

## What is on the OSSLT Assessment?

This assessment evaluates the literacy skills students are expected to have learned across all subjects up to the end of grade 9.

Each question on every EQAO assessment is based directly on The Ontario Curriculum, which is what students are learning in classrooms every day.

## Types of Questions on the OSSLT

- Reading Selection Multiple Choice Questions
- Open Response Short Answer Questions
- Language Conventions Multiple Choice Questions
- Short Writing Tasks
- Writing a News Report
- Writing a Series of Paragraphs Expressing an Opinion
- Reading Graphic Texts

Go to [EQAO.com](http://EQAO.com) to try a sample online test

For more information  
or go to [www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com)  
or your school's website

Online OSSLT Date: October 20th, 2016

Questions?

Contact your  
school  
Principal.

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## Online OSSLT: Important Parent Information

### The Online OSSLT offers use of the following digital tools:

- Magnifying tool
- Highlighter
- Notepad for rough notes
- Strikeout tool for multiple choice questions
- Flag feature to mark questions
- Masking tool to block out parts of the text (IEP only)
- Ruler tool to highlight specific parts of the text (IEP only)
- Text to speech features (IEP only)

([www.eqao.com](http://www.eqao.com))

### Online OSSLT October 20th, 2016:

- \*New\* opportunity for students to write the OSSLT online on October 20th, 2016
- Results will be shared with schools in January 2017
- Students need 75% to pass (score of 300)
- Students who are **successful** on the online test in October will have met the graduation requirement and **do not** have to take the test again on March 30th, 2017
- For students who are unsuccessful, schools will offer targeted support to prepare students for the next opportunity to write on March 30th, 2017, or students may be able to take the Ontario Literacy Course to meet their graduation requirement



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## Characteristics of Successful & Unsuccessful Students

Unsuccessful	Successful
The unsuccessful student's work is characterized by:	The successful student's work is characterized by:
<b>Simplicity</b> In ideas and sparse supporting details; in understanding and use of forms (e.g., personal essay, graphs and charts); and in vocabulary use	<b>Complexity</b> Big ideas, details selected to support generalizations; broad vocabulary; connects purposes, audience, and form
<b>Repetition</b> The small set of ideas selected from texts or chosen for writing are used repeatedly; narrow range of skill sets for choice of vocabulary and sentence structure; syntax is often drawn from oral language	<b>Variety</b> Range of literacy and fluency skills; navigates and adopts different types of expression; produces own ideas; syntax is that of written language where appropriate; flexibility of expression
<b>Concreteness</b> Focus on specifics of tasks; straight-forward purposes in reading or writing; heavy reliance on personal experience for evidence	<b>Abstraction</b> Uses symbols and visualization in understanding and expression; transfers skills and prior knowledge to new situations

If a student scored below level 2 on grade 3 and grade 6 EQAO, it is highly recommended that the student work with teachers for extra support to prepare for the grade 10 OSSLT assessment.

## Do students have to study for the Online OSSLT?

The test is based on the Ontario Curriculum up to the end of grade 9 and while no special preparation is technically required, **it is highly recommended that students be explicitly familiar with the new online test format, the types of digital tools offered and the types of questions the students must answer.**

To that end, students *should* partake in the following offered by schools:

- **Online OSSLT Prep Sessions—learn how to use the digital tools and the software**
- **Online EQAO resources**
- **Cross-curricular initiatives that support literacy**
- **After Hours Literacy Sessions**
- **Grade 9 Practice test**

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