



OSSLT PREPARATION

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test measures whether students are meeting the minimum standard for literacy across all subjects up to the end of Grade 9. You need to successfully complete the Literacy Test to earn your Ontario Secondary School Diploma and graduate.

The OSSLT will be written on Tuesday, April 8 (last names A-L) and Wednesday, April 9 (last names M-Z). Writers should go to room 241 (at the back of the library) *instead* of their period 1 class.

There are two sessions to complete that will take approximately an hour each. Those with IEPs will be accommodated accordingly, and may be writing the test on a different day.

To help you further prepare for the literacy test we have some tips and resources below!

OSSLT BREAKDOWN

- **Real-life Narrative:** a reading passage and multiple-choice questions.
- **Information Paragraph:** a reading passage and multiple-choice questions.
- **News Report:** a news report reading, one written response and multiple-choice questions.
- **Dialogue:** a narrative scene (story) and multiple-choice questions.
- **Written Multiple-Choice:** multiple-choice writing questions about grammar rules.
- **Series of Paragraphs Expressing an Opinion:** one written response composed of a series of paragraphs.

TIPS TO REMEMBER

- Read all reading selections carefully. Use the split screen tool to see the text and question at the same time.
- Use the annotation tools, like the highlighter tool (or underline) to help you find evidence in the texts.
- Read all questions carefully and highlight or underline keywords.
- Go back and reread important parts of the text to answer the questions. Use the highlighter tool to help you.
- Make sure you answer all parts of the questions.
- Brainstorm and organize your thoughts before you start writing. Use the rough notes tool provided, or paper and pencil.
- Pay attention to the word count tracker. The short writing piece is 100 words and the long writing piece is 500 words.
- Proofread your work carefully.



RESOURCES

Here are some resources you can use to help you prepare for the literacy test. Click the links below!

[General Tips and Tricks](#)

[I.D.E.A Answering Multiple Choice Help](#)

[Writing a Series of Paragraphs](#)

PRACTICE LITERACY TEST

It's a good idea to take a look at the Practice Literacy Test that is available at eqao.com or the direct link here:

The practice test is set up to look exactly like the actual Literacy Test. Familiarize yourself with the layout and functions of the online test! You can practice questions in the exact format of the test and check your answers at the end.



EXTRA SUPPORT

Lunchtime Drop-In Sessions

If you feel like you would benefit from extra support there will be drop-in OSSLT prep sessions every Tuesday and Thursday in room 235.

We will go over how the test is structured, test-taking strategies, practice using previous OSSLT questions, and getting comfortable with the online format.

One-on-One Support

Unable to attend the lunchtime sessions or just feel like you would like more support? Email Mrs. Smithson at lindsay.smithson@dsbn.org.

