

A composite image with a purple and pink background. On the left is a stack of papers, and on the right is a clock face.

O.S.S.L.T.

A composite image with a green and yellow background. On the left is a stack of papers, and on the right is a clock face.

Ontario Secondary School
Literacy Test

STRESS! STRESS!



What Do I Need To Know?

- **Wednesday, March 27 - ALL MORNING**
- You will be writing the test in **East Wing classrooms**, unless you have a non-traditional classroom or an IEP and have been provided with an alternate setting.
- Make sure that you **check which room YOU will be writing in.**





- Make sure that you arrive at school in plenty of time to get to your locker and to your assigned **room by 8:20**. There is no extra time provided if you're late.
- Passing the OSSLT or OLC40 is a graduation requirement to get your diploma.
- It does **NOT** count for marks toward your English class



- You need to **bring a pencil and black or blue pen**. You can use pencil, but pen is recommended. (You may also use a highlighter on the test itself).
- You will be writing two booklets, each taking 75 minutes but you will have up to 90 minutes. You will be given a break in between the booklets. (Snacks will be provided on the break.)
- Report to the Big Café for break



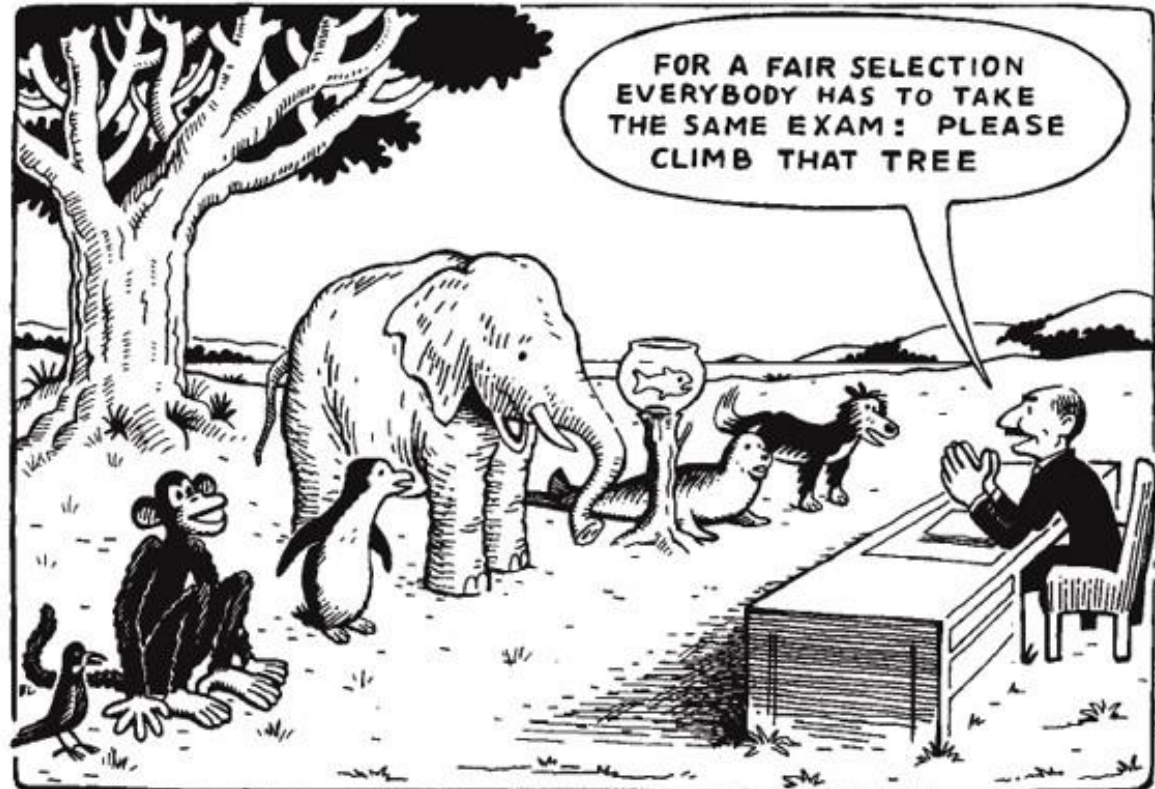
- You will be provided with a 2 Question Booklets and 2 Answer Booklets.
- You are only able to write 1 booklet during each session.
- If you finish early, take the time to review your work.
- After completing the 2nd session you will complete an informational survey. This is not evaluated.



