

Graduation Literacy Assessment (10)

What is it?

Literacy

Literacy is the ability to critically analyze and make meaning from diverse texts and to communicate and express oneself in a variety of modes and for a variety of purposes in relevant contexts.

Part of the Graduation Program is the requirement that students write three assessments:

- Grade 10 Literacy Assessment
- Numeracy Assessment
- Graduation Literacy Assessment (Grade 12)

The Grade 10 Literacy Assessment is an assessment measuring reading comprehension, critical thinking, and writing skills. You have up to three hours to complete the assessment and you can take it up to three times.

How is it structured?

The Grade 10 Literacy Assessment has three sections:

- Part A - Thinking Critically about the Texts (Analysis and Understanding)
- Part B - Going Beyond the Texts (Understanding and Personal Connection)
- Self-reflection (not scored)



What Can I Expect in Part A?

Part A assesses your ability to think critically about a variety of texts. Your tasks include:

- reading a variety of texts
- answering a series of selected-response questions
- completing 1 critical thinking graphic organizer
- writing 1 multi-paragraph response

PART A
Critical Thinking, Comprehension, and Communication:
“Thinking critically about the texts”

Activating thinking: 
Introduction of the Context for Critical Thinking



Assessment tasks:

- 10 points of selected-response questions
- 1 critical thinking graphic organizer
- 1 multi-paragraph response

Suggested time: 65 minutes

What does it look like?



ESSENTIAL QUESTION



Part A Explained

Question A-15

Suggested

Bases

Write a statement explaining how the information might affect people's future behavior.

There will be a variety of texts

Throughout the assessment, you may encounter articles, stories, images, and infographics.



Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy and AI

Book review by David Foster Wallace, Feb. 2004

Caution: There is a spoiler alert embedded within.

I finally read *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* a few months ago. Yeah, yeah, I'm late. Who cares. It was a pretty quick read, and I recommend it to those who want to join the late reader's club.

Anyway, this funny, futuristic book got me pretty excited during a few key scenes. There were some gems about technology scattered throughout the passages.

For some background, in case you haven't read the book, these two programmers created this humorous computer called Deep Thought to answer the question of "Life, the Universe, and Everything."

1. Spoiler alert — The answer Deep Thought came up with was Forty-Two, Gald.

The quote from the book that inspired me was:

"You know nothing of future time," pronounced Deep Thought, "but get in my technology class by now and you'll be able to do the science of future probability and see that there must one day come a computer whose operational parameters I am not sure I can describe, but which it will be my eternal fate to design."

If you read and/or dislike in artificial intelligence, tell me right now that that quote does not give you some sort of heebie-jeebies.

In the book, the answer of 42 is met with outrage and confusion to the alien life that inhabits the universe. Deep Thought then returns that the programmers did not truly understand the premise of the question — that they really did not grasp the problem. Thus, the answer would make no sense as well. Fair conclusion in my mind.

THE TOP MYTHS ABOUT ADVANCED AI

A captivating conversation is taking place about the future of artificial intelligence and what it will/should mean for humanity. There are fascinating controversies where the world's leading experts disagree, such as AI's future impact on the job market, than human-level AI will be developed, whether this will lead to an intelligence explosion, and whether this is something we should welcome or fear. But there are also many examples of being pseudo-controversies caused by people misunderstanding and talking past each other. To help ourselves focus on the interesting controversies and open questions — and not on the misunderstandings — let's clear up some of the most common myths.

MYTH 1 Superintelligence by 2025 is inevitable.	MYTH 2 AI is taking over the world.
MYTH 3 Only wealthy nations will afford AI.	MYTH 4 AI is taking over the world.
MYTH 5 AI is taking over the world.	MYTH 6 AI is taking over the world.
MYTH 7 AI is taking over the world.	MYTH 8 AI is taking over the world.
MYTH 9 AI is taking over the world.	MYTH 10 AI is taking over the world.
MYTH 11 AI is taking over the world.	MYTH 12 AI is taking over the world.

Source: <https://www.technologyreview.com/2016/05/04/334000/ai-myths/>

A Breakthrough for A.I. Technology: Passing an 8th-Grade Science Test

By Colin Malt

Sept. 4, 2019

SAN FRANCISCO — Four years ago, more than 700 computer scientists competed in a contest to build artificial intelligence that could pass an eighth-grade science test. There was \$100,000 in prize money on the line.

They all failed. Even the most sophisticated system couldn't do better than 40 percent on the test. A.I. couldn't match the language and logic skills that students are expected to have when they enter high school.

But on Wednesday, the Allen Institute for Artificial Intelligence, a pioneer led in Seattle, unveiled a new system that passed the test with room to spare. It correctly answered more than 80 percent of the questions on an eighth-grade science test and more than 80 percent on a 10th-grade exam.

The system, called Aristo, is an indication that in just the past several months researchers have made significant progress in developing A.I. that can understand language and mimic the logic and decision-making of humans.

The world's top research labs are rapidly improving a machine's ability to understand and respond to natural language. Machines are getting better at analyzing documents, finding information, answering questions and even generating language of their own.

