

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test

Item-Specific Rubric and Sample Student Responses with Annotations

OSSLT Opinion Essay
Rubric and Scoring Guide for Writing Conventions

Code	Descriptor
Blank	Nothing is typed in the text box.
I	Illegible; random characters; not written in English.
10	There is insufficient evidence (fewer than 30 words) to assess the use of conventions. OR Errors in conventions interfere with communication.
20	Errors in conventions distract from communication.
30	Errors in conventions do not distract from communication.
40	Control of conventions is evident in written work.

Conventions refers to grammar, usage, spelling and punctuation.

Clarification of Descriptors for Conventions

- **insufficient evidence:** The student has not written enough (fewer than 30 words) to assess his/her use of conventions.
- **interfere:** Reading rhythm is constantly interrupted. There is so much re-reading that the reader cannot recall what the piece of writing said overall.
- **distract:** Reading rhythm is interrupted, even if the information can be understood. The reader is as aware of the errors as of the information being communicated.
- **do not distract:** There may be errors, but they do not impede understanding of the information.
- **control:** Written work demonstrates consistent and correct use of conventions expected by the end of Grade 9, such as verb endings, the spelling of homophones, end punctuation, the apostrophe and quotation marks. A few errors may exist.

Code I

Do you depend too much on technology?

I don+t no?? w:ht 2 say"

Annotation: The response is a Code I because it is illegible (*w:ht 2 say*) and includes random characters and punctuation (*I don+t no??*) throughout the sentence.

Code 10

Do you depend too much on technology?

Yes. If people don't know the answer to things they go on their phone and look it up. For example what the weather is outside.

Annotation: This response contains fewer than 30 words, and thus provides insufficient evidence to assess the use of conventions.

Code 20

Do you depend too much on technology?

Long time ago, People didn't. However, People do flow. Technology makes to improve our life. A lot of People might be more comfortable than before some technology keep changing our life by now. Especially, many stuffs technology changed our life. For example, cell Phone television, microwave, refrigerator, computer etc I'm going to explain how those changed our life. First It is electricity stuffs. In the olden days cell Phone was used for calling. However, It is using for listening to music watching videos or television, searching something. Studying. watching the clock. Playing game. and navigation So, we can Play a lot of things like this because of technology. It's going to be developed more. Second It is building up technology. When I was younger, People were able to build the buildings through wood or leaves but we can build many buildings through the metals, gold, ice, iron, and stone etc. Finally, It is car technology

Annotation: Errors in conventions distract from communication. Reading rhythm is interrupted by incomplete sentences (*Long time ago, People didn't. Searching something. Studying. Watching the clock. Playing game, and navigation. Finally. It is car technology*), errors in usage (*Technology makes to improve our life. Many stuffs technology changed our life.*), and a lack of punctuation (*For example, cell phone television, microwave, refrigerator, computer etc I'm going to explain...A lot of people might be more comfortable than before some technology keep changing...*).

Code 30

Do you depend too much on technology?

In this day and age technology is found everywhere and in every aspect of life around us, whether it is in the streets, traffic classrooms and schools, workplaces, and even medical purpose like hearing aids, heart pressure measuring machines and hospitals. Due to the unneeded extra presence of technology everywhere distractions can be so hard to avoid, weather if it's a student tempted to text back their friends instead of using their laptops and computers for finishing assignments, or a worker tempted to check his social media accounts on their work computer or listen to music instead of finishing tasks required from them, or even an elderly person who might get distracted by all the buttons and lights while crossing the street. In addition to the uncertainty that comes with storing valuable data and information whether if it's safe or not. As many data, including school assignments or essays or important documents that belong to ceritain business, might be in danger of being lost due to malfunctions errors or theft over the web. More over the excesivly present technologies might cause different health issues such as defect eye sight from being exposed to screens for too long, including phones, computers, and T.Vs., and the effect of diffrent waves on the brain. Despite all the negative impacts of technology. it has been a helpful tool in different fields. For instance technology has helped save time in multiple ways, like getting more work done in less time using computers that can das complicated multiplications and different matimatical problems in a blink of an eye, Transportation has improved with technology as better, strange more efficient modes of transportation have been appearing year after year. Including trains, aircafts, ships, and different cars and busses. Technology has also introduced online shopping which allows customers to shop for products they need for lower prices in the comfort of their home, while saving time by not leaving at all. One of the most important benifits of Technology is saving materials, space, and lowering expences. for busineases, for instance saving documents on computers and servers can save companies money by buying less paper, requiring less storage rooms and providing easy access to documents through simple interface computers. Code 30All of these pros and cons makes one wonder whether technology is necessary or not. Being overly depending on technology is a complete mistake, however using it as a side helping tool is the right choice. in order to avoid all the disadvantages and benifit from the advantages as well as possible.

Annotation: Errors in usage (*medical purpose... Being overly depending on technology*) and spelling (*weather, uncertainty, ceriton, malfunctions, excesivly*), and comma splices (*One of the most important benifits of Technology is saving materials, space, and lowering expences for busineases, for instance saving...*) do not distract from communication.

Code 40

Do you depend too much on technology?

As a teenager, I believe that people depend on technology way more than they should. Now a days people depend on technology to do the jobs they can do themselves. It's as easy as just saying "Hey Siri" or "Hey Alexa." What happens when your phone dies? people automatically go searching for a charger because their phone is their "only" source of entertainment. Why not just go outside and read a book instead? People depend on technology to send a "text" or a message to someone in the same building as them. Instead of using your phone you could go actually have a face-to-face conversation with that person. If we go back in time we would see that people did everything by hand. They washed dishes by hand, Sent letters, built homes, and actually interacted face-to-face. What if one day we wake up and all our technology is gone? people aren't going to know what to do because we grew up in a day and

Annotation: Errors in usage (medical purpose... Being overly depending on technology) and spelling (weather, uncertainty, ceriton, malfunctions, excesivly), and comma splices (One of the most important benifits of Technology is saving materials, space, and lowering expences for businesses, for instance saving...) do not distract from communication. Code 40age that revolves around and depends on technology. People aren't going to think about going to hang out with their friends at the mall or going outside to play a game of soccer with their family, and when I think about that, it makes me sad! When I think back to when I was younger, we did not depend on technology to do everything and anything for us, and I miss that. I miss being able to play a game of soccer without technology getting in the way of things. People depend on technology too much, and I do not think that it's a good thing!

Annotation: Control of conventions is evident. Errors in spelling (*Now a days*) and a lack of capitalization after a question mark (*dies? people automatically go searching...gone? people aren't...*) do not undermine the overall control of conventions.