

**BOOKLET**

Sample Test Booklet  
2010

**1**

# Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

**SESSION 1**

## These are the instructions that appear in the actual test booklet.

### Read carefully before writing the test:

- Check the identification numbers of your three documents to see that the final 12 digits all match. If they do not, report the problem to the teacher in charge.
- Check the pages of this *Test Booklet* to see that they are in order. If they are not, report the problem to the teacher in charge.
- Read all instructions before responding to the questions.
- Use only HB pencil or blue or black pen in the *Test Booklet* and on the Student Answer Sheet.
- Attempt all questions. If you leave a question blank, the question will be scored zero.

### Multiple-Choice

- Choose the best or most correct answer for each question.
- You must record your multiple-choice answers on the Student Answer Sheet. Multiple-choice answers recorded in the *Test Booklet* will not be scored.

To indicate your answer, **fill in the circle completely**, as shown below.

Like this: ● Not like this: ⊗ ✓ ◐ ●

- If you fill in more than one circle for a question, the question will be scored incorrect.
- If you wish to change a multiple-choice answer, erase or cross out your answer and fill in the circle for your new answer. Ensure that your final answer is clear.

### Written Answers

- For all questions that ask for a written answer, **write legibly on the lined space provided** in the *Test Booklet*.
- For the writing sections, pay attention to clarity, organization, spelling, grammar and punctuation.
- The lined space provided for your written work indicates the approximate length of the writing expected.
- There is space in the *Test Booklet* for rough notes. Nothing you write in these spaces will be scored.

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You are now ready to start *Test Booklet 1: Session 1*.

Remember to record all your multiple-choice answers on the Student Answer Sheet.

# **Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test**

## **Session 1**

Read the selection below and answer the questions that follow it.

## Driven by the sun: solar car sets world distance record

On September 16, 2004, the Midnight Sun VII arrived home to the University of Waterloo (UW) to cheers from hundreds of supporters. After 40 days and 15 079 kilometres of travelling, the car had set the world record for the longest journey by a solar-powered vehicle. This distance broke the official Guinness record of over 7000 kilometres set by the Queen’s University solar car in July 2000 and the 2002 unofficial record from Australia of over 13 000 kilometres.

In 1987, the UW established a solar-car project to promote renewable energy in transportation. The first UW solar vehicle circled the university campus. Seven redesigns later, a student team made a car that can circle North America. The Midnight Sun VII rolled through seven Canadian provinces and 15 American states. “We drove through sun, torrential downpours, traffic congestion in the crowded streets of Los Angeles, the vast desert of Arizona, the Rocky Mountains and the open plains. It was an incredible journey,” wrote one team member.

The Midnight Sun VII is a low, sleek three-wheeled car that is propelled by electricity generated only by sunlight. Solar cells that cover much of the upper body of the car convert sunlight into electricity. When the car is moving, the power is sent directly to the motor. When the car is stopped, power is transferred to the batteries.

“We hope that this tour has inspired people to recognize the potential of alternative forms of energy,” says Daniel Yum, the project team manager.



**Multiple-Choice** (Record the best or most correct answer on the Student Answer Sheet.)

- 1** What was the original purpose of the UW solar-car project?
- A to promote the sale of solar-powered cars
  - B to recruit science students to the university
  - C to build awareness of environmentally friendly cars
  - D to encourage other universities to build similar cars

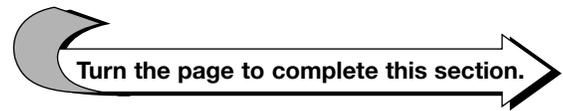
- 2** What happened first?
- F Midnight Sun VII rolled through Los Angeles.
  - G An Australian solar car travelled 13 000 kilometres.
  - H The University of Waterloo started its solar-car project.
  - J The Queen's University solar car set a world record for distance.

- 3** Which word has the same meaning as "congestion" as used in paragraph 2?
- A speed
  - B bypass
  - C detours
  - D buildup

- 4** Which questions are answered in the first sentence of paragraph 3?
- F who and what
  - G what and how
  - H how and where
  - J where and when

- 5** What does the solar-car project demonstrate about scientific experimentation?

- A It requires a laboratory environment.
- B A single creative genius is necessary.
- C Trial and error leads to improvements.
- D Experimental results set world records.



**Written Answer**

**6** Explain why this project is a good learning experience for the students involved. Use specific details from the selection and your own ideas to support your answer.

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**Rough Notes**

*Use the space below for rough notes. Nothing you write in this space will be scored.*

End of Section A. Continue to Section B. 

