



Walkerton District Community School



Online O.S.S.L.T.

Information + Preparation Package

W.D.C.S. LITERACY TEAM

REVISED: MARCH 2021



MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS

READ the question carefully!!

STEP 1: **I**NSTINCT—what answer comes to mind first? *Trust your gut!*

STEP 2: **D**ELETE—answers you know are wrong. Mentally, cross them off to eliminate them.

STEP 3: **E**VIDENCE—

a) SKIM/SCAN the reading selection to find out what section the question is referring to

b) RE-READ the necessary sections

c) LOOK FOR any sentences or words that are “quoted” in the question

STEP 4: **A**NSWER—do not leave it blank!

I.D.E.A.



OPEN RESPONSE & SHORT WRITING TASK QUESTIONS

STEP 1: Read the passage.

STEP 2: Write a clear answer to the question.

Use the wording from the question as part of your topic sentence. *Do not blend your first point into your Topic Sentence!

STEP 3: Make sure that you explain your answer in detail.

STEP 4: Provide at least 2 specific details from the selection that support your answer.

STEP 5: Write a concluding sentence that restates your answer to the question.

** Do not fill up your answer with quotations from the passage

** Your “Word Count” limit = 100 words



MULTIPLE CHOICE CONVENTIONS

QUESTIONS (GRAMMAR + PUNCTUATION)

READ the question carefully!!

These questions are designed to test your knowledge of proper grammar, sentence structure and use of conventions.

STEP 1: **I**NSTINCT—what answer comes to mind first?

STEP 2: **D**ELETE— answers you know are wrong

STEP 3: **E**VIDENCE—carefully read all of the answers left again

STEP 4: **A**NSWER— pick the best choice—do not leave it blank!

I.D.E.A.

ORGANIZE EVENTS, CLICK TO ANSWER,
FILL IN THE BLANK (CLICK), DRAG + DROP


These are new answer formats that you will use to answer questions for parts of the OSSLT. In this *online* format, they are simple to use, just be sure to follow the instructions!



NEWS REPORT: READ & RESPOND

STEP 1: READ the article closely.

STEP 2: Answer the Multiple Choice Questions carefully; LOOK back at the article to check your answers.

*It is totally OK to use the  [Open/Close Reading Passage](#) option to go back to the “Reading Selection” and double check it for information!

STEP 3: Look back at the article to best answer the ‘Drop Down’ menu questions. **usually, you are being asked to pick the “word that is closest in meaning” to a key word, etc.*

STEP 4: Answer the “Open Response” question clearly by stating a clear Topic Sentence, providing 2-3 main points (facts/examples/evidence from the article) + explaining them *briefly*, and then a short Concluding Sentence. **Remember: your Word Count for Open Response answers is 100 words.*

STEP 5: Check over your “Section” box at the Left-hand side of the screen to make sure that you have answered ALL of the questions in the list 😊

STEP 6: “Review & Submit” your work for that section!



“DRAG & DROP” MAIN IDEA

Step 1: Read the entire passage before deciding on main idea (you have already done this to answer the other questions!)

Step 2: Pick the best choice from the options given and “drag & drop” that statement into the “Main Idea” box.

Step 3: “Drag & Drop” the remaining statements into the “Supporting Details” boxes. *usually, there are 2.

REMINDERS

- To find the “Main Idea”, ask yourself “What’s the point of this article?”

Your answer = THE MAIN IDEA

- The “Supporting Details” do just that, they support, or ‘back up’ the Main Idea.



SERIES OF PARAGRAPHS EXPRESSING AN OPINION (A.K.A. 5 PARAGRAPH ESSAY!)

STEP 1: Read the question.

STEP 2: Decide on your opinion—if you don't have an opinion, make one up! *You must take a side!

STEP 3: Make a PLAN!

- come up with 3 supporting arguments.
- include proof, facts, examples, etc. for each argument.

STEP 4: Write the introduction (1 paragraph).

STEP 5: Write a paragraph for **each supporting argument** (3 paragraphs).

STEP 6: Write a conclusion (1 paragraph).

