security Administration.

The outlook for total deficits over the next 10 years was even more bleak, with the White House projecting the figure at nearly \$9 billion, (should be trillion) assuming the White House keeps its pledge to retain tax cuts for families earning less than \$250,000 a year.

**Part 5—Editing and headline writing, continued:** Edit the following story and write a headline that has two lines with a maximum character count of 35 per line.

## **Ted Kennedy, ‘lion of the Senate’ and family patriarch, dies at 77**

Edward M. Kennedy, “the lion of the Senate,” died late Tuesday at his home in Hyannis Port, Mass., after a long battle with brain cancer. He was 77.

He was first elected to the Senate in 1962, filling a seat held by his brother John, who was elected president in 1960 and assassinated two years (should be three years) later in Dallas.

Kennedy, the most liberal and effective (editorializing) member of the Senate, was instrumental in passing landmark legislation in areas ranging from civil rights to education to health care. He was the patriarch of a family whose actions captured Americans’ interest for decades.

President Barak (should be Barack) Obama, addressing Kennedy’s 45-year (should be 47) career in the Senate, said, “his (should be His) ideas and ideals are stamped on scores of laws and reflected in millions of lives.” He added, “For his family, he was a guardian. For America, he was a defender of a dream. (need close quotes)

Vice President Joe Biden said, “For 36 years, I had the privilege of going to work every day and sitting next to him and being part of history.”

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