

OSSLT

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

April 2013

RELEASED SELECTIONS AND TEST QUESTIONS

**Record your answers to the multiple-choice questions
on the Student Answer Sheet (2013, April).**

Please note: The format of
this booklet is different from
that used for the assessment.
The questions themselves
remain the same.

Read carefully before writing the test:

- Check the identification numbers of your three documents to see that the final 12 digits all match. If they do not, report the problem to the teacher in charge.
- Check the pages of this *Test Booklet* to see that they are in order. If they are not, report the problem to the teacher in charge.
- Read all instructions before responding to the questions.
- Use only pencil or blue or black pen in the *Test Booklet* and on the Student Answer Sheet.
- Attempt all questions. If you leave a question blank, the question will be scored zero.

Multiple-Choice

- Choose the best or most correct answer for each question.
- You must record your multiple-choice answers on the Student Answer Sheet. Multiple-choice answers recorded in the *Test Booklet* will not be scored.

To indicate your answer, **fill in the circle completely**, as shown below.

Like this: ● **Not like this:** ⊗ ✓ ◐ ◑

- If you fill in more than one circle for a question, the question will be scored incorrect.
- If you wish to change a multiple-choice answer, erase or cross out your answer and fill in the circle for your new answer. Ensure that your final answer is clear.

Written Answers

- For all questions that ask for a written answer, **write legibly on the lined space provided** in the *Test Booklet*.
- For the writing sections, pay attention to clarity, organization, spelling, grammar and punctuation.
- The lined space provided for your written work indicates the approximate length of the writing expected.
- There is space in the *Test Booklet* for rough notes. Nothing you write in these spaces will be scored.

You are now ready to start.
Remember to record all your multiple-choice answers on the Student Answer Sheet.

Read the selection below and answer the questions that follow it.

An Animator from Scarborough

Over 1500 applications from around the world flood George Lucas’s animation academy each year (Lucas created the *Star Wars* films), but only four applicants are selected for internships. Randolph Lizarda, 21, from Scarborough, was one of them.

“I’m very excited. I’ll be working in the LucasArts division animating video games, although I don’t know what we’re working on. They wouldn’t tell me—it’s confidential,” Lizarda said on a break from his Sheridan College class.

As a child, Lizarda liked to draw cartoons. Now he is learning to transfer his drawing ability to the computer.

“I was into [art] when I was little; then I got more into it in high school. In Grade 10, I took one of those career surveys to find out where you fit in. I fit into the animation industry,” he said.

Lizarda aspires to one day work for an animation company such as Pixar or DreamWorks.

“He’s an excellent student,” said Dave Quesnelle, who teaches animation and is one of Lizarda’s professors. Lizarda stood out after handing in his first assignment, a 10-second action sequence of a muscular circus performer balancing on a ball before jumping through a hoop of fire. This clip was the first segment on the demo reel he submitted to Lucasfilm.

“I had a really good sense of his storytelling. He had the basic principles of animation [but] it was also comical. And that’s our job. Anyone can make a picture move, but to make it entertaining, that’s the craft of an animator.”



Multiple-Choice

(Record the best or most correct answer on the Student Answer Sheet.)

- 1** What will the focus of Lizarda’s internship be?
- a films
 - b cartoons
 - c video games
 - d action sequences
- 2** Which word is closest in meaning to “confidential” as used in paragraph 2?
- a secret
 - b personal
 - c confusing
 - d professional
- 3** According to Quesnelle, what ability is most important for an animator?
- a creating characters
 - b pleasing an audience
 - c developing a demo reel
 - d programming computers
- 4** What do Quesnelle’s quotes indicate about him?
- a He knows a lot about internships.
 - b He focuses on technical aspects of animation.
 - c He recognizes skill and creativity in his students.
 - d He suggests interesting storylines to his students.
- 5** Which paragraph presents information in chronological order?
- a paragraph 2
 - b paragraph 4
 - c paragraph 5
 - d paragraph 7

Written Answer

6 Why is Lizarda a good choice for this internship? Use specific details from the selection to explain your answer.

Rough Notes

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

End of Section I. Continue to Section II. 

Multiple-Choice

(Record the best or most correct answer on the Student Answer Sheet.)

- 1** Choose the sentence that does **not** belong in this paragraph.

(1) Traffic is busy on city streets. (2) Cars, pedestrians and cyclists must share them. (3) Pedestrians often cross the street where it is convenient but not always where it is safe. (4) Tall buildings often line the streets. (5) Navigating city streets can be a challenge.

- a sentence 2
- b sentence 3
- c sentence 4
- d sentence 5

- 2** Choose the best place to insert the following sentence.

They were originally chew sticks made from twigs, feathers, bones and even porcupine quills.

(1) The first toothbrush dates back over 3000 years. (2) In the 1700s, bristled toothbrushes began to appear. (3) Today, they come in all shapes, sizes and colours. (4) With so many choices, it is easy to have good dental hygiene.

- a after sentence 1
- b after sentence 2
- c after sentence 3
- d after sentence 4

- 3** Which of the following sentences needs revision?

(1) The Tri-Town Snow Travellers is a snowmobile club in Ontario. (2) When the club was formed in 1968, it focuses on teaching safe driving on snowmachines. (3) Since then, it has raised money to purchase two snow groomers. (4) Now, club members maintain the snowmobile trails so that everyone can ride safely.

- a sentence 1
- b sentence 2
- c sentence 3
- d sentence 4

- 4** Which sentence is written correctly?

- a Ice fishing, a popular activity in northern regions, requires skill.
- b First, you need to drill a hole, in the ice on a lake using an auger.
- c Some avid anglers, use an ice shack, while waiting for the fish to bite.
- d Ice fishing in the north requires patience a stool to sit on and warm winter clothing.

End of Section II. Continue to Section III.

Short Writing Task (Answer in full and correctly written sentences.)

1 Identify an important environmental issue. Use specific details to explain why it is important.

Rough Notes

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

End of Section III. Continue to Section IV. 

Writing a News Report

1 Task:	Write a news report on the next page based on the headline and picture below. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• You will have to make up the facts and information to answer some or all of the following questions: Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?• You must relate your news report to both the headline and the picture.
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.

Students Participate in Important Election



Rough Notes

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

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

Read the selection below and answer the questions that follow it.

Polar bear survival in the wild may be in danger because of climate change. Climate change is lengthening the ice-free period in southwestern Hudson Bay and thus the polar bear fast. During the Arctic spring, the bears build up their fat by eating seals that they hunt from the ice. Warming temperatures are reducing the ice. For the estimated 2000 polar bears in the region, this has serious implications. The sea ice melts completely each summer, stranding the marine creatures on land and away from their normal diet of seal meat. Although many polar bears do consume lots of blueberries and black crowberries on land, the bears lose almost a kilogram of weight a day for at least four months and as long as eight months in the case of pregnant females. Canadian wildlife biologists have been trying for decades to determine whether polar bears can better endure their months of fasting on land by eating berries. Biologists in the past have tried using measurements from muscle and blood, without success. More recently, researchers applied masks to 300 tranquilized bears and gathered samples of their breath. They found no significant differences between bears that had recently eaten berries (detectable from tell-tale stains on teeth and backsides) and those that hadn't. Can a berry diet reduce the polar bears' dependence on their fat reserves? The answer is no. Unlike that of the brown bear, polar bear metabolism cannot extract sufficient energy from berries alone.



Adapted from "Fieldwork: Berry Bears" by Peter Calamai, published in the *Toronto Star*, January 18, 2009. Reprinted with permission—Torstar Syndication Services.

Multiple-Choice

(Record the best or most correct answer on the Student Answer Sheet.)

- 1** What is the best meaning of “endure” as used in line 10?
- a start
 - b enjoy
 - c tolerate
 - d prevent
- 2** Which option best describes how the information in lines 4 to 7 is presented?
- a chronologically
 - b by cause and effect
 - c as a problem and solution
 - d by similarities and differences
- 3** How did the biologists determine which bears had recently eaten berries?
- a They tested blood samples.
 - b They looked for stained teeth.
 - c They measured their muscles.
 - d They used masks to capture breath.
- 4** What is set off by the comma in the final sentence of the selection?
- a a contrast
 - b a definition
 - c items in a list
 - d a repeated detail
- 5** Which of the following is likely to occur if the average temperature continues to rise in the Arctic?
- a The polar bear population will rise.
 - b Polar bears will consume less seal meat.
 - c Polar bears will spend less time on land.
 - d Polar bears’ dependency on berries will decrease.
- 6** Which is compared in this selection?
- a blueberries and crowberries
 - b tranquilized and awake bears
 - c past and more-current research
 - d muscle measurements and blood samples

Written Answer

7 State a main idea of this selection and provide one specific detail from the selection that supports it.

Rough Notes

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

Unreleased Items

The following April 2013 OSSLT questions are not being released this year:

Components	Questions
Long Writing (Opinion)	1
Writing Multiple-Choice Items	2–5
Real-Life Narrative (Reading)	6–14
Dialogue (Reading)	15–21
Short Writing	22
Graphic Text (Reading)	23–28

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