

ELA 10-1 FINAL EXAM - Part A: Written Response

Description

Part A: Written Response, worth 50% of the total final examination mark, consists of two thematically related writing assignments:

- Personal Response to Texts Assignment (40%)
- Critical/Analytical Response to Literary Texts Assignment (60%)

Part A: Written Response contains two or more reading selections from fiction, non-fiction, and/or poetry, and visual texts that provide a thematic focus and writing prompt for both assignments.

Additional References *Part A: Written Response*

You are allowed to use the following print or electronic references:

- a dictionary
 - a thesaurus
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Personal Response to Texts Assignment

The Personal Response to Texts Assignment relates directly to the reading of a text selections on the examination. The assignment requires you to articulate your perceptions and ideas about the given selections.

This assignment is designed to

- serve as a "bridge" to the *Part B: Reading* portion of the examination by providing you with the opportunity to offer **your** response to the ideas and effectiveness of a text
- introduce you to the thematic topic of the Literary Composition Assignment, thereby serving as a "warm-up"
- provide you with the opportunity to use a prose form of your choice to create a personal response that conveys your ideas as prompted by your consideration of the texts
- encourage the expression of your voice with an awareness of the intended audiences of the prose forms that you have chosen
- reinforce the purpose and effect of a writer's use of detail in communicating ideas and impressions

You are expected to write a short but developed response that reflects the quality of logical thought and effective presentation expected of students completing ELA 10-1.

Suggestions for Writing the Personal Response to Texts Assignment

- Consider what idea, feeling, or impression the reading selection on the examination conveys to you about the topic stated in the assignment. Note the details of the selection that reinforce these ideas or impressions. Be sure to support your ideas and impressions with reference to these details.
 - Anything about the selection that is effective in conveying some aspect of the topic stated in the assignment may serve as support; for example, any of the effects of word choice, image, mood or tone, setting, or structure, may serve as supportive "details" for the purposes of this assignment.
 - If you develop your response to the ideas and details in the selection by making reference to your personal experience, be sure to indicate the way in which your experience relates to the details in the selection.
 - The assignment requires a discussion of **your** ideas or impressions of the given reading selection with reference to the selection. Be sure to provide explanation for your ideas.
 - **Keep in mind that in both assignments, a mark of Insufficient for Thought and Detail results in Insufficient for all other categories.**
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You will be given the following instructions for completing the assignment:

- You may respond from a personal, critical, and/or creative perspective.
- Support your response with reference to the writer's statement and/or to your own ideas and/or experiences.
- Select a prose form that is appropriate to what you wish to communicate and that will effectively communicate to the reader.

some PROSE FORMS . . .			
short essay	editorial	eulogy	interview
diary entry	short story	speech	commentary
journal entry	letter	anecdote	rebuttal
newspaper article	interior monologue	personal observation	screen play

- Choose a planning strategy that is effective for you.
 - Discuss ideas and/or impressions that are meaningful to you.
 - Consider how you can create a strong unifying effect.
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Critical/Analytical Response to Literary Texts Assignment

The Critical/Analytical Response to Literary Texts Assignment requires you to write a formal essay based on literature you have studied in ELA 10-1 that focuses on the topic on the examination.

The Critical/Analytical Response to Literary Texts Assignment sets a specific writing task that requires you to **choose** literature relevant to the given topic, appropriate support (e.g. details, examples, illustrations) from the chosen literature, and an effective method of development. The assignment requires you to demonstrate your understanding of the chosen literature in relation to the given topic. You are expected to write a thoughtful, well-developed, formal essay in which you synthesize your thinking about the topic with your interpretations of the chosen literature.

Responses that are so brief that they cannot be evaluated for Thought and Detail, or that refer only to the literature on the examination are deemed "Insufficient." Compositions that refer only to the selection on the examination are deemed Insufficient.

This assignment is designed to

- assess your responses to the thematic topic
- assess the quality of your knowledge and understanding of literary text(s) and your ability to select, integrate, synthesize, and develop evidence to support your ideas
- assess your ability to use an appropriate form and structure to focus and shape your discussions using effective and correct language choices

In responding to the Critical/Analytical Response to Literary Texts Assignment, you have the opportunity to reveal your thoughts about, and your interpretations of, the text(s) you choose to discuss and to demonstrate how well you can express your ideas in first-draft writing. Your teacher is interested in learning what you actually think and believe! In responding to the Critical/Analytical Response to Literary Texts Assignment, you are encouraged to write about literary texts you understand and enjoy. Compositions that refer only to the reading selections on the examination or provide no evidence of an attempt to fulfill the assignment are assessed as Insufficient.

Suggestions for Writing the Critical/Analytical Response to Literary Texts Assignment

- Be sure that the literature you write about is appropriate for the topic and level of discussion. Choose literature from the ELA 10-1 course that you know well.
- Focus your composition on the controlling idea that you have established. Your controlling idea should reflect the assignment and shape the development of your entire composition. I will be looking for clear evidence that you are responding to the requirements of the stated assignment.

- Avoid providing extensive detail about the plot events of a chosen literary work. You should provide supporting details that purposefully relate to your controlling idea and to the topic.
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You will be given the following instructions for completing the assignment:

- Select literary examples that are relevant to this assignment and interesting to you from the short stories, novel, non-fiction, plays, poetry, and other literature that you have studied in ELA 10-1 this semester. You should be very familiar with the literature you choose to discuss. You must focus your discussion on literature other than the texts provided in this examination booklet.
 - Focus your composition on your controlling idea about being resourceful. I will be looking for evidence that you are developing and supporting your controlling idea in response to this assignment. Carefully consider your controlling idea or how you will create a strong unifying effect in your composition.
 - Support and develop your controlling idea with evidence from the literature that you choose to discuss.
 - Organize your composition so that your ideas are clearly, effectively, and coherently presented.
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General Suggestions



- **Budget your time.** The suggested time for each assignment is suggested, only. You will have only three hours to write this exam. Edit and proofread your written work carefully.

• **Read the whole examination carefully before you begin to write.** The time you spend in reading and thinking about the assignments is time well spent. Many students find that highlighting or underlining key words in the assignments helps them to focus on what is expected.
