

GETTING READY  
FOR THE OSSLT



**MARCH 31,  
2020**

# BE PREPARED!



- EQAO.COM WEBSITE—lots of practice tests
- D2L—handout will be given out at the end of this assembly and will be available on the FHCI website
- FHCI PREPARATION BOOKLET—available in the Main Office and on the school website
- After School Literacy will be starting soon—listen for announcements
- TVO “Ask a Teacher”

**FHCI.net**

# EQAO.COM --GETTING READY GUIDE



Browser window showing the EQAO website. The address bar displays: <http://www.eqao.com/en/assessments/OSSLT/assessment-docs/getting-ready-guide-osslt.pdf>. The page title is "About the Assessment".

The main content area features a large image of a smiling student holding a book, with the text "Be informed. Be ready." and the title "Getting Ready Guide for Grade 10 Students".

**Contents**

- Test Instructions.....2
- Reading Skills.....4
- Tips for Reading.....4
- Writing Skills.....5
- Tips for Writing.....5
- Questions and Answers.....6

The following preparation materials are available on the EQAO Web site ([www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com)):

- The *Planning and Preparation Guide* shows sample passages and questions from the OSSLT.
- Sample Test Booklets give you an idea of the amount of work you will be asked to do in each of two 75-minute sessions.
- The *Released Items with Answer Keys and Scoring Guides* show you the questions used to compute students' scores on previous years' tests, along with answer keys for the multiple-choice questions and scoring guides for open-response items (for examples of these materials, go to <http://www.eqao.com/en/assessments/OSSLT/Pages/example-assessment-materials-2017.aspx>).

Your teachers will use the Web materials to take you through samples of the types of questions you will find on the OSSLT.

You can find out more by visiting [www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com) or by calling 1-888-327-7377.

Education Quality and Accountability Office  
**EQAO**

Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the search bar, taskbar icons, and system tray with the date and time: 7:31 AM, 2018-04-04.

# EQAO. COM

Screenshot of the EQAO website showing the Planning and Preparation Guide for the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT).

The browser address bar shows: <http://www.eqao.com/en/assessments/OSSLT/assessment-docs/planning-preparation-guide-osslt.pdf>

The page title is: **Planning and Preparation Guide**  
Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

The guide contains information to help you prepare your students for the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT).

Please visit our Web site, [www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com), to access other valuable support documents, including the following:

- a sample test, with examples of the Question and Answer booklet;
- previously administered tests, with Student Answer Keys and scoring rubrics, and
- the OSSLT Framework.

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## PLANNING AND PREPARATION GUIDE

# HOW TO ACCESS THE D2L COURSE



**WHEN YOU NEED TECHNICAL HELP,  
CONTACT D2L TECH SUPPORT BY PHONE  
24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK.**

**1-800-222-0209**

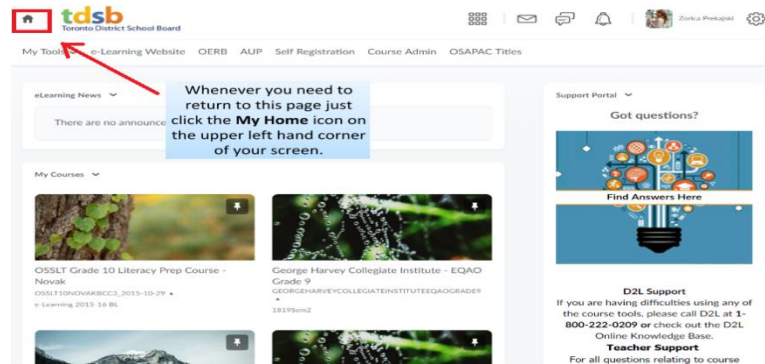
**IF YOU'RE AT SCHOOL AND ALREADY  
LOGGED INTO TDSB NETWORK YOU  
DON'T HAVE TO LOG IN AGAIN TO  
ACCESS DESIRE2LEARN, JUST OPEN**

**[HTTPS://TDSB.ELEARNINGONTARIO.CA](https://tdsb.elearningontario.ca)**

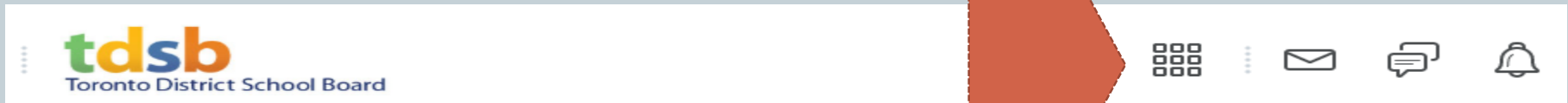
# How do I access the EQAO COURSE ON D2L



**When you log in to D2L you land on your personal My Home page. There are lots of important links and tools on this page.**



# How to Enter a Course on D2L



OR



# Your School OSSLT Prep

## Announcements ▾

### Take an OSSLT Practice Test ▾

Full-screen Snip



Hello Joanne,

Welcome to the online practice test for EQAO. Taking this test will provide you with a great opportunity to practise your reading and writing skills before the BIG day.

[Click here to begin Book 1](#)

When you complete and submit Part 1, Part 2 will become available to you.

[Click here to begin Book 2](#)

Multiple choice answers will be marked automatically and you'll receive feedback right away.

For feedback on your written responses (supported opinions, news report and series of paragraphs) click on the links below to see sample student answers and rubrics.

[Book 1 Responses and Rubrics](#) [Book 2 Responses and Rubrics](#)

## Practise Reading

Reading skills  
practise reading  
selecting the l

Remember you  
help or clarific

- read
- read

## Practise Writing

Writing skills a  
practise your w  
links below.