**Multiple-Choice** (Record the best or most correct answer on the Student Answer Sheet.)

**1** Choose the sentence that uses capitalization correctly.

- A My cousin from alberta, whose name is paul, earns money by delivering the *calgary herald*.
- B My cousin from Alberta, whose name is Paul, earns money by delivering the *calgary herald*.
- C My cousin from alberta, whose name is Paul, earns money by delivering the *Calgary Herald*.
- D My cousin from Alberta, whose name is Paul, earns money by delivering the *Calgary Herald*.

**2** Choose the sentence that has correct punctuation.

- F My friend asked me, have you ever been to Quebec City?
- G My friend asked me? Have you ever been to Quebec City.?”
- H My friend asked me, “Have you ever been to Quebec City?”
- J My friend asked me, “Have you ever been to Quebec City?”?

**3** Choose the correct option to fill in the blank.

Like his father, the artist George Berthon

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- A painted portraits to support his family.
- B his paintings of portraits supported his family.
- C and also painted portraits to support his family.
- D whose famous portraits were painted to support his family.

**4** Which is the best way to combine all the information in the following sentences?

**Anna’s assignment is due tomorrow.  
She has to work tonight.  
She is feeling rushed.**

- F Anna’s assignment is due tomorrow because she is rushing to work tonight.
- G Anna is feeling rushed because she has to work tonight and her assignment is due tomorrow.
- H Since Anna’s assignment is due tomorrow and she has to work tonight and she is feeling rushed.
- J Although Anna has to work tonight and her assignment is due tomorrow because she is feeling rushed.

**5** Choose the best closing sentence for the paragraph.

When the Canadian government decided in 1878 to connect Montreal and Vancouver with a railway, it faced a difficult task. A railway would cost a great deal of money to build. Workers had to push through the rocks and swamps of northern Ontario. Tracks had to cross vast stretches of the prairie. It was uncertain whether suitable passes through British Columbia’s mountain ranges could be found.

- A The loans weren’t repaid for many years.
- B Many wondered if these obstacles could be overcome.
- C British Columbia became a popular tourist destination.
- D The United States had built many railways by this time.

End of Section B. Continue to Section C. 

Read the selection below and answer the questions that follow it.

For professional hockey teams in North America, the Stanley Cup is the top championship trophy. It has been a tradition to award rings to Stanley Cup winners for over a century. In 1893, each of the seven players on the Montreal AAAs received a plain gold ring engraved with crossed hockey sticks after they won the first Stanley Cup. Today, championship rings are much more elaborate. Some are appraised for as much as \$30 000. When the Tampa Bay Lightning won the Stanley Cup in the 2003–2004 season, the team ordered gold rings featuring 138 diamonds apiece—including a cluster of rare blue diamonds making up the trophy on each ring. Stanley Cup rings also have great sentimental value. Doug Gilmour lost his 1989 ring that he won while playing for the Calgary Flames. He offered a \$2000 reward for its return, but he never got it back. Some players, however, are willing to part with their rings for a price. Jean Beliveau of the Montreal Canadiens sold his ring collection, raising \$1 million for his widowed daughter and his two granddaughters' education. Others have lost their rings to theft. Tim Horton's 1967 ring was stolen in 1998 and later sold to a second-hand shop for \$500. It showed up at an auction valued at \$35 000, but was removed from bidding after it was found to have been stolen. Whether they are simple or fancy, or whether they are kept by their original owners or not, Stanley Cup rings are prized symbols of hockey victory.

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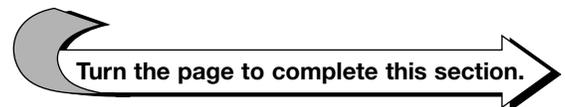
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Adapted from “Lord of the Bling” by Rick Westhead, published in the *Toronto Star*, June 15, 2006. Reprinted with permission. Torstar Syndication Services. Photo: © Hockey Hall of Fame.

**Multiple-Choice** (Record the best or most correct answer on the Student Answer Sheet.)

- 1** Which word best describes the first championship rings?
- A showy
  - B simple
  - C detailed
  - D sentimental
- 2** Why does this selection include a description of both the Montreal AAAs and the Tampa Bay Lightning Stanley Cup rings?
- F to show that older rings are more valuable
  - G to demonstrate that players value their rings
  - H to emphasize the contrast in their appearance
  - J to illustrate the history of the game of hockey
- 3** According to this selection, what happened to Doug Gilmour's Stanley Cup ring?
- A The ring was lost and not found.
  - B He paid \$2000 to get the ring back.
  - C The ring was stolen and sold at auction.
  - D His daughter sold the ring for \$1 million.
- 4** What is the purpose of the dash in line 7 of this selection?
- F It connects a range of numbers.
  - G It indicates the start of a new topic.
  - H It introduces additional information.
  - J It replaces the words "for example."
- 5** Why was Tim Horton's 1967 ring not sold at auction?
- A It was stolen before it could be sold.
  - B The ring was overvalued at \$35 000.
  - C A second-hand shop bought it for \$500.
  - D The person selling it was not the rightful owner.
- 6** Why do Stanley Cup rings have great sentimental value?
- F They cost \$30 000 to have made.
  - G They are made of gold and rare diamonds.
  - H They are engraved with crossed hockey sticks.
  - J They represent the pride of accomplishment.



**Written Answer**

**7** Summarize this selection. Include a main idea and one detail that supports it.

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**Rough Notes**

*Use the space below for rough notes. Nothing you write in this space will be scored.*

End of Section C. Continue to Section D. 

**Short Writing Task** (Answer in full and correctly written sentences.)

**1** Name a person you admire and explain why you admire him or her.

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**Rough Notes**

*Use the space below for rough notes. Nothing you write in this space will be scored.*

End of Section D. Continue to Section E. 

## Writing a News Report

**1**

- Task:** Write a **news report** on the next page based on the headline and picture below.
- You will have to make up the facts and information to answer some or all of the following questions: Who? What? Where? When? Why? How?
  - You must relate your newspaper report to **both** the headline **and** the picture.

**Purpose and Audience:** to report on an event for the readers of a newspaper

**Audience:**

**Length:** The lined space provided for your written work indicates the approximate length of the writing expected.

## School receives computers as a reward



### Rough Notes

*Use the space below for rough notes. Nothing you write in this space will be scored.*

*Write your report on the lines provided on the following page.*



Read the selection below and answer the questions that follow it.



Researchers at the University of New Brunswick (UNB) have solved a mystery that has baffled candy-makers for more than 100 years. Confectioners wanted to understand why it takes up to two days for jellybeans to dry before they can be polished. They believed that jellybeans dried as moisture from the outer layers evaporated. Several years ago, candy-makers asked food scientists

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at Pennsylvania's Penn State University to help find ways of speeding up the jellybean manufacturing process, but the scientists' tests and chemicals ruined the jellybeans. Then, they heard about a lab in Canada that used magnetic resonance imaging technology, commonly known as MRI—often used to detect tumours in humans—to peer inside things like concrete, pharmaceuticals and wood for industrial applications. A Penn State scientist flew to Fredericton and made jellybeans in the lab. For almost three days, UNB researchers took MRI images of the insides of a jellybean, which showed waves of moisture moving toward the centre. Scientists at UNB had figured out why nothing had worked: the moisture in a jellybean travels in, not out. That is why a jellybean centre is moist and why the manufacturing process can't be speeded up—a jellybean takes time to age to perfection.

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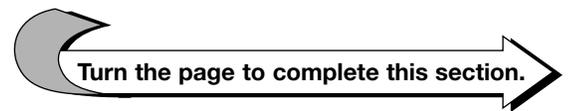
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Adapted from "Secret of jellybean's soft centre uncovered" by David Stonehouse, published in the *National Post*, Saturday, October 23, 1999. Reproduced with the permission of the author.

**Multiple-Choice** (Record the best or most correct answer on the Student Answer Sheet.)

- 1** Food scientists from Penn State University “ruined the jellybeans” when they tried to
- A add moisture.
  - B improve the taste.
  - C soften the candy’s centres.
  - D perform tests and use chemicals.
- 2** In line 12 of this selection, who is meant by “they”?
- F jellybeans
  - G candy-makers
  - H labs that use MRI technology
  - J scientists at the University of New Brunswick
- 3** Why is the dash used in the last sentence?
- A to make a compound word
  - B to introduce new information
  - C to create a contrast with the first part of the sentence
  - D to emphasize the idea in the final part of the sentence
- 4** From this selection, one can conclude that medical technology
- F is difficult to use.
  - G can have industrial applications.
  - H should be used only by researchers.
  - J should be restricted to medical uses.
- 5** Which of the following ideas links the first and last sentences of this paragraph?
- A Candy-makers need to do more research.
  - B Candy-makers were following the wrong lead.
  - C Candy-makers need a more efficient manufacturing process.
  - D Candy-makers must respect the time factor in manufacturing jellybeans.
- 6** What do confectioners do?
- F They make sweets.
  - G They research mysteries.
  - H They study food science.
  - J They test drying processes.



**Written Answer**

**7** Summarize this selection. Include a main idea and one point that clearly supports it.

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**Rough Notes**

*Use the space below for rough notes. Nothing you write in this space will be scored.*

End of Booklet 1.

**This page has been left blank intentionally.**

*Nothing you write in this space will be scored.*

**Education Quality and  
Accountability Office**



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