REMINDERS:

- **Indent** the first line of each paragraph (“Tab” key)
- Write in complete sentences
- Clearly include your opinion in the final sentence of the INTRO (your *thesis*)
 - As well, include your opinion in the Topic Sentence of the CONCLUSION
- You have a “Word Count” limit of 500 words.
 - ➔ There is a ‘counter’ below the text box where you type your essay letting you know the “Number of Remaining Words: ____” that you have. Be clear + CONCISE 😊



WRITING *YOUR* SERIES OF PARAGRAPHS — TEMPLATE (BRAINSTORMING OUTLINE)

Question: Is it a good idea for high school students to have a part-time job?

Answer: In my opinion, high school students _____ have a part-time job.

Supporting Argument	Proof/Fact/Example
1.	1.
2.	2.
3.	3.

Try out your ideas! Fill in the following template (scaffold) as a rough draft/practice.

In my opinion, students _____ have a part-time job
because _____,
_____ and _____
_____.



The first reason why students _____ have a part-time job is _____. For example, _____
_____.
_____. Also, _____
_____.
_____. Therefore, _____.

The second reason why students _____ have a part-time job is _____. For example, _____
_____.
_____. Also, _____
_____.
_____. Therefore, _____.

The third reason why students _____ have a part-time job is _____. For example, _____
_____.
_____. Also, _____
_____.
_____. Therefore, _____.

In conclusion, students _____ have a part-time job because _____,

_____ and _____.



READING DIALOGUE

Tip 1: Notice punctuation

- Quotation marks (“ ”) indicate someone is speaking
- A question mark (?) indicates someone is asking a question

Example: “Is tomorrow the big day?” asked Hanna.

- An exclamation mark (!) indicates someone is speaking in an excited tone

Example: “You’re a fantastic chef!”

- Single quotation marks (‘ ’) indicate someone is speaking someone else’s words

Example: “Thanks. It’s not the cooking that I’m worried about—it’s the pace. ‘Go! Hurry!’ People yelling...”

Tip 2: Notice dialogue tag words (snarled, giggled, cried, said) to help understand the tone of the speaker

Example: Gerry *exhaled loudly*...

“Poor Steve,” recalled Gerry, chuckling.

Tip 3: Use your inferencing skills to “read between the lines” and draw conclusions about what the characters are thinking and feeling

Tip 4: Go back & re-read sections of the text to help you understand

Tip 5: When in doubt—guess! **Don’t leave it blank!** Use the **IDEA** tips for answering multiple-choice questions.



COMMON ERRORS/HELPFUL REMINDERS

- Forgetting to indent
- Forgetting to use Transition Words/Phrases
- A clear + *separate* Topic Sentence that answers the question (Short Answer & Open Response Q's)
- A *separate* first point. (*Do not blend your 1st Reason with your Topic Sentence)
- Specific details to support your answers
 - ➔ Use the information from the Reading Passage for “Open Response” questions
 - ➔ Use specific examples, reasons and FACTS to support your opinion in the “Series of Paragraphs Expressing an Opinion” (aka = the 5 Paragraph Essay!)
- Inference questions; ‘making connections’ to your life + the real world
- Not using all of the space provided (meeting the ‘Word Count’)
- Going over the ‘Word Count’ and having to leave a response partially finished.
- Not making sure that the selected answer that you “clicked”, or “dropped down” actually worked or stayed selected. (*Be careful to click directly on your choice and then move your cursor away)
- Don’t forget! You CAN go back and forth to a Reading Selection or previous questions
- Be sure to go back and complete an “Flagged for later” questions, or incomplete questions during the “REVIEW & SUBMIT” step – otherwise, you will not get another chance! *Once you have saved your answers in the “REVIEW & SUBMIT” step, that is it!
- **Keep ALL of your Responses SCHOOL APPROPRIATE!** NO jokes, swearing, racist language, etc. This could cause you to FAIL the test!
This applies to the “Open Response” paragraphs & the “Series of Paragraphs Expressing an Opinion” {Essay}
- There is a Survey at the end of the OSSLT for you to provide constructive and *appropriate* feedback 😊
- Remember to RELAX and **do your best!**