OSSSLT
Prep Session 2
(Reading Narrative and Writing Short Responses)
Sample Assessment Booklet: New Layout
Booklet 1

QUESTIONS

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) 2015

Follow along as your teacher reads the instructions:

INSTRUCTIONS

✓ Check the identification numbers on the Question and Answer booklets to see that the final 12 digits all match. If they do not, report the problem to the teacher in charge.
✓ Check the pages of your Question and Answer booklets to see that they are in order. If they are not, report the problem to the teacher in charge.

Note:
You are not permitted to use cellphones, radio- or video-recording devices, digital music players or e-mail or text messaging devices during the assessment.

No work in this booklet will be scored.

Continue to follow along as your teacher reads the directions on the cover of Answer Booklet 1.

Thursday, March 31st, 2016
8:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reading</th>
<th>Writing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reading selections:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Types of writing tasks and questions:</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• information paragraph (225 to 250 words)</td>
<td>• long-writing tasks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• news report (225 to 250 words)</td>
<td>– news report (one page)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• dialogue (225 to 250 words)</td>
<td>– series of paragraphs expressing an opinion (two pages)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• real-life narrative (550 to 600 words)</td>
<td>• two short-writing tasks (six lines each)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• graphic text (fewer than 150 words)</td>
<td>• multiple-choice questions</td>
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<td></td>
<td>– developing a main idea with supporting details</td>
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<td></td>
<td>– organization of ideas</td>
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<td></td>
<td>– language conventions</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Types of questions:</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• multiple-choice</td>
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<tr>
<td>• open-response (six lines each)</td>
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Prep Session 2

- Reading Narrative Texts
- Short Writing Tasks
- Answering Multiple Choice Questions
Reading Narrative
A *narrative* is a text form that is written to
- entertain,
- provide insights,
- or communicate a writer’s ideas and perspectives.

It may be either fiction or non-fiction.

A narrative text can be one of the following:

- **Real-life Narrative**: presents an account of a significant time in an individual’s life.
- **Dialogue**: presents a conversation between two or more people.
Read the **questions** before you begin reading the Narrative Text:

- "Mark-up" the **questions** to identify what you should look for
- Reading the questions first alerts you to **phrases** as you read
Look for visual cues in the Narrative:

- Any illustrations provided
- The appearance of the text
- The amount of dialogue in the text
"Mark up" the text as you read it carefully
- Highlight repeated and key words / phrases
- Identify each of the characters
- Pay close attention to the text's first and last sentence (usually the most important)
- Try to visualize or "see" what's happening
Read the Dialogue closely:

- Determine who is speaking

- Examine dialogue tags to clarify the situation (i.e. "she yelled" is different from "she whispered")

- Carefully examine the wording of the dialogue, and try to determine the speaker's tone (i.e. “You’ve got to be kidding me” is a sarcastic statement)

- Identify each character’s role, actions, and character traits through what he/she says.
Short Writing Tasks
These tasks will give students the opportunity to demonstrate their writing skills using their knowledge and personal experience.

Responses must be written in complete sentences. Students are given six lines for their response.

DO NOT GO OVER THE LINES PROVIDED = ZERO
You will be assessed on:

- how well you develop your main idea with supporting details
- how well you organize your ideas
- how well you use language conventions
- both the content of the answer and the writing skills.
Tips for Short Writing tasks

• Read and reread the question carefully. There will be two parts to the question.

• Think of links between the topic, prior knowledge, and personal experiences.

• Start responding by re-wording the topic. For example, if the topic is: “What is your favorite holiday?” Start with “My favorite holiday is…”

• Even if the question doesn’t relate to personal life experiences, respond as if there is some connection.
What is the best invention in the world today? Explain why you think it's the best.
Supported Opinion Paragraph

Introductory Sentence
(Sentence containing YOUR opinion and must catch the readers attention)

Support #1
(Explanation of your opinion using real-world support as proof)

Support #2
(Explanation of your opinion using personal experience support as proof)

Concluding Sentence
(Concluding sentence that links with the introductory sentence)
Short Writing Task Checklist

✔ Turn the Question into a statement

✔ Write 2 – 3 Supporting statements

✔ Concluding Sentence
Hints to encourage student success:

* **Fill in all lines**
  - but do NOT go over...this will = a Zero mark

* **Answer all stuff**
  - in complete sentences...guess if you have to!

* **Mark up the pages**
  - highlight and identify the 5WH in all reading selections

* can't **Edit enough!**

(Credits: Candice Lande)
What can I do to prepare for the test?

1. Complete practice activities and questions
2. More practice: www.fmss.ca....Student Life....OSSLT
3. Attend OSSLT workshops in March - dates TBA
Credits:

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- Created by: Siobohn Catalano, Fletchers Meadow