Remember





**Education Quality and  
Accountability Office**



Full-screen Snip

# Preparation Workbook Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)

# INTRODUCTION



**What You Need To Know**

- ✓ What is the OSSLT?
- ✓ Who writes the OSSLT?
- ✓ What are the basics of the OSSLT?
- ✓ What is on the OSSLT?
- ✓ Decoding the OSSLT



## BEFORE READING

- **PREVIEW** the selection. By skimming and scanning, you will get an overall idea of what the selection is about.
- **LOOK** carefully at the photograph or diagram. These graphic features will give you clues to the meaning of the selection.
- **READ** the questions. By doing this, you will know what to look for when reading the selection.

## DURING READING

- **MAKE NOTES.** Use the white space to jot down questions, key words, and thoughts you may have.
- **HIGHLIGHT or UNDERLINE** facts, details or ideas that link to the questions.
- Pay attention to **TEXT FEATURES.** *Italics*, **bold**, headings, "quotation marks" to show dialogue/quotations, headlines, numbering of paragraphs, etc. all help you to understand the selection.

## AFTER READING

- **ANSWER** the questions.
- **RE-READ** the selection in case you are unsure of an answer.
- **LOOK** carefully at the selection to find details that will help you answer the questions.

- You may be surprised to find out just how hard multiple-choice questions can really be. The choices are not meant to trick you, but rather to make you think. You know the correct answer is there, but all of the choices may sound correct. This is one of the things that make multiple-choice questions difficult to answer.

## HOW CAN I BE SURE THAT I AM SELECTING THE CORRECT ANSWER?

1. Read the question **FIRST**. Look for key words.
2. Don't look at the answer choices yet.
3. Before looking at the answer choices, try to think of an answer on your own. **Go back to the selection if necessary.**
4. Try to find an answer in the list of choices that matches what you predicted.
5. If you don't see the answer you predicted, see if you can cross out any of the choices you know are wrong. Narrow your choices down to as few as possible.
6. No matter what you choose, make sure that you read through all the choices. Sometimes more than one answer may seem right. After you have ruled out choices you know are incorrect, then select the best one. **DO NOT LEAVE BLANKS!**
7. Check and double-check that you have "bubbled-in" your choice in the correct section of the

Full-screen Snip

### Multiple-Choice

**1** (A) (B) (C) (D)**2** (F) (G) (H) (J)**3** (A) (B) (C) (D)**4** (F) (G) (H) (J)**5** (A) (B) (C) (D)

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**Multiple-Choice** (Record the best or most correct answer on the Student Answer Booklet.)

1. Which paragraph describes the event that happened first?

- a. paragraph 2
- b. paragraph 3
- c. paragraph 4
- d. paragraph 5

The answer to this question is **NOT** directly stated. (IMPLICIT) Use a fact or detail to make an educated guess.



**KNOW YOUR TERMS:**

**Identify**— State or name a person, place, thing, or a reason.

**Explain** – Give a reason as part of your answer; try using the word “because”.

**Describe** – Tell about a person, place, thing or idea in your answer. Try to paint a picture.

**Define** – Tell the meaning of a word or phrase.

**Suggest**—provide an idea for careful thought

## Written Answers



Read the questions carefully!  
Use part of the question as part of your answer!  
**DON'T LEAVE ANYTHING BLANK**; fill up the lines!

1. Does Gerry believe that Hanna's suggestions will help him? Use specific details from this selection to support your answer.

• Rectangular Snip

**Start your answer with part of the question. For example:**

Gerry feels that Hannah's suggestions ...



This is an **IMPLICIT Question**. The answer is in the text, but you need to look in several different places to find supporting details.

1. Does Gerry believe that Hanna's suggestions will help him? Use specific details from this selection to support your answer.

CODE 10

UNACCEPTABLE RESPONSE

Yes, Gerry believes that Hana's suggestions will help him. Firstly, Hana's explained to Gerry that taking a walk will calm the nerves. Secondly, Hana explained to Gerry that visualizing the end of the day will picture yourself as a feeling of accomplishment. Lastly, Hana told a funny story to Ger

Annotation:

The response provides examples of suggestions that Hanna gave (*taking a walk will calm the nerves...visualizing the end of the day will picture yourself as a feeling of accomplishment*) but provides no evidence from the selection as to whether Gerry believes these suggestions will help him.

CODE 30



## SCORING GUIDE FOR READING OPEN-RESPONSE QUESTIONS QUESTION #2

What are some strategies that people can use to overcome stresses in their lives? Use specific details from this selection and your own ideas to support your answer.

Assess your level using the following rubric by highlighting which code your response corresponds with:

CODE	DESCRIPTOR
Blank	<b>nothing written or drawn in the lined spaced provided</b>
Illegible	<b>response is illegible</b> An <u>illegible</u> response cannot be read. A <u>comment on the task</u> (e.g., I don't know.).
Off Topic/ Incorrect	<b>response is off topic, irrelevant or incorrect</b> A typical <u>off topic</u> response has no connection to the selection or the question. A typical <u>irrelevant</u> response comments on the selection or topic (e.g., I do not have a job.) or only restates the question. (e.g., Everyone should learn about workplace safety) with no support. A typical <u>incorrect</u> response provides an answer based on a misunderstanding of the question (e.g., does not provide a reason) <b>AND/OR</b> of the ideas in the selection.
Code 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>response indicates minimal reading comprehension</b></li> <li>response provides minimal or irrelevant ideas and information from the</li> </ul>



# QUESTIONS?



**IF YOU ARE UNSURE ABOUT ANY ASPECT OF  
THE OSSLT, SEE A TEACHER, GUIDANCE  
COUNSELLOR (THEY ARE ALSO TEACHERS ☺)  
OR ADMINISTRATOR!**

**ALL QUESTIONS ARE SMART QUESTIONS!!!**