

Common Core Regents Examination Study Guide

Test Blueprint: New York State Regents Examination in English Language Arts (Common Core)

Test Part	Suggested Time	Standards Addressed (coverage will vary)	Text Description	Student Task
PART 1 READING COMPREHENSION	60 minutes	RL.1-6, 10 RI.1-6, 8-10 L.3-5	3 texts Up to approximately 2,600 words total Each test will contain one literature text, one poem, and one informational text.	Students will perform a close reading of the texts and answer 24 multiple-choice questions.
PART 2 WRITING FROM SOURCES: ARGUMENT	90 minutes	RI.1-10 W.1, 4,9 L.1-6	4 texts Up to approximately 2,600 words total Each test will contain 4 informational texts. Texts may include graphically-presented information.	Students will perform a close reading of the texts and write a source-based argument, as directed by the task.
PART 3 TEXT ANALYSIS: EXPOSITION	30 minutes	RL.1-6, 10 RI.1-6, 8-10 W.2,4,9 L.1-6	1 text Up to approximately 1,000 words Each test will contain one literature or one informational text.	Students will perform a close reading of the text and write a two-to-three paragraph expository response that identifies a central idea in the text and analyzes how the author's use of one writing strategy (literary element or literary technique or rhetorical device) develops this central idea.

Overall, the test requires that students read closely 8 texts of up to approximately 6,200 words and that they answer 24 multiple-choice questions, write one source-based argument, and one text-based response that identifies a central idea in the text and analyzes how the author's use of one writing strategy develops this central idea. The test assesses Common Core Learning Standards in Reading, Writing and Language for the Grade 11-12 Band, but, due to the integrative and cumulative nature of the standards, items may also assess standards in the Grade 9-10 Band. Exact standard coverage will vary from test to test based on the texts and writing tasks used.

Grading

Part	Maximum Raw Score Credits	Weighting Factor	Maximum Weighted Score Credits
Part 1	24	1	24
Part 2	6	4	24
Part 3	4	2	8
TOTAL			56

Part I: Reading Comprehension and Close Textual Analysis

Tips:

- * Read Passages A, B, and C
- * Read over MCQs first (will give you a feel for the passage; for what you are looking)
- * Order: You must answer MCQs after each passage (total of 24)
- * As you read, annotate information that relates to the MCQs
- * Do not answer the MCQ until you find the answer or the line (will give you a specific line #)
- * Questions will relate to the following:
 - * quote interpretation, vocabulary, inference, literary devices, main idea, writing techniques and strategies, purpose of words and phrases

Part II: Writing from Sources

Review:

- * The *Into the Wild* essay
- * The Puritan claims response
- * Weekly responses with articles
- * Socratic Seminar activities (for planning)
- * Concept maps, incorporating quotes, paraphrasing information

Overview:

- * Answer a question/develop a thesis regarding a topic
 - develop an evidence-based claim
- * You must read 4 texts (informational texts, charts, graphs, etc.)
- * You must reference 3-4 of the texts in your essay (textual evidence)
 - This has been changing, so pay attention to the directions
- * However many arguments you have will determine how many paragraphs you write
 - 4-5 paragraph essay
 - Intro, body paragraphs, conclusion
- * You **MUST** address the opposition
- * You must cite your sources, **NOT USING MLA** (hahaha!)
 - (Text 1, line number)

Sample Task

Directions: Closely read each of the **four** texts provided on pages ___ through ___ and write a source-based argument on the topic below. You may use the margins to take notes as you read and scrap paper to plan your response. Write your argument beginning on page 1 of your essay booklet.

Topic: Is the impact of social media on an individual beneficial or harmful?

Your Task: Carefully read each of the **four** texts provided. Then, using evidence from at least **three** of the texts, write a well-developed argument regarding the impact of social media on an individual. Clearly establish your claim, distinguish your claim from alternate or opposing claims, and use specific, relevant, and sufficient evidence from at least **three** of the texts to develop your argument. Do *not* simply summarize each text.

Guidelines:

Be sure to:

- Establish your claim regarding the impact of social media on an individual
- Distinguish your claim from alternate or opposing claims
- Use specific, relevant, and sufficient evidence from at least **three** of the texts to develop your argument
- Identify each source that you reference by text number and line number(s) or graphic (for example: Text 1, line 4 or Text 2, graphic)
- Organize your ideas in a cohesive and coherent manner
- Maintain a formal style of writing
- Follow the conventions of standard written English

Texts:

Text 1 – A Word about Social Networking

Text 2 – Impact of Social Media on Adolescent Behavioral Health in California

Text 3 – The Flight from Conversation

Text 4 – Solitude and Leadership

Part 3: Text Analysis Response

Overview:

1. You will read a passage (fiction or nonfiction)
2. You should annotate the passage
3. You must choose a literary or rhetorical technique the author uses to develop a central message
4. Write a 3-paragraph essay
 - a. Brief intro:
 - i. Introduce the passage and central idea
 - ii. Thesis: literary/rhetorical device + author's central message
5. One body paragraph
 - a. analyze the author's use of the device
 - b. how it helps develop a central message
 - c. quote and analyze examples
 - d. relate examples back to central message
 - e. choose a device that will allow you to develop a discussion
 - i. figurative language, diction, symbolism, rhetoric
6. Quick conclusion

Sample Task

Text-Analysis Response

Your Task: Closely read the text provided on pages ... through ... and write a well-developed, text-based response of two to three paragraphs. In your response, identify a central idea in the text and analyze how the author's use of **one** writing strategy (literary element or literary technique or rhetorical device) develops this central idea. Use strong and thorough evidence from the text to support your analysis. Do *not* simply summarize the text. You may use the margins to take notes as you read and the scrap page to plan your response. Write your response in the spaces provided on pages __ and __ of your essay booklet.

Guidelines:

Be sure to:

- Identify a central idea in the text
- Analyze how the author's use of **one** writing strategy (literary element or literary technique or rhetorical device) develops this central idea. Examples include: characterization, conflict, denotation/connotation, metaphor, simile, irony, language use, point-of-view, setting, structure, symbolism, theme, tone, etc.
- Use strong and thorough evidence from the text to support your analysis
- Organize your ideas in a cohesive and coherent manner
- Maintain a formal style of writing
- Follow the conventions of standard written English