Aristo was built solely for multiple-choice tests. It took standard exams written for students in New York, though the Allen Institute reserved all questions that included pictures and diagrams. Answering questions like that would have required additional skills that combine language understanding and logic with so-called computer vision.

Some test questions, like this one from the eighth-grade exam, required little more than information retrieval:

Types of Questions



A

Question A-4 (1 point) What Is the Anthropocene and Are We in It?



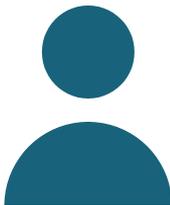
A

What key factors determine whether scientists will accept or reject the naming of a new “Anthropocene” epoch?

Select **the two** that apply.

- the scientists' particular areas of study
- the specific technologies that scientists use
- the type of scientific evidence that is available
- the origin of the scientific name being considered

**Read instructions
carefully!**



Part A: Graphic Organizer

Based on these texts, write a statement that summarizes the relationship between humans and the natural world.

Identify a key idea from each of the texts listed below and briefly explain how it supports your statement about the relationship between humans and the natural world.

What Is the Anthropocene and Are We in It?



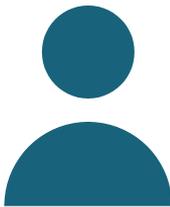
Key idea and brief explanation:

The Losing World



Key idea and brief explanation:

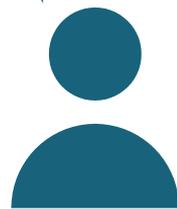
**Summarize and
Synthesize**



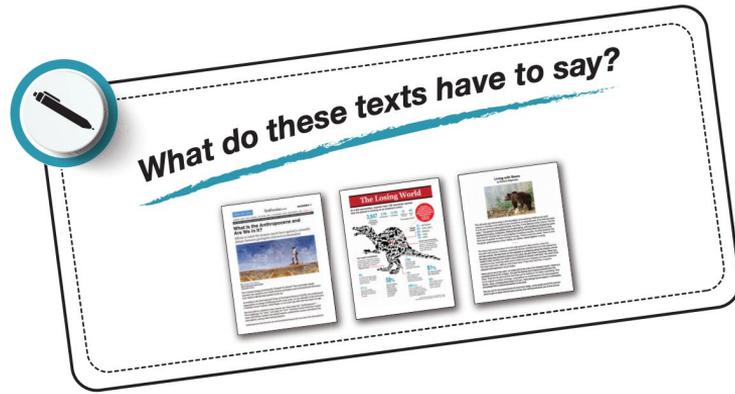
How to Complete the Graphic Organizer

- Based on your understanding of the texts, write a thoughtful, well-developed statement that identifies your perspective on the key issue
- Follow instructions carefully as the graphic organizers might look different each time
- Provide clear explanations and quoted evidence to support your perspective
- Choose snippets of quotes (rather than long passages) and properly integrate them.
- Your summary section should thoughtfully address the question and should deepen understanding
- The top responses are detailed, insightful, and include strong examples; they are written in complete sentences.

**Synthesize and
Question**



Part A: Multi-Paragraph Composition



To what extent do humans have control over the natural world?

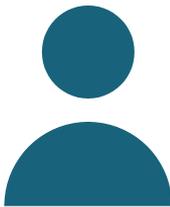
- Respond critically to this question in a well developed multi-paragraph composition.
- Communicate a convincing argument.
- Show your understanding of the information you have read in this section of the assessment by making reference to one or more of the texts.

Suggested time: 25 minutes

Reminders about the Part A Composition

- Synthesize ideas from at least two of the texts
- This is a multi-paragraph composition so you should have an introductory paragraph, at least two body paragraphs, and a conclusion
- Aim to write at least 350 words
- Compose a convincing argument
- Show your critical thinking skills
- Fully develop your ideas
- Communicate as clearly as possible
- Support your ideas with evidence from the texts.
- Incorporate quotes as support and make sure that you properly introduce and integrate them.

**Show your synthesis
essay-writing skills!**



What Can I Expect in Part B?

Part B assesses your ability to analyze text and to respond personally in writing. Your tasks include:

- reading a variety of texts
- answering a series of selected-response questions
- writing 1 extended “written response” composition



Part B



PART B

Suggested Time: 55 minutes

Choose a path to complete the assessment.

PATH B1: Literacy for Information

How can people feel connected to nature?

If you choose this path you will read and analyze

- two infographics
- two articles

You will also express yourself in writing.



SELECT

PATH B2: Literacy for Expression

What responsibilities do humans have to other species?

If you choose this path you will read and analyze

- one article
- one story

You will also express yourself in writing.



SELECT

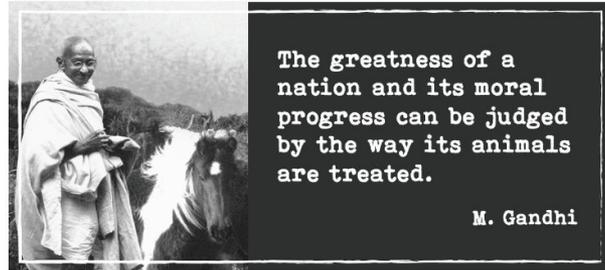
Once you pick your path you can't go back.



