



# Sherwood Secondary School

PROUD SCHOOL OF HAMILTON-WENTWORTH DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

25 High Street  
Hamilton, Ontario L8T 3Z4  
Phone: 905.383.3377  
Fax: 905.318.6561

EMAIL: [sherwood@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:sherwood@hwdsb.on.ca)  
[www.hwdsb.on.ca/sherwood](http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/sherwood)

Hello students and families,

You are receiving this letter because you/your student is in Grade 10 at Sherwood Secondary School. The Ontario Ministry of Education requires all students to successfully pass the OSSLT (Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test) as a graduation requirement. This test is offered annually to students in grade 10 as well as those in grades 11 or 12 that were previously unsuccessful or did not have an opportunity to participate in previous years/sessions. Important dates to keep in mind:

- The OSSLT will be held for all Grade 10 students taking English class Semester 1 **on Monday November 18 and Tuesday November 19, 2024**
- Students that took English at Summer School or that have Elearning for Grade 10 English will also write November 18 and 19 in the library
- **Students are required to attend on BOTH days**
- Students will write section 1 of the test on Monday November 18 during their English class
- Students will write section 2 of the test on Tuesday November 19 during their English class
- **Students are REQUIRED to bring their HWDSB assigned laptop fully charged on BOTH days**

### Key Details about the OSSLT

The assessment includes:

- TWO (2), 60-minute digital assessments, with 33 total questions (additional time is available for all students up to a maximum of two hours per section).
- All students are entitled to additional time. Please note that if additional time is needed students will be escorted from their classroom to the library by their teachers
- Students that are currently on SAL, online only, or in morning co-op should make arrangements to attend school on the days of the test. Please email Mrs. Wilson at [jowilson@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:jowilson@hwdsb.on.ca) if this is your situation.
- The OSSLT has built-in features that ALL students have access to, including:
  - Text-to-Speech Reader (bring your own headphones with a jack to plug into desktop sound)
  - Text Zoom Tool
  - Digital Notepad
  - Digital Highlighter
  - Digital Line Reader
  - High Contrast
  - Drawing Tool & Eraser



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## Information about OSSLT Accommodations for Students with IEPs

Students with IEPs will be contacted by their Learning Resource contact in the upcoming week(s) to discuss additional accommodations beyond those outlined.

## Additional Supports for Students:

- Students will complete practice literacy activities in their grade 10 classes leading up to the OSSLT
- Students have access to the Hub course with practice materials. Students can access this course through the Hub and the course SHWD-Grade 10 Literacy
- Practice Test Exploration: Grade 10 students will have an opportunity to write a practice version of the OSSLT on Monday, November 8 in their grade 10 English classes. For those students who may be in eLearning this semester, the practice test can also be found on the Hub course mentioned above
- The Head Start Literacy Prep Course is 10, 1 hour sessions either after school or at lunch. Please sign up in Room 2042
- Links to Official OSSLT Practice Tests – Available Now – EQAO, the governing body of the OSSLT, has created a practice version of the test. Students wishing to get a head start practicing or trying out the built-in tools can do so now by going to <https://www.eqao.com/the-assessments/osslt/>.

As a school, we encourage ALL writers to access the test and familiarize yourself with the tools mentioned above. This is the BEST way to prepare for the test.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Ms. McGilchrist [jmcgilch@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:jmcgilch@hwdsb.on.ca)

Thank you for your support,

A. Ayeni  
Principal – Sherwood Secondary School