**OSSLT Outline**

Book One 36 marks

A. Reading: News Report (5) multiple choice (3) open responseB. Writing: Multiple Choice Questions (4) multiple choice

C. Reading: Wild Card

( ) multiple choice

( ) open response

D. Short Writing Task (3) topic development (2) use of conventionsE. Writing: News Report (6) topic development (4) use of conventionsF. Reading: Information Paragraph (6) multiple choice (3) open response (summary)

Book Two 45 Marks

G. Writing: Series of Paragraphs Expressing an Opinion (6) topic development (4) use of conventionsH. Writing: Multiple Choice Questions (4) multiple choiceI. Reading: Real Life Story (9) multiple choiceJ. Reading: Dialogue (5) multiple choice (3) open response (3) open responseK. Short Writing Task (3) topic development (2) use of conventionsL. Reading: Graphic Text (6) multiple choice

* Based on the 2007-12 versions of the OSSLT

**OSSLT Types of Text**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Text Type** | **Placement** | **Word Count** | **Organizing Principle** | **Type of Questions** | **Strategies to Employ** |
| **News Report** | Book 1, Task A | 225-250 | W5 | 5 multiple-choice  1 six-line 3-mark | The hand |
| **Information Paragraph** | Book 1, Task F | 225-250 | Main Idea Implicit plus supporting details | 6 multiple-choice  1 six-line 3-mark | The hand |
| **Real Life Story** | Book 2, Task I | 550-600 | Chronological order | 9 multiple-choice | Plot Graph |
| **Dialogue**  **(fiction)** | Book 2, Task J | 225-250 | In medias res  (3 people involved) | 5 multiple-choice  2 six-line 3-mark | Sociogram |
| **Graphic Text** | Book 2, Task L | Up to 150 | Words and pictures (many types) | 6 multiple-choice |  |
| **Wild Card**  **(one more of above)** | Book 1, Task C |  |  |  |  |

**Three Types of Reading Questions**

* Directly Stated (R1)
  + According to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(i.e. map) ...
  + In paragraph three, the word \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is used to describe…
* Indirectly Stated Ideas/Information (R2)
  + What is the most likely outcome of…
  + This probably happened because…
* Making Connections (R3)
  + The archaeologist described in this section…
  + The purpose of the information in italics is…

**Four Types of Writing Questions**

* Developing a main idea with sufficient supporting details (W1)
* Organizing information and ideas in a clear, understandable manner(W2)
* Using conventions (spelling, grammar, punctuation) (W3)
* Topic development (main idea, supporting details and organization) (W4)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Reading | Writing | Total |
| Multiple  Choice | R1 directly stated  (7) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  R2 inference  (18) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  R3 background knowledge  (6) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | W1,2,3  2 pp. of 4 ques. each  (8)  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | 39 |
| Written  Response | R2,3 open response  (12)  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | W3 use of  conventions  (12) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  W4 topic development  (18) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | 42 |
| Total | 43 | 38 | 81 |

**OSSLT FAQ’s**

Do grammar and spelling count on the O.S.S.L.T?

On writing questions: grammar, spelling and language usage count 40%. On written answers of reading questions: spelling, and grammar do not count. The student can know if he or she is answering a reading or a writing question by looking at the header at the top of each page on the OSSLT.

In terms of a raw score, what percentage does a student need to pass the O.S.S.L.T?

EQAO equates a pass with low level 2, and a scale score of 300 on a scale ranging from 200 to 400. But in terms of a raw score, or a portion of the 81 marks up for grabs on the OSSLT, a student needs 70% of those 81 marks to pass with a score of 300 on the Individual Item Report from EQAO.

What is the relative weighting of each question on the O.S.S.L.T?

Each multiple choice question counts 1 mark for a total of 39 marks. There are 31 m.c. questions on reading and 8 m.c. questions on writing.

There are six short answer questions worth 3 marks each, and two of the six (with the header “Writing”) are also marked out of 2 marks for language usage, for a total of 22 marks.

The two long writing tasks, the news report, and the series of paragraphs expressing an opinion, are each marked out of six for topic development, and out of four for use of language conventions, for a total of 20 marks.

Multiple Choice 39 marks

Short Answer 22 marks

Long Writing Tasks 20 marks

TOTAL = 81 marks

