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**How to Edit for Content**

*Directions: Make your corrections to the news articles below. Explain why each correction is made by identifying one of the following problems: eliminate clunky prose/clichés/slang, OR cut the fat. Draw an arrow to the mistake in the original text and explain why it is not necessary in the article. See the first example to help understand what to do.*

**Example:** **Washington Child Breaks World Record**

A world record-breaking 112 pound king salmon was caught yesterday afternoon in the Kenai River near Soldotna, Alaska. The fisherman, a 13 year-old from Seattle, Washington, was fishing with his father.

Cameron Blake was fishing with his father on an annual trip to Alaska when his reel was tugged very hard by something in the river, assumedly a fish. Quickly realizing that this was no easy job, his father, Don Blake, stepped in. “I thought he was exaggerating,” his father stated. “Then, I reeled the fish in with everything I had!”

Mr. Blake and his son will filet and freeze the meat to be sent back to Seattle. “It was as big as a whale!” stated the excited Cameron Blake. His sister, Michelle, was not able to make the trip.

Editing for Content—list mistakes below:

1. Clunky prose: was fishing with his father—repetitive
2. Cut the fat: by something in the river, assumedly a fish—we don’t need to say this because it’s obvious
3. Cliché: “It was as big as a whale!”—this is a cliché because it’s an over-used saying
4. Cut the fat: His sister, Michelle, was not able to make the trip. –random and irrelevant to the story

**Article #1 Middle Schooler Founds a Business after Locker Transformation**

Because she was frustrated by the mundane, boring, and empty look in her locker, a middle school student in Davidson, North Carolina has started a line of products intended to spruce up every middle and high school student’s tiny square of space this 1997-1998 school year.

Middle schooler Avery Jetton, age 13, and her parents, Bill Jetton and Janet Jetton, have started a business called Spruced Space, selling products for use within school lockers. Such products for school lockers include decorations, magnetic containers to hold a variety of supplies a student may want to have held, and even small mirrors with a light to see better.

“She brought home the idea one day and started literally making things in her room,” described Avery’s mother, Janet. “After seeing how interested people were in these products, Bill and I decided to help her form this into an actual business. Now, she’s on her way to funding her own college education! We’re very proud of her! It’s very exciting!”

Avery’s line of locker products is available at www.mrsbernardmadethisupsodonttrytofindit.com and includes useful products for teen girls and boys. Avery is hoping to soon expand her business to focus on helpful products for car interiors.

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**Article #2 Student Returns Abroad A Decade Later as Teacher**

Ten years after an American college student climbed the Spanish Steps in Rome, she returned to Rome, Italy as a teacher with students of her own in the summer of 2017 to climb them again.

Despite the overwhelming and exhausting heat and humidity, Hillary Bernard smiled as she led her students to the top of the Spanish Steps, just as she’d done ten years prior as a student at Meredith College in Raleigh, North Carolina. Bernard now teaches at a middle school near Lake Norman, which is a man-made lake just north of Charlotte, NC and organizes international trips with the help of her colleagues and the company, EF Tours.

As the end of another packed day approached, Bernard’s students were ready for bed after eating a delicious Italian meal. Their meal consisted of pizza and pasta. Their tour bus awaited them about half a mile from the top of the Spanish Steps, which transported Bernard and her group back to their hotel to rest for the night.

Editing for content—list mistakes below:

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**Article #3 Middle Schooler Rescues Neighbor on Halloween**

“I knew what I had to do,” recounts the boy who saved his young neighbor from a North Carolina storm drain because he knew what to do near his home the night of Halloween in 2016. “My cell phone had died, and we were running out of time.”

Justin Watts, a 7th grader at Goldenview Middle School in Carmen, NC, is being praised as a hero after sharing his experience last year of how he saved his 7 year-old neighbor from a storm drain. The boy fell and became unconscious in the flooded storm drain at the end of the col-de-sac in his neighborhood. Watts jumped into action after he saw a blue light coming from the opening of the drain, which was luckily a part of the boy’s costume. The boy was dressed as a power ranger.

Once the town’s first responders arrived on the scene a few minutes later, Watts had already pulled the boy from the drain and was wrapping him in dry clothes to keep him warm. “I’m glad I was there,” he stated. “Maybe I’ll become a first responder when I grow up!” Watts also expressed interest in becoming a lawyer one day, but he’s not sure.

Editing for content—list mistakes below:

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