Part B Extended Response: Multi-Paragraph Response



What do you have to say?



What obligations, if any, do people have to other living things?

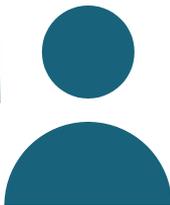
- Communicate your insight into this topic in a well-developed response.
- You may respond creatively or critically, using any written format.
- Methods of development may include narration, exposition, persuasion, description or any combination of these.
- Your response should be sufficiently detailed to thoroughly demonstrate your thinking.

Suggested time: 25 minutes

Reminders about the Part B “Written Response”

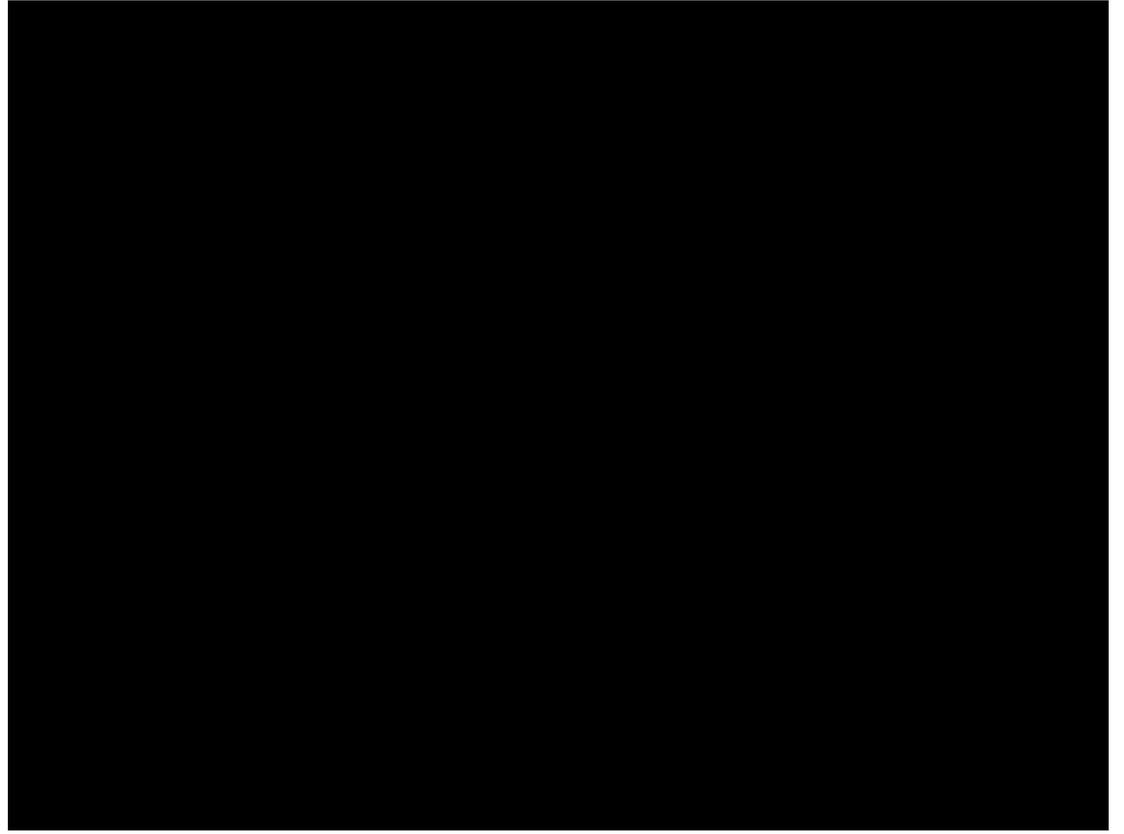
- This is an extended written response and can take a variety of forms, including a multi-paragraph composition, a persuasive piece, or a narrative. Choose a form that suits the purpose. Go with your strengths
- Write at least 350 words
- Use paragraphs
- Go beyond the texts to provide personal interpretation, thoughtful perspectives and insight into the topic
- Fully develop your ideas
- Showcase your creative, reflective and/or critical thinking skills
- Communicate as clearly as possible

Showcase your strengths!



How to get to the sample/Practice

Online Navigation



How can I prepare?

You can find sample assessments and scoring guides on the Grade 10 Literacy Assessment page of the BC Curriculum website.

- Try an online sample so that you can get familiar with the navigation
- Be sure to review the scoring guide to check your answers and to see how you might answer the graphic organizer questions.

bit.ly/SD63GLA

How are my results reported?

The Grade 10 Literacy Assessment will appear on your transcript as RM (Requirement Met). This indicates that you have completed the assessment.

You can access your results at the BC site for [Student Transcripts](#). If you don't yet have an account, you will have to create one first.

Your results will be reported out as a number correlating to the proficiency scale levels. (1 = Emerging and 4 = Extending).

Credits

Thanks to Alice Kevdes for sharing her knowledge about the Grade 10 and 12 Literacy Graduation Assessments.

Images from the GLA 10 that are used in this presentation are from the various resources found on the [Ministry of Education GLA 10](#) page.