

What Can I Do At Home?

Every school will be providing / delivering instruction to help students prepare for the test during and after school. But there are some things that you and your child can do at home to prepare:

WRITING CHECKLIST	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	_____
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- Use the print materials you already have at home (magazines, newspapers, comic books, posters, flyers, brochures, catalogues, websites) to practice reading
- Talk about what you've read, and how it connects to what's going on in the world
- Watch films and TV shows, and practice making predictions, asking questions, clarifying something or making a comment about what you've read/seen
- Become familiar with the instructions on the Literacy Test by accessing www.EQAO.com and trying the sample tests!

The OSSLT has been designed to “determine whether a student has the reading and writing skills required to meet the standards of the *Ontario Curriculum* across all subjects up to the end of grade nine.”

(OSSLT: Framework)

SPECIAL SCHEDULE FOR TEST DAY:

All secondary schools will be publishing a special schedule for the test day. Individual schools will be providing specific information regarding the afternoon class schedule and any transportation changes closer to the test date.

Some other websites to check out:

For a website with sample tests & instant feedback, see:

<http://www.cawthralibrary.com/OSSLT%20supoort/sample.htm>

<http://dpcdsb.org/CEC/Programs/EQAO/EQAOTests/OSSLT.htm>

ANY QUESTIONS?

Check out your school's website to see what's happening, *or ...*

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OSSLT AT WCDSB

OCCURRING ON

**THURSDAY,
MARCH 31, 2016**



Since all students must meet the standards of the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) as a graduation requirement, it is a priority at all our secondary schools.

Classroom instruction and after-school programs will help prepare your child for the test. Here are a few tips and strategies students can use to get ready at home.

***Our Catholic Schools—
heart of the community,
success for each, a
place for all!***



PREPARING FOR THE TEST

QUESTION TYPES AND TIPS:

Short Writing Tasks:

1. **Read and reread** the question carefully. Ask yourself: “What’s the **main idea**?”
2. Use **specific and relevant details and information from the reading selection** and/or your experience to answer.



Series of Paragraphs Stating an Opinion

1. **State your opinion** in the 1st paragraph—make it clear that you agree or disagree.
2. **Brainstorm!** Use the *Rough Notes* section to organize your ideas: list reasons and examples to support your opinion. Ask yourself: *Why do I agree or disagree?*
3. Write at least **2 body paragraphs**, explaining your reasons and providing examples.
4. Write a **conclusion** where you restate your position and summarize your main ideas.

Open-Response Questions:

1. Think of **links** between the topic and your knowledge & personal experience.
2. Answer the question using **specific details and relevant information** from your personal knowledge and experiences.

The Newspaper Report

1. **Brainstorm!** Look at the picture closely and jot down details of what you see in the *Rough Notes* section to **answer: Who? What? Where? When? Why? and How?**
2. Your **opening paragraph** needs to be 1-2 sentences long, and answer: **Who? What? Where? and When?**
3. **The body paragraph(s)** can answer the **Why? and How?**
4. The conclusion should also be short (1-2 sentences), and could answer the question: **What will happen next?**
5. Use a **direct quote** in your report.
6. Always write in the 3rd person (he, she, it, they, etc.) Do not use the word “I.”

Multiple Choice

Reading Questions:

1. **Underline or circle key words** in both the question stem and the choices.
2. **Always read all of the choices**, even when the first or second choice looks correct.
3. Think of multiple choice as a series of **true/false** statements.
4. **Use the process of elimination.** Cross off all choices which are clearly false.
5. **Answer every question.** Making an educated guess is acceptable.



Need to hear or see someone explain it?
Check out the following on YouTube:

Opinion Essay

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T5NrNcaWfiA>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lv1KACtQyLA>

Multiple Choice

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=73ZDMd3KmjU>

Open Responses

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=73ZDMd3KmjU>

News Report

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8_NmVtnEEA8

Grammar

<http://www.chompchomp.com/menu.htm>

Remember! Read the questions and instructions **carefully**—ask yourself: “What is this asking me to do?”