

Literacy Test Practice: News Article

Rationale

The OSSLT includes requires students to write a News Article using a picture AND headline **that has been provided**. You will need to make up an event and then elaborate/expand with details.

Students are given one lined page for their written work.

The news article is worth 60 points for content and 40 points for writing conventions for a total possible 100 points.

Scoring Guide- Content

Key Items for the News Article:

- Consistent focus on one event
- Details provided (names, dates, places)
- Format looks like a real news article
- Avoids "I"- written in 3rd person- uses "he, she, they"
- Has a lead sentence and a concluding sentence

The suggested writing time is about 40 minutes.



Code	Descriptor
10	The response is related to headline and/or photo but is not a news report. OR The response is a news report related to the headline and/or photo. It identifies an event, about provides no supporting details, or provides details that are unrelated to the event. There is no evidence of organization.
20	The response is related to headline and/or photo but only partly in the form of a news report. OR The response is a news report related to the headline and/or photo, but the focus on an event is unclear or inconsistent. There are insufficient supporting details: too few or repetitious. There is limited evidence of organization.
50	The response is a news report related to the headline and photo with a clear and consistent focus on an event. There are sufficient specific supporting details to develop the news report. The organization is logical.
60	The response is a news report related to the headline and photo with a clear and consistent focus on an event. There are sufficient specific supporting details, which are thoughtfully chosen to develop the news report. The organization is coherent demonstrating a thoughtful progression of ideas.

Lead sentence answers Who, Where, When and Why

Code 60

Date and Byline

Students Participate in Important Election

Apr 3, 2017, TORONTO STAR

The students of school name in location took part in a very important Provincial vote yesterday. Despite the votes not actually changing or giving power in Ontario, it plays a huge



Indented paragraphs

role for the Political parties going forward. NDP leader Andrea Horwath said, "These young men and women are the voters of tomorrow. Through this "mock" election, we can see who they believe will make changes in Ontario for the better."

Quotes

The elections which took place in schools province wide concluded with the NDP Party with 50% of all votes, the Liberals with 25%, Conservatives with 20%, and the Green Party with 5%. Lucy Hall, (above, second from the right) was asked who she voted for. "I voted for the NDP party because they are a younger party, and their values appeal to me more as a young adult. As university begins for me next year, I feel the NDP will change education in Ontario for the better."

Fake facts

With the Liberals and Conservatives typically leading the polls in the real elections, it cannot be denied that these results will boost the NDP's confidence and campaigning going forward.

Concluding sentence that mentions future

Instructions for the News Article

A

Plan

1. Read the headline and picture and create an event that uses BOTH.
2. Brainstorm answering the 5 Ws and H. Also think about what you want people to say- quotes from witnesses or 'experts' will make this event seem more realistic.

B

Write

3. Write the lead. It should be a brief sentence that includes: **Who, Where, When** and **What**. If ONLY this sentence was read, the reader would know the basic event details.
4. Write the rest of the article, adding more details about the event, and explaining the **Why** and **How** in detail. Specific facts and names should be used to make this credible.
5. Write a final sentence that gives a next step, future action or a conclusion to the news event.

C

Review

6. Review and correct. Make sure each paragraph is only 1-2 sentences, and each is indented.

Practice Questions- from previous Literacy Tests

A

Plan:

What is the event?	
Who (specific names)	
Where (specific names)	
When (past event)	
Why (cause/reason)	
How	
Quote(s)	

