

English II EOC Information

Basic Information

- Beginning in the 2012-2013 school year, all English II students will be taking an end of course test provided by the State of North Carolina.
- This test will count as the final exam, and will thus be 25% of the course grade.
- Raw scores (from 0-100 scale) will be available shortly after the students take the exam in the spring, but levels (1-4) will not be available until October 2013 when the test has been normed. Students will receive an Incomplete on their report cards until the grades come back and then the teacher can figure final grades for the course. It is undetermined when the incomplete will be lifted.

What is on the test?

The following is a chart released by the Department of Public Instruction in North Carolina about what kinds of items will be on the test and how much of each type will appear on the test:

English II Standard	Percentage of items on the test
Reading for Literature	30-34%
Reading for Information	32-38%
Writing (short responses)	14-18%
Language (grammar in the one paragraph responses)	14-18%

For the Reading for Literature and Information, you will be reading passages from literature, poems, and articles about various topics. You will answer multiple choice questions and constructed response questions (short answer) about these different passages. There are a total of 68 items on the test.

Multiple Choice Questions:

There will be 64 MC questions. These questions may ask you to analyze the text by identifying or explaining any of the following concepts we have covered in class (this is not an exhaustive list) through multiple choice questions:

Metaphors	Similes
Identify the structure of a text (the order of the ideas)	Identify the importance of the structure of the text
Connect ideas in the text	Identify tone and its importance to the theme
Theme	Author's Purpose in writing the text
Rhyme Scheme and how it impacts theme	Synonyms
Antonyms	Meaning of a phrase or words
How the speaker or character changed in the text (Characterization)	Author's Point of View (first person, third person limited, third person omniscient, etc.)
Personification	Infer information from the text about characters, plot, theme, etc.
Connotation	Conflict
Summarizing a text	Author's craft—the purpose of specific word choice
The effect of word choice in a text (Diction)	The central idea of a text
The purpose of figurative language in a text	Rhetorical questions and their purpose

Constructed Responses:

Throughout the test, you will also be asked to write short answers in response to questions about the passages you are reading. These questions will ALWAYS ask you to use specific evidence from the text to support your answer. There will be 4 CR's. Here is an example question:

Paragraph 4

Even Okonkwo himself became very fond of the boy-- inwardly of course. Okonkwo never showed any emotion openly, unless it be the emotion of anger. To show affection was a sign of weakness; the only thing worth demonstrating was strength. He therefore treated Ikemefuna as he treated everybody else--with a heavy hand. But there was no doubt that he liked the boy. Sometimes when he went to big village meetings or communal ancestral feasts he allowed Ikemefuna to accompany him, like a son, carrying his stool and his goatskin bag. And, indeed, Ikemefuna called him father.

Based on paragraph 4, what can be inferred about Okonkwo's character? Use evidence from the selection to support your response.

To answer these questions, make sure that you do all of the following:

- Write in complete sentences, with periods at the end!
- Your topic sentence should include part of the prompt to show that you are addressing the question. It can also include a brief answer that you will explain with evidence in the following sentences. Get right to the point! For example:

From paragraph four of the selection from Chinua Achebe's *Things Fall Apart*, it can be inferred that Okonkwo is proud and loving, though at times harsh and removed.

- After your topic sentence, you should then use specific examples from the text itself, quoting it, or referring to it, to back up your opinion stated in the topic sentence.
- You should use AT LEAST TWO EXAMPLES from the text to develop your response. In many cases, you can't receive the highest score on the constructed response unless you have at least two specific examples from the text.

In the text, this characterization can be seen in Okonkwo's fear of showing "a sign of weakness," something he associates with his father who was talked about earlier in the passage. He keeps his true feeling inside ("inwardly of course"), only showing anger as his dominant emotion.

- End your constructed response with a summary statement to give it a well-rounded feel as the scorer reads it. For example:

Through these examples, Okonkwo emerges as a man who is seen as strong on the outside, but internally struggles with his fear of being seen as weak.

- Each of your constructed responses will be scores on a scale from 0 to 2, with 2 being the highest score possible.
- Grammar will also affect your score, so make sure that you edit your responses.
- There will not be any spell check available, so you need to know how to edit your own work.