

ELA Finals Study Guide

Semester 1, 2020

- 40 questions
- 4 reading selections; narrative and informational texts
- 2 passages at grade level, 2 passages no more than two years below grade level
- 1-2 graphs or charts
- Questions requiring students to cite textual evidence
- Question(s) referring to rhetorical devices, hyperbole, idioms, symbolism, irony, tone, rhetorical questions, claims, evidence, reasoning, counterargument, narrative elements, simile, theme, hyperbole, point of view, purpose, alliteration

Essential Questions

LA1	Is it necessary to struggle in order to be successful? How do class, religion, language, and cultural stereotypes influence how I look at and understand the world?
LA3	How do I know when a habit is becoming destructive? What compromises to my integrity will I make in order to be accepted?
LA5	What does success mean? What does it mean to be successful? How can language be a tool for personal or social change?
LA7	What is my identity? What responsibility do I have to society? How can I influence the world I live in? What is my responsibility in affecting change on society?

Common Core Standards

Narrative		Informational	
RL1	Cite textual evidence	RI1	Cite textual evidence
RL2	Determine the theme or central idea	RI2	Determine the central idea
RL3	Analyze how complex characters develop over the course of the text	RI3	Analyze how the author unfolds an analysis or series of ideas or events
RL4	Determine meaning of words	RI4	Determine meaning of words
RL5	Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure a text, order events within it create such effects as mystery, tension, or surprise	RI5	Analyze how an author's ideas or claims are developed by particular sentences, paragraphs, or larger portions of a text
RL6	Analyze a particular point of view or cultural experience reflected in a work of literature from outside the US, drawing on a wide reading of world literature	RI6	Determine the author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how an author uses rhetoric to advance that point of view or purpose

(Sample question stems on back)

Question Stems for Narrative Texts

RL1	Which choice provides the best evidence for ... According to _____, