



Description

Time: 2½ hours.

You may take an additional ½ hour to complete the examination.

Plan your time carefully; the suggested time for each part is only a guideline.

Part A: Written Response contributes 50% of the total ELA 10-1 Final Examination mark and consists of two assignments:

Personal Response to Text Assignment

- *Suggested time:* 45 minutes
- *Value:* 40 marks

Critical/Analytical Response to Literary Text Assignment

- *Suggested time:* 1½ to 2 hours
- *Value:* 60 marks

Instructions

- Complete the Personal Response to Text Assignment first. The Personal Response to Text Assignment is designed to allow you time to think and reflect upon the ideas that you may also explore in the Critical/Analytical Response to Literary Text Assignment.
- Complete **both** assignments.
- You may use the following print references:
 - a dictionary
 - a thesaurus
- Format your work using an easy-to-read 12-point font such as Times or Calibri.
- **Recommendation:** Read and reflect upon the whole examination before you begin to write. Time spent in planning may result in better writing.

Save your exam as **ELA101FINALsurname**

Please enter this label in the subject box of your email as well.

Please print this document.

**Complete both written assignments of this exam
in the answer document open on your computer.**

PERSONAL RESPONSE TO TEXT ASSIGNMENT

(suggested time: 45 minutes)

Carefully read and consider the texts on pages 2 to 4, and then complete the assignment that follows.

AN OPEN HEART

When I was eight years old, my father, a union organizer in the forties and fifties, was blacklisted, accused of communist activities. It meant no work—with a vengeance. My mother, then in her forties, had twin boys that spring—premature, and in pre-medicare times you can imagine the devastating costs for their care. I was hungry that year, hungry when I got up, hungry when I went to school, hungry when I went to sleep. In November I was asked to leave school because I only had boys' clothes to wear—hand-me-downs from a neighbour. I could come back, they said, when I dressed like a young lady.

The week before Christmas, the power and gas were disconnected. We ate soup made from carrots, potatoes, cabbage, and grain meant to feed chickens, cooked on our wood garbage burner. Even as an eight-year-old, I knew the kind of hunger we had was nothing compared to that of some people in India and Africa. I don't think we could have died in our middle-class Vancouver suburb. But I do know that the pain of hunger is intensified and brutal when you live in the midst of plenty. As Christmas preparations increased, I felt more and more isolated, excluded, set apart. I felt a deep abiding hunger for more than food. Christmas Eve day came, grey and full of the bleak sleety rain of a west-coast winter. Two women, strangers, struggled up our driveway loaded down with bags. They left before my mother answered the door. The porch was full of groceries—milk, butter, bread, cheese, and Christmas oranges. We never knew who they were, and after that day, pride being what it was, we never spoke of them again. But I'm forty-five years old, and I remember them well.

Since then I've crafted a life of joy and independence, if not financial security. Several years ago, living in Victoria, my son and I were walking up the street, once more in west-coast sleet and rain. It was just before Christmas and we were, as usual, counting our pennies to see if we'd have enough for all our festive treats, juggling these against the necessities. A young man stepped in front of me, very pale and carrying an old sleeping bag, and asked for spare change—not unusual in downtown Victoria. No, I said, and walked on. Something hit me like a physical blow about a block later. I left my son and walked back to find the young man. I gave him some of our Christmas luxury money—folded into a small square and tucked into his hand. It wasn't much, only ten dollars, but as I turned away, I saw the look of hopelessness turned into amazement and then joy. Well, said the rational part of my mind, Judith, you are a fool, you know he's just going up the street to the King's Hotel and spend it on drink or drugs. You've taken what belongs to your family and spent it on a frivolous romantic impulse. As I was lecturing myself on gullibility and sensible charity, I noticed the young man with the sleeping bag walking quickly up the opposite side of the street, heading straight for the King's. Well, let

this be a lesson, said the rational Judith. To really rub it in, I decided to follow him. Just before the King's, he turned into a corner grocery store. I watched through the window, through the poinsettias and the stand-up Santas. I watched him buy milk, butter, cheese, and Christmas oranges.

Now, I have no idea how that young man arrived on the street in Victoria, nor will I ever have any real grasp of the events that led my family to a dark and hungry December. But I do know that charity cannot be treated as a RRSP. There is no best-investment way to live, no way to insure value for our dollar. Like the Magi, these three, the two older women struggling up the driveway and the young man with the sleeping bag, gave me, and continue to give me, wonderful gifts—the reminder that love and charity come most truly and abundantly from an open and unjudgmental heart.

~Judith Mackenzie

THE FORECAST

Perhaps our age has driven us indoors.
We sprawl in the semi-darkness, dreaming sometimes
Of a vague world spinning in the wind.
But we have snapped our locks, pulled down our shades,
Taken all precautions. We shall not be disturbed.
If the earth shakes, it will be on a screen;
And if the prairie wind spills down our streets
And covers us with leaves, the weatherman will tell us.

~ Dan Jaffe



Volunteers step up

Tom Pennington / Getty Images

Three women walk through a tornado-ravaged neighborhood of Moore, Oklahoma, on May 27, handing out supplies to residents and volunteers. A twister touched down on May 20 in the Oklahoma City suburb, killing 24 people and leaving behind extensive damage to homes and businesses.

Personal Response to Text Assignment

(Suggested time: approximately 45 minutes)

You have been provided with three texts on pages 2 to 4. In the personal essay, “An Open Heart”, Judith Mackenzie presents her reactions to two separate incidents of charity. In the poem, “The Forecast”, Dan Jaffe illustrates how we tend to isolate ourselves from the struggles of others in our daily lives. Tom Pennington’s photograph captures a moment when volunteers attempt to ease the pain of others.

The Assignment

**What do these texts suggest about
the importance of empathy?**

**Support your idea with reference to ONE of the texts presented
and to your previous knowledge and/or experience.**

Instructions

- You must use a prose form. **DO NOT WRITE POETRY!**
- You must connect **ONE** of the texts provided in this examination to your own ideas and impressions.

Complete your assignment in the answer document.

Critical / Analytical Response to Literary Text Assignment

(Suggested time: approximately 1½ to 2 hours)

Do NOT use the texts provided in this booklet for the Critical/Analytical Response to Literary Text Assignment. Select **ONE** text that is relevant to this assignment and interesting to you from the short stories, novel, non-fiction, plays, poetry, and other texts that you have studied in ELA 10-1 this semester. When considering the works that you have studied, choose a text that is meaningful to you and relevant to the following assignment.

The Assignment

Discuss the idea developed by the text creator
in your chosen text
about the importance of empathy.

Write a literary essay of at least five paragraphs.

The Assignment***Reminders for planning and writing***

- Carefully consider your *controlling idea* or how you will create a strong *unifying effect* in your essay. **Organize** your essay so that your ideas are clearly, effectively, and coherently presented.
- As you **develop** your ideas, **support** them with appropriate, relevant, and meaningful examples from your choice of literary text.

Complete your assignment in the answer document.