

General Tips for OGT Success

Be sure you feel your best!

- Get plenty of rest the night before the test.
- Have a good breakfast and dress comfortably on the morning of the test.

As you begin: Preview the test and budget your time.

- You will have two hours to complete each section of the test.
- Look ahead and analyze your task. Relax and focus.

Read carefully! Work to maintain your concentration throughout the test.

- Start with the directions. Be sure you understand what to do.
- Read every question carefully. Think and restate questions in your own words.

Answer all questions on the test.

- Don't leave any question blank.
- Be sure to answer the short answer and extended response questions. You cannot pass without giving these questions your best effort as well.

Use all the time. Go back and check your work.

Write on your test booklet!

- Underline key words in the question, selection and charts. This will help you to identify important information that will guide you to select the correct answer.
- Do not make any extra marks in the answer booklet. Machines score the tests, and stray marks may interfere with scoring.

Strategies for Multiple Choice Questions:

- **Read questions first.** Know what information you need to gain from the passage. Do not read the answer choices at this time. Think about the questions so that you are sure you know what the questions are asking.
- **Skim or read the selection.** Visualize as you read. Mark anything that you think will help you answer questions.
- You may wish to stop and answer questions as find information in the passage.
- **Reread each question.** Restate it in your own words.
- **Before you read the answer choices, figure out your own answer.**
- **NOW read all answer choices.** Eliminate any choices that you can. "Power guess."
- **Are you stuck? No worries! Use the answer choices to help you get your thinking started and solve problems.**
- **Be aware of trick words like "not" and "except."**
- **Go back to the passage to check for information that supports your choice.**
- Be sure you mark your answers in the correct space.
- **If you are unsure of an answer, circle the question in the test booklet, not your answer document. Go back later if you have time.**

Open-Ended Responses: Short answer or extended response

Make sure that your written responses completely answer the question. How?

To do your best on these responses:

- Read and analyze the question. Take time to restate the question.
- Look for information in the question that may help you with your answer.
- Underline all parts of the question that need to be addressed in your answer.

Now you are ready to write your response:

- Be sure to restate the question in your answer.
- Always look back at the passage to find information to include.
- Use details from the selection to support your answer
- Focus your writing so that your reader will understand your response.

Next, check your work.

- Read your response completely and slowly.
- Make sure that you have answered all checked parts of the question.
- Correct any errors you may find in your writing

A few final words of advice:

Ask an expert:

- Be sure to ask questions. Everyone is willing to help you.
- Let your Academic Coach support your work.
- Having problems with a certain section of the test?
Ask for additional help and practice materials.

Feel confident!

- Remember all the work you've done to prepare. Believe that you will do well.
- Use the strategies! Strategies make all the difference.

OGT Vocabulary-Key Words

| | |
|--------------|--|
| analyze- | to separate; to take apart or break down parts of a bigger piece of writing and discuss/explain them |
| assess- | to evaluate (opinion) |
| compare- | find similarities (alike) and differences (not alike) |
| compile- | collect and bring together in a <u>list</u> |
| conclude- | to end/sum (what did you learn) |
| connect- | to link/to put together (often involves comparisons) |
| contrast- | to find differences |
| critique- | critical writing/evaluate (point out <u>good and bad</u>) |
| define- | to give the meaning of |
| demonstrate- | to show clearly by explaining, giving details, examples, etc. |
| describe- | to write about or to tell, giving a clear (usually detailed) picture |
| determine- | to make up one's mind; give <u>opinion and support it</u> |
| develop- | to come up with; to make (a plan, an idea) from the information |
| discuss- | talk about a subject; tell what you know in an organized way |
| distinguish- | to recognize/to find as different from something similar |
| evaluate- | to find a value of; to assess; determine the worth |
| explain- | to tell/ make clear |
| Find- | to locate |
| Identify- | recognize, to point out |
| Include- | contain; put inside |
| Interpret- | to explain the meaning of |

| | |
|-------------|---|
| justify- | to defend your position or opinion with factual proof |
| organize- | to put in (working) order |
| outline- | series of main ideas, each followed by details (key points) |
| predict (v) | to tell before hand/give an <u>educated</u> guess about what will happen <u>from what you already know or learned</u> |
| prove- | to show with support/make certain |
| recognize- | to be aware of something; to find or point out what is already known |
| select- | to pick; choose |
| show- | to display; illustrate with facts or details |
| summarize- | to collect the main points of the text (in your own words) |
| support- | proof; give clear, factual evidence for your position, thought, or opinion |
| trace- | to track through time; mark in time or space |