QUEBEC ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, SECONDARY V · UNIT B

Reading Written Texts — Practice Test

Quebec English Language Arts, Secondary V • 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.

Reading I - The Map Room

Use this reading for questions 1 to 4.

In the basement of the old school library, Amara found a room no one had mentioned: a map room. Dusty maps covered the walls, showing coastlines, trade routes, and towns that no longer appeared on new maps. A note on the door read, 'Maps show what people once believed was true.'

Amara spent weeks comparing an old map of the St. Lawrence with a modern one. The old map showed a small settlement where the modern map showed only forest. Curious, she searched the school archives and found a diary entry from a fur trader who had lived in that settlement for one winter.

Amara did not prove that the settlement mattered to history. She did learn something more useful: a map is an argument, not a neutral picture. Every map maker chooses what to show and what to leave out, and a careful reader asks who made the map and why.

1 **What is the main idea of Reading I?**

- **A** A map is an argument shaped by the choices of its maker, not a neutral picture
- **B** Amara proves a settlement changed world history
- **C** Amara learns to draw perfect maps
- **D** Amara finds a treasure hidden in the library

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2 **According to Reading I, what did the old map show that the modern map did not?**

- A A small settlement where the modern map showed only forest
- B A new highway across the province
- C The exact location of the school
- D A river that no longer exists

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3 **What can the reader infer about Amara's approach to evidence?**

- A She accepts the first map she finds
- B She refuses to use the archives
- C She checks one source against another before drawing a conclusion
- D She invents facts to fit her idea

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4 **In Reading I, what does the note on the door mainly suggest?**

A Old maps are always wrong

B Modern maps show every truth

C Maps should never be trusted at all

D Maps reflect the beliefs of the people who made them

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Reading II - The Silent Debate

Use this reading for questions 5 to 8.

The school debate team had a new rule: before anyone could argue a position, each member had to present the strongest version of the opposing view. At first, students complained. It felt strange to argue well for a side they disagreed with, especially on the topic of school start times.

Leila, who favoured a later start, presented the case for an early start with care. She explained bus schedules, after school jobs, and sports practice. When she finished, even students who agreed with her admitted that the early start case was stronger than they had expected.

The rule did not make everyone agree. It made the final debate sharper, because each side had to answer real arguments instead of weak ones. Leila later said the exercise taught her that understanding an opposing view is not surrender; it is preparation.

5 **What is the main idea of Reading II?**

- **A** Presenting the strongest opposing view makes debate sharper and better prepared
- **B** The debate team decides to end all debates
- **C** Leila changes her mind about school start times
- **D** Early school starts are proven best for all students

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6 **According to Reading II, what did Leila present with care?**

- **A** A plan to cancel sports practice
- **B** The case for an early school start, although she favoured a later start
- **C** A new bus schedule for the school
- **D** A speech in favour of no homework

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7 **What can the reader infer about the purpose of the new rule?**

- **A** It aims to stop students from disagreeing
- **B** It aims to make debates shorter
- **C** It aims to replace weak arguments with real ones worth answering
- **D** It aims to hide the opposing view

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8 **In Reading II, what does Leila's final comment mainly mean?**

- **A** A speaker should never listen to opponents
- **B** Debate always ends in agreement
- **C** Strong arguments are always wrong
- **D** Understanding an opposing view prepares a speaker; it is not surrender

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Reading III - Water and Memory

Use this reading for questions 9 to 12.

Every spring, the river near the town rose and fell, and every spring the town argued about the same question: should the old mill dam stay or go? The dam had powered a mill for a century, but it also blocked fish from reaching upstream pools where they had spawned for generations.

Elena, a student journalist, interviewed three people: a mill worker proud of the building's history, a biologist who studied the fish, and an elder who remembered swimming in the river as a child. Each person loved the river, but each described a different river: a workplace, a habitat, and a childhood home.

Elena's article did not settle the argument. It showed readers why the argument was hard: the same river carried history, ecology, and memory at once, and any decision would honour one value while costing another. Readers praised the article not for taking a side, but for making the choice clear.

9 **What is the main idea of Reading III?**

- **A** The dam question is hard because the river carries history, ecology, and memory at once
- **B** The dam must be removed at once
- **C** The mill worker is proven wrong
- **D** Fish no longer use the river

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10 **According to Reading III, what did the biologist study?**

- A The history of the mill building
- B Fish blocked by the dam from reaching upstream pools
- C Swimming lessons for children
- D Spring rainfall in the town

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11 **What can the reader infer about Elena's journalism from the passage?**

- A She interviews only one person
- B She hides facts from readers
- C She presents several perspectives fairly instead of only taking a side
- D She decides the dam question alone

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12 **In Reading III, why did readers praise Elena's article?**

- A Because it settled the argument forever
- B Because it ignored the mill history
- C Because it was the longest article
- D Because it made the difficult choice clear, not because it took a side

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13 **What is irony in a text?**

- A A contrast between what is expected and what happens, or between words and meaning
- B A direct comparison using like
- C A repeated sound at word starts
- D A long list of facts

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14 **What is symbolism?**

A The use of a title only

B The use of an object or image to stand for a larger idea

C A summary of a plot

D A character's full name

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15 **What is foreshadowing?**

A A summary given at the end

B A character's biography

C Hints that suggest what may happen later in a text

D A list of settings

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16 **What is an unreliable narrator?**

A A narrator who speaks very quietly

B A narrator who never appears

C A narrator who knows everything

D A narrator whose account the reader has reason to doubt

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17 **What is point of view in a story?**

A The perspective from which a story is told

B The number of pages in a story

C The moral of a story

D The author's address

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18 **What is third person limited narration?**

A Narration using I throughout

B Narration that follows one character's thoughts and view

C Narration that knows every character's thoughts

D Narration with no characters

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19 **What is third person omniscient narration?**

A Narration using you throughout

B Narration limited to one character

C Narration that knows the thoughts of many characters

D Narration with no point of view

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20 **What is a rhetorical question?**

- **A** A question with no words
- **B** A question on a test only
- **C** A question asked by mistake
- **D** A question asked for effect, not to receive an answer

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21 **What is an allusion?**

- **A** A brief reference to another text, event, or well known figure
- **B** A long retelling of a story
- **C** A spelling error
- **D** A chapter title

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22 **What is connotation?**

A The dictionary meaning of a word only

B The feelings or associations a word carries beyond its dictionary meaning

C The spelling of a word

D The first letter of a word

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23 **What is denotation?**

A The feeling a word creates

B The sound of a word

C The dictionary meaning of a word

D The origin of a word only

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24 **In the sentence 'The classroom was a beehive,' which device is used?**

A Simile

B Personification

C Alliteration

D Metaphor

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25 **In the sentence 'Peter Piper picked peppers,' which device is mainly used?**

A Alliteration

B Metaphor

C Irony

D Symbolism

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ANSWER KEY

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

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