- You will NOT be able to have any electronics (cell phone, iPod etc.) with you, so leave them at home or in your locker.
- You must stay for the entire time, even if you are finished.
- **IF YOU ARE AWAY ON THE DAY OF THE TEST, YOU WILL HAVE TO WRITE IT NEXT YEAR.** (Don't be away if you can at all help it!)

What If I Have An IEP?

- There are lots of supports available for you depending on what your IEP covers



How Is It Marked?

- Students are successful or unsuccessful
- Students must achieve a score of 300 points (75%) to pass
- **Most AHS students who are unsuccessful are within 5-20 points!**

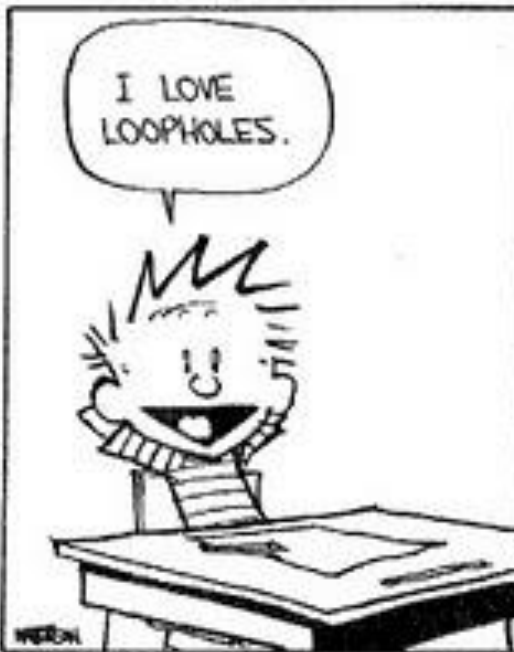




1. Explain Newton's First Law of Motion in your own words.



Yakka Foob Mog. Grug PubbaWup Zink wattooM Gazork. Chumble Spuzz.



What Does It Involve?

Reading	Writing
<p data-bbox="504 444 653 536">Reading selections:</p> <ul data-bbox="722 444 1070 1036" style="list-style-type: none">• informational (225 to 250 words)<ul data-bbox="745 558 948 658" style="list-style-type: none">– paragraph– news report• narrative<ul data-bbox="745 729 1045 929" style="list-style-type: none">– dialogue (225 to 250 words)– real-life narrative (550 to 600 words)• graphic (fewer than 150 words)	<p data-bbox="1166 444 1309 658">Types of writing tasks and questions:</p> <ul data-bbox="1383 444 1818 1172" style="list-style-type: none">• long-writing tasks<ul data-bbox="1412 508 1731 751" style="list-style-type: none">– news report (one page)– series of paragraphs expressing an opinion (two pages)• two short-writing tasks (six lines each)• multiple-choice questions<ul data-bbox="1412 958 1818 1172" style="list-style-type: none">– developing a main idea with supporting details– organization of ideas– language conventions
<p data-bbox="504 1172 653 1265">Types of questions:</p> <ul data-bbox="722 1172 958 1308" style="list-style-type: none">• multiple-choice• open-response (six lines each)	



Reading

■ Reading

● 3 styles:

- Narrative/Dialogue: tells a story
- Information/News: provides information
- Graphic: visuals, diagrams, charts

● 3 questions:

■ Direct

- What you see is what you get

■ Indirect

- Reading between the lines

■ Personal Connections

- Relating to your own experiences

● Blue Jacket Example



Reading Strategies

- look at the title, headings, captions and pictures
- think about what you already know about the topic
- think about what experiences you have had with the topic
- read the questions **FIRST**
- talk to yourself (in your head! - “O.K. it’s asking WHY people like cats” etc.)
- picture things in your head – imagine you are watching a movie





Multiple Choice Tips

- eliminate the “wrong” multiple choice answers
- don’t get frustrated if you have to go back and look at the text – this is expected
- skim and scan the selection and use your underlined or highlighted words
- **GUESS** if you don’t know



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Writing

■ News Report

- Write about the headline and picture
- Make it up but no funny business
- Include the 5Ws + H and quotations
- Write using the 3rd person (no “I think”)
- Use multiple small paragraphs
- Fill up the space provided



Writing a News Report

- 1 Task:** Write a **news report** based on the headline and picture on the next page.
- You will have to make up the facts and information, answering some or all of the following questions: Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?
 - You must relate your newspaper 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.

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.

Student volunteers improve school grounds



End of Section IV. Continue to Section V.

Writing: Series of Paragraphs Expressing an Opinion

- Take a position on the question and clearly state it – no sitting on the fence!
- Plan to write 5 paragraphs
 - Introduction: thesis + 3 main reasons
 - 3 body paragraphs: reason with minimum 2 examples/proofs
 - Conclusion: summarize and restate thesis and 3 reasons



Possible Questions

- Should all car manufacturers be required to produce hybrid vehicles?
- Is graffiti art or is it a crime?
- Should extra-curricular activities be compulsory for high school students?
- Should young people be forced to stay in school under the government's new Learning to 18 Policy?
- Should students be required to study a foreign language at high school?
- Should volunteer hours be mandatory in high school?



Writing: Short Answers

■ Short Answers

- 6 lines provided
- Have 1 main idea with supporting details

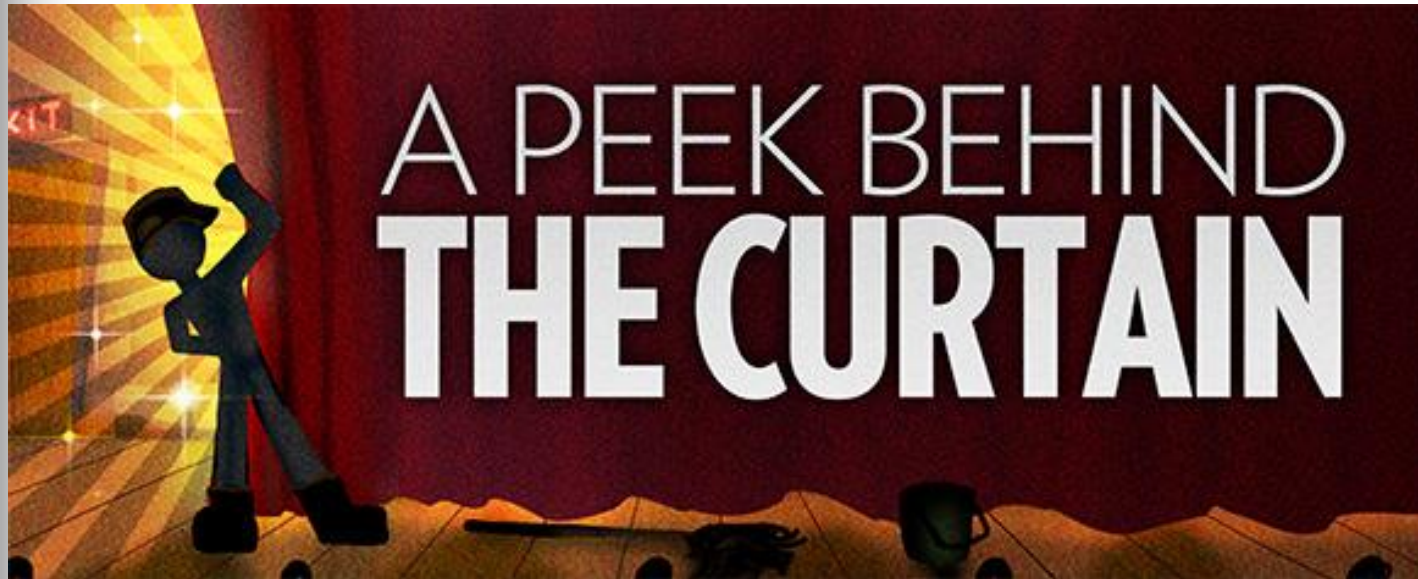
6 Explain whether this archaeological find settles the historical question about who invented pasta. Use specific details from the selection and your own ideas to support your answer.

The archaeological find settles the historical question about who invented noodles because it is the only real evidence that shows the Chinese did have noodles 4000 years ago. Other evidence is only information on written documents, personal accounts and menus, but there is no solid evidence like the 4000 year old discovery that is older than the other info.



Writing: Conventions

- There will be multiple choice sections asking you to identify proper sentences, vocabulary and errors
- Spelling and grammar count, but clarity is the most important.
- Use proper capitals, punctuation and sentences. No bullet points.



Actual OSSLT pieces, their scores and the rubrics used to evaluate will be posted on our school website!

Want More Help?

1. Google or Youtube 'OSSLT Help'

2. Go to EQAO.com and look under OSSLT Student Resources

3. Play Read! Write! Rock! at readwriterock.com

4. Talk to your teachers



Exit Strategy...

- Please take out your cell phones and complete the following short, exit survey and have a chance to win a \$20 gift certificate!

tinyurl.com/y5epsuay



GOOD LUCK!

