

OSSLT Practice Test

Punctuation, Organization and Conventions
2021

PUNCTUATION MARKS TO KNOW

PARENTHESES () ~ contain information that clarifies or adds to a comment	SEMI-COLON ; ~ used to connect two related ideas in one sentence	COLON : ~ usually introduces a list of items
DASHES --- ~ used to indicate emphasize, interruption or change of thought	ELLIPSES ... ~ used to indicate a pause in thinking or to show the omission of information	COMMA , ~ represents a pause ~ usually used to separate list of items

Grammar: Multiple Choice

Click the answer choice that best completes the sentence below.

When the hero Kagagi grabbed the torch light, _____ handle broke off in _____ hand.

its / his

its / he's

it's / he


it's / he's

Drag and drop each punctuation mark into the correct blank space.



A diverse climate rugged mountains and waterfalls make Quebec a perfect place for the following activities hiking, cycling and kayaking

Strategies for Answering Multiple Choice

- ❖ Read through all 4 choices
- ❖ Look back at the reading text.
Use [Open/Close Reading Selection](#)
- ❖ Cross out incorrect answers 
- ❖ Be sure to make a choice and flag an answer if you are unsure

What is the best meaning of the word “restored” as used in line 18?

- a) resold
- b) repaired
- c) replaced
- d) reorganized

Context Clues for Vocabulary

Read the sentence/words before and after the word you are trying to define

While Montreal can be tough on illegal graffiti and tagging, the city has developed a relationship with graffiti artists, who are **adamant** that their genre is legitimate. "It's the same as a paintbrush, and we are showing our talent," said the artist who only gave his name as Fluke.

Which word is closest in meaning to "adamant" as used in the sentence below?

Click your answer choice from the drop-down menu.

"While Montreal can be tough on illegal graffiti and tagging, the city has developed a relationship with graffiti artists, who are that their genre is legitimate."

- adamant
- adamant
- critical
- insistent
- annoyed
- surprised

[Open/Close Reading Selection](#)

The Formula for Short Answer Questions:

Main Idea/Statement + 2 specific details

State a main idea of this selection and provide **specific details** from the selection that supports it.

ORGANIZATION OF INFORMATIONAL TEXTS

CHRONOLOGICAL

~ the order in which events occur in time

COMPARISON & CONTRAST

~ when you examine the similarities & differences between two things

CAUSE & EFFECT

~ looking at what caused an event to happen and then the consequences of that event

ORDER OF IMPORTANCE


~ information organized with most important facts first

OSSLT Overview:

Session A


60 minutes, 19 Questions

Real-Life Narrative




7 multiple-Choice

Information Paragraph



6 multiple choice

News Report




5 multiple choice
1 open response/short answer
(100 words)

Session B


60 minutes, 14 Questions

Dialogue




5 multiple choice

Written Multiple-Choice



8 multiple choice
(editing skills)

Series of Paragraphs



1 open response
(500 words)

What do the test questions look like?

The OSSLT consists of a total of 33 questions:

- 31 multiple-choice questions (e.g., drag and drop, dropdown menu, checklist)
- 2 open-response questions (100 words and the opinion writing is 500 words)
- Each session is designed to be completed in 60 minutes, and students complete each session in one sitting.
- After the two test sessions, students will answer a questionnaire (Session Q)

What can students have access to during the assessment?

During the assessment, students can have access to the following:

- Chromebook or laptop will be provided with specialized software
- Wired headphones for listening to questions and readings
- Pen or pencil and paper for rough work
- Extra time
- Speak with your SERT for accommodations, if you have an I.E.P.

The First Screen

MINDS-ON ACTIVITY

"You must be the change you wish to see in the world."



Think about how this quotation relates to you, your community and your world.

Minds-On

General Instructions

Tools

Continue >

General Instructions



Please answer all questions to the best of your ability.



If you leave a question blank, the question will be scored zero.



The word count for each response will be indicated in the text box provided and will count down as you type. Once the limit is reached, you will have 10 extra words to finish your response.

Minds-On

General Instructions

Tools

Continue >

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General Instructions

Top Tips



For the writing sections, pay attention to clarity, organization, spelling, grammar and punctuation.



Before you submit your completed test, you will have the opportunity to return to any question.



As you are writing the test, you can flag questions to remind yourself to come back to them later.



Before submitting the test, you will be reminded of any questions that are still flagged or blank, so you can go back to them if needed.



Minds-On

General Instructions

Tools

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General Instructions

Important!



You are not permitted to use cell phones, email or text messaging devices during the assessment (exceptions may apply in accordance with EQAO guidelines).



You are not permitted to communicate with other students during the assessment.



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Next page >

Minds-On

General Instructions

Tools

Continue >

The Tool Bar is on the right-hand side of your screen.

Help Page

Click the **Help** icon to open the **Help Page**. This page is available to remind you of the overall appearance and features of the online OSSLT.

Listen

Click the **Listen** icon, and a **Play** button will appear above the question or reading selection. Click **Play** to have the reading selection or question read to you.

Zoom In and Zoom Out

Click these buttons to enlarge or reduce the size of text or objects on a page.

- Use the **Zoom In** button to make this sentence larger. Now use the **Zoom Out** button to return the screen to regular size.



The Tool Bar is on the right-hand side of your screen.

Line Reader


The draggable Line Reader tool hides parts of the text to allow you to focus on a specific area within the reading selection or question.


High Contrast

Click this icon to enter **High Contrast Mode**. This can make the assessment easier to read.



