

Sample Assessment Booklet: New Layout

Booklet 1

QUESTIONS

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT)

2015

Follow along as your teacher reads the instructions:

INSTRUCTIONS

- ✓ Check the identification numbers on the *Question* and *Answer* booklets 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 your *Question* and *Answer* booklets to see that they are in order. If they are not, report the problem to the teacher in charge.

Note:

You are not permitted to use cellphones, audio- or video-recording devices, digital music players or e-mail or text messaging devices during the assessment.

No work in this booklet
will be scored.

Education Quality and
Accountability Office



Continue to follow along as your teacher
reads the directions on the cover of
Answer Booklet 1.

Read the selection below and answer the questions in *Answer Booklet 1*.

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."



Provide your answers in *Answer Booklet 1*.

Multiple-Choice Questions

- 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?
- F secret
 - G personal
 - H confusing
 - J 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?
- F He knows a lot about internships.
 - G He focuses on technical aspects of animation.
 - H He recognizes skill and creativity in his students.
 - J 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

Open-Response Question

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

Provide your answers in *Answer Booklet 1*.

Multiple-Choice Questions

- 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.
- F after sentence 1
G after sentence 2
H after sentence 3
J 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?
F Ice fishing, a popular activity in northern regions, requires skill.
G First, you need to drill a hole, in the ice on a lake using an auger.
H Some avid anglers, use an ice shack, while waiting for the fish to bite.
J Ice fishing in the north requires patience a stool to sit on and warm winter clothing.

Provide your answers in *Answer Booklet 1*.

- 5** Choose the sentence that is written correctly.
- A What time is it in Sao Paulo, Brazil!
 - B Put the wrapper in the recycling bin.
 - C I am so tired that I could sleep in class?
 - D Will the hockey game be over in an hour.

Read the selection below and answer the questions in *Answer Booklet 1*.



“Thanks for agreeing to talk with me about your successful business,” said Nat, shaking hands with Alex. 1

Alex smiled. “I’m happy to help students with career exploration.” 2

“I have three main questions: How did you get started? What do you like best about being your own boss? And what advice do you have for young entrepreneurs?” 3

“You are well prepared,” said Alex, nodding in approval. “I trained at Blaiseville College.” 4

“How did you go from there to having your own Hair Shop on Wheels?” 5

“I got the idea after volunteering at my grandfather’s seniors’ residence. I cut hair and trimmed beards, even styled women’s hair, for anyone who couldn’t get out to the barber-shop or hairdresser. The residence didn’t have space to set up professional equipment, so I thought of a way to bring it all to them. After graduation, I borrowed money from the bank so I could at least afford to buy a van. My brother put in some sweat equity as a mechanic and converted the van into a mobile salon,” explained Alex. 6

Nat was puzzled. “Sweat equity? Your brother gets a share of your profit as payment for his hard work fixing up the van?” 7

Alex nodded in agreement. “That’s the best thing about being my own boss. I can be creative in how I run my business.” 8

“That aspect appeals to me too,” said Nat. “What’s your best advice for me as an aspiring businessman?” 9

“Do your research, develop a realistic business plan and focus on your goals.” 10

Provide your answers in *Answer Booklet 1*.

Multiple-Choice Questions

- 1** How does Nat show that he prepared for his interview with Alex?
- A by shaking hands with Alex
 - B by sharing his business plan
 - C by having his questions ready
 - D by volunteering at a seniors' residence
- 2** The colon in paragraph 3 is used to
- F end a sentence.
 - G introduce a list.
 - H indicate a pause.
 - J highlight the next idea.
- 3** The questions in paragraph 7 are a request for
- A proof.
 - B a reason.
 - C permission.
 - D clarification.
- 4** What is the meaning of “aspiring” as used in paragraph 9?
- F mature
 - G hopeful
 - H friendly
 - J struggling
- 5** Which of the following best shows that Alex is creative?
- A He attended college.
 - B He borrowed money.
 - C He started a mobile salon.
 - D He volunteered at a seniors' residence.

Open-Response Questions

- 6** Is the interview with Alex beneficial to Nat's career exploration? Use specific details from the selection to support your answer.
- 7** How does this selection show the benefits of volunteering for community service? Use specific details from the selection to support your answer.

Provide your answer in *Answer Booklet 1*.

Short Writing Task

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

Do not write in this area.

Provide your answer in *Answer Booklet 1*.

Students Participate in Important Election



1 Task:

Write a **news report** based on the headline and picture above.

- 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 in the *Answer Booklet* for your written work indicates the approximate length of the writing expected.

Read the selection below and answer the questions in *Answer Booklet 1*.

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.



Provide your answers in *Answer Booklet 1*.

Multiple-Choice Questions

- 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?
- F chronologically
 - G by cause and effect
 - H as a problem and solution
 - J 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?
- F a contrast
 - G a definition
 - H items in a list
 - J 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?
- F blueberries and crowberries
 - G tranquilized and awake bears
 - H past and more-current research
 - J muscle measurements and blood samples

Open-Response Question

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

Permissions and Credits

Section A: Reading

Adapted from “A Jedi from Scarborough: Animation Student Wins Spot at George Lucas’s Elite Academy” by Robyn Doolittle, published in the *Toronto Star*, April 15, 2009. Reproduced with permission—Torstar Syndication Services © Photo: Michael Stuparyk, *Toronto Star*.

Section C: Reading

Written for EQAO.

Section F: Reading

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