Writing — Practice Test

Ontario English, Grade 12, University Preparation (ENG4U) • 25 questions

This practice test was made by AI and there may be mistakes. If a question or answer looks wrong, use the Flag a mistake button to let Brett know so he can fix it.

1 **A literary essay thesis should make**

- A an arguable claim about meaning, not only a plot summary
- B a list of all characters in the text
- C a statement everyone would accept
- D a question with no position

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2 **The best literary evidence is**

A a long passage copied without comment

B a summary of the whole novel

C a quotation from another student essay

D a short quotation or detail analyzed for what it shows

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3 **When analyzing a text, a writer should connect evidence to the thesis by**

A counting how many quotations appear

B repeating the thesis after each quotation

C explaining how the detail supports the claim

D placing quotations side by side

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4 **A comparative essay needs a basis for comparison, which is**

- A a winner chosen in advance
- B a shared feature or question applied to both texts
- C a longer text and a shorter text
- D two texts by the same author only

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5 **An essay that moves from close reading to broader meaning shows**

- A analysis that builds from detail toward interpretation
- B a summary that avoids interpretation
- C a thesis stated only at the end
- D evidence without any comment

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6 **The most common weakness in a first literary essay draft is**

- A too many quotations from the text
- B a thesis that is too arguable
- C paragraphs that are too short
- D summary that retells plot instead of analyzing meaning

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7 **A writer who integrates a quotation smoothly will**

- A quote a full page at a time
- B change the quotation wording freely
- C fit it into their own sentence with correct punctuation
- D place it alone as its own paragraph

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8 **An essay introduction for a literary topic should**

A begin with the conclusion

B situate the text and lead to an arguable thesis

C retell the entire plot in detail

D list every critical source

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9 **When a writer revises for coherence, they check that**

A ideas connect logically from paragraph to paragraph

B every paragraph is the same length

C the essay uses only long words

D the thesis appears in every sentence

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10 **A research essay differs from a literary essay mainly in that it**

- A never uses quotations at all
- B is always written in first person
- C requires no thesis statement
- D synthesizes outside sources to answer a research question

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11 **A source is credible for a research essay when it is**

- A recent regardless of author
- B long and difficult to read
- C written by experts and supported by evidence
- D popular on social media

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12 Plagiarism includes

- A using common knowledge facts
- B presenting another writer ideas or words without credit
- C quoting with full citation
- D summarizing in your own words with credit

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13 A paraphrase is acceptable when it

- A restates the source meaning in new wording with credit
- B copies the source with a few words changed
- C omits the source citation
- D keeps the source sentence structure exactly

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14 **An annotated bibliography entry should**

- A list only the source title
- B copy the source abstract fully
- C rank sources by length
- D summarize and evaluate a source usefulness for the essay

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15 **When synthesizing sources, a writer should**

- A quote only the longest source
- B agree with every source equally
- C show how sources agree, differ, or build on each other
- D list sources one after another

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16 **A research question is effective when it is**

A based on personal opinion only

B focused enough to answer with available evidence

C broad enough to cover any topic

D answerable with yes or no only

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17 **The conclusion of a research essay should**

A answer the research question and note limits or implications

B introduce a new research question only

C repeat all quotations used

D list sources not cited in the essay

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18 **A writer who structures an argument by concession will**

A ignore all opposing points

B concede the whole argument

C attack opposing writers personally

D acknowledge a valid opposing point before answering it

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19 **Formal academic style prefers precise language because**

A short words are never academic

B readers prefer complex sentences

C vague wording weakens the force of an argument

D long words always impress readers

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20 **A writer who checks essay unity at the paragraph level will**

- A repeat the main idea in each sentence
- B ensure every sentence serves the paragraph main idea
- C ensure every paragraph is long
- D remove all quotations from paragraphs

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21 **When drafting a personal reflective essay, the writer should**

- A use experience as evidence for reflection, not as mere anecdote
- B avoid any personal experience
- C list events in chronological order only
- D never analyze the experience

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22 **An essay that uses a chronological structure is best suited to**

- A comparing two unrelated texts
- B arguing a timeless claim
- C describing a static scene
- D showing development or change over time

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23 **A writer who uses headings in a long report is helping readers to**

- A make the report seem longer
- B replace the need for a conclusion
- C navigate sections and find information quickly
- D avoid writing transitions

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24 **The difference between summarizing and analyzing is that analysis**

- **A** summary includes personal opinion
- **B** interprets what details mean, while summary restates what happened
- **C** summary is always longer
- **D** analysis never uses evidence

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25 **A strong essay voice in academic writing comes from**

- **A** clear judgment expressed through controlled, precise language
- **B** using slang and humour throughout
- **C** writing in second person always
- **D** avoiding any position at all

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ANSWER KEY

1. A
2. D
3. C
4. B
5. A
6. D
7. C
8. B
9. A
10. D
11. C
12. B
13. A
14. D
15. C
16. B
17. A
18. D
19. C
20. B
21. A
22. D
23. C
24. B
25. A

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