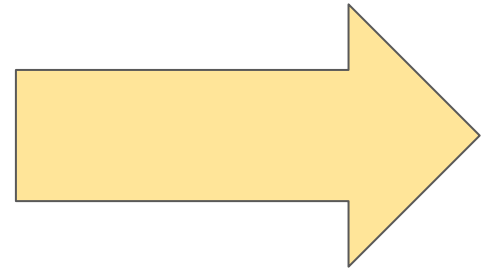
The Tool Bar is on the right-hand side of your screen.

Click the  **Draw Line** icon or the  **Highlighter** icon to open the grey drawing surface.


When this surface is open, you can use the **Draw Line** tool, the **Highlighter** tool and the  **Eraser** tool.

- Use the **Draw Line** tool to cross out this sentence.
- Use the **Highlighter** tool to highlight this sentence.

You can use the **Eraser** tool to erase any lines or highlights you have made.



The Tool Bar is on the right-hand side of your screen.

Click the  **Rough Notes** icon, and a draggable notepad will appear for you to jot notes and organize your thinking.

- *Click the **Rough Notes** icon to open the notepad and make some notes.*
- *Try dragging the notepad around the screen.*

Clicking the **Rough Notes** icon again will hide the notepad but will not erase any of your notes. You will be able to return to your notes during each test session until you submit it.


Note: You can copy and paste from the notepad into an answer box.



Flagging a Question

Name and Surname

Education Quality and Accountability Office



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- Page 3
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- Page 6
- Page 7

Review and Submit

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Tool Exploration

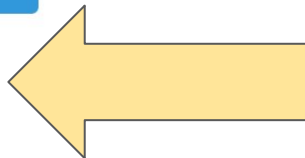
Click the  Listen icon for the page to be read out

On the Ontario Secondary School List available to you. You can see them on your screen. As you explore these tools and get used to how they work.

Note: To use a tool in the toolbar, click its icon again to close it.


Next page

 [Flag this question](#)



Name and Surname

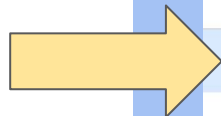
Education Quality and Accountability Office



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Review and Submit

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Tool Exploration

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 [Remove flag from this question](#)



Open/Close Reading Passage

Name and Surname

Education Quality and
Accountability Office



Section 1 of 6

Reading Selection

Question 1

Question 2

Question 3

Question 4

Question 5

Question 6

Question 7

Review and Submit

Why is there a need for a new anti-malarial product?

Click your answer choice.

Malaria treatments are expensive.

Organic treatments are more effective.

Scientists have not been interested in updating treatments.

Malaria is growing resistant to currently available treatments.

[Open/Close Reading Passage](#)

Next Question

Flag this question

Back to Map

Mustard Oil Versus Malaria



Jessie MacAlpine knew she wanted to be a scientist as early as Grade 2, when she signed one of her homework assignments “Dr. Jessie MacAlpine.” She was only a Grade 9 student when she published her first research paper, “The Effects of CO₂ and Chronic Cold Exposure on Fecundity of Female *Drosophila Melanogaster*.” By the time she graduated from high school, MacAlpine had already won a top prize at an international science fair and had begun collaborative research with University of Toronto (U of T) scientists. She had also made two interesting discoveries in her basement lab—both of which she is now in the process of patenting.

One of her patents is for a bioherbicide (a biologically based substance for weed control), which MacAlpine developed using molecular compounds found in garlic mustard plants and coffee grounds. The other is a mustard-oil compound—*allyl isothiocyanate*—the ingredient that gives mustard and wasabi (similar to horseradish) its pungent kick. She hopes to develop this into a treatment for malaria. This parasitic disease infects about 219 million people every year and is growing resistant to available drugs.

MacAlpine's anti-malaria compound idea came to her in Grade 11, after she read a newspaper article about a potential treatment using herbicides. In the 1990s, scientists discovered that the parasite causing malaria, a species called *Plasmodium*, actually has plant genes because it evolved hundreds of millions of years ago from an ancient algae.

These genes are essential to the parasite's survival. So the thinking was this: if herbicides killed plant genes, maybe they could kill malaria parasites too. “Since I'd spent the past two years developing a herbicide, I thought, ‘Ooh, maybe I can change my compound into a malaria drug,’” recalls MacAlpine. Other scientists worldwide were already working on new treatments, but hers were the first to reach clinical trials. But a

Close Split-Screen Full Screen

Track Your Progress

Progress Bar



A progress bar is centred at the top of your screen. The bar shows you approximately how much of the test you have completed.

Next Question

Next Question

The **Next Question** button is located at the bottom of each page of the assessment. Be sure to view all of the answer options for each question before making your selection.

Use the **Next Question** button to proceed to the next question. This button cannot be clicked until you select a response.

EQAO.COM

[OSSLT Practice Test](#)



The screenshot shows a landing page for the Online OSSLT Practice Test. The background is a blue-tinted image of a man with a backpack and a woman. In the top left corner, there is a toggle switch labeled "Text to Speech (Disabled)". The main heading "WELCOME TO THE" is in large white letters, with "THE" being significantly larger. Below this, a white rounded rectangle contains the text "Online OSSLT Practice Test" in blue. In the top right corner, there is a white input field with the placeholder text "Name and Surname". At the bottom center, there is a white button with the text "Enter" and a right-pointing arrow.

Text to Speech (Disabled)

**WELCOME TO
THE**

Name and Surname

**Online OSSLT Practice
Test**

Enter >

OSSLT Tips

- Use your highlighter tool
- Cross-out the answers you know are incorrect
- Use the ENTIRE word space that is provided.
- The practice OSSLT test is online (eqao.com)
- Answer all questions - even if it is your best guess
- Use the paper and pencil provided or the electronic rough note page