

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

Elmira District Secondary
2019

What do I need to graduate from High School?

- * Earn **30** credits
- * Complete 40 hours of **Community Service**
- * Successfully pass the **Literacy Test (the OSSLT)**

What is the Literacy Test?

- * A test to ensure that students have acquired essential reading and writing skills
- * The test covers reading and writing skills that are covered in all subject areas up to the end of Grade Nine
- * A graduation requirement.

Who writes the Literacy Test?

- * All Grade 10 students in Ontario write the test at the same time on the same day.
- * Students in Grades 11/12 who have not yet successfully completed the test.
- * Some students may be deferred (may not write until next year) for a variety of reasons (e.g. behind in credits; ESL/ELL; etc.).

When is the Literacy Test?

- * Wednesday, March 27, 2019.
- * Starts at 8:10 am – Try to be here at least 15 minutes before!
- * Ends at approximately 11:30 am for most students

Will the Literacy Test count for my course marks?

- No.

Will Universities and Colleges see the Literacy Test results?

- No.

What does the test look like?

- * Each student receives a package of 2 booklets, an answer sheet and a questionnaire.
- * Each booklet has a mix of reading and writing tasks and different types of questions.

- Multiple – choice questions

- Several short answer writing tasks
(Use the number of lines provided)

- Two long writing tasks:
 - ✓ *A news report (one page)*
 - ✓ *A series of paragraphs expressing an opinion (one page)*

How long does the test take?

- * Two 90 minute sessions with a 15 minute break between the sessions.



Booklet A – 75 or 90 minutes (15 extra minutes are available on top of initial 75 minutes)

Break – 15 minutes

Booklet B – 75 or 90 minutes (15 extra minutes are available on top of initial 75 minutes)

Students with IEPs may have up to double this time to write.

How will I be prepared?

- You have been provided information on what to expect to see on this test in your Grade Ten English class
- An OSSLT “Boot Camp” has been set up to help previously eligible but unsuccessful writers and other students invited by Learning Services

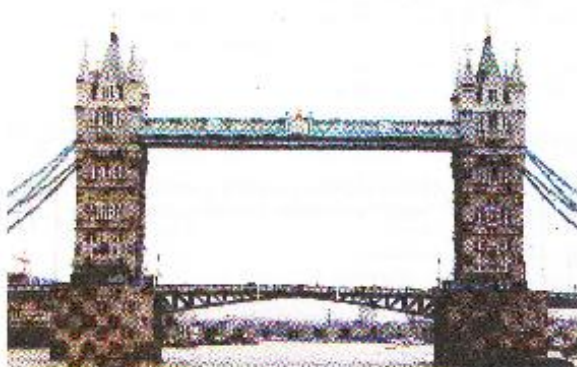
Selection 26 – Writing News Reports

Task: Write a news report based on the headline and picture below. You will have to make up the facts and information answering some or all of the following questions: Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?

Purpose and Audience: to report on an event for the readers of a newspaper

Length: The lined space provided for your written work indicates the approximate length of the writing expected.

American Millionaire Buys London Bridge



Rough Notes

Use the space below for rough notes. Nothing you write in this space will be scored.

Write your news report on the lines provided on the following page.

Selection 29 – Writing News Reports

Task: Write a news report based on the headline and picture below. You will have to make up the facts and information answering some or all of the following questions: Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?

Purpose and Audience: to report on an event for the readers of a newspaper.

Length: The lined space provided for your written work indicates the approximate length of the writing expected.

Canadian Astronaut Joins Space Shuttle Team



NASA Image Gallery

Rough Notes

Use the space below for rough notes.
Nothing you write in this space will be scored.

Write your news report on the lines provided on the following page.

Do's and Don'ts for the OSSLT:

- * Write in blue/black pen or pencil.
- * NO cell phones/digital/electronic ANYTHING in the test room.
- * No profanity, scribbling, drawing on the tests.
- * Listen to the teacher's instructions carefully: They can read them once to you and that is all!

More Do's and Don'ts for the OSSLT:

- * Write as if you are writing to an adult audience.
- * This is not the event to, “Make a Statement.”
- * Write for the number of lines that you see on the paper. The expectations is that YOU FILL THE SPACE ALOTTED.

Good Luck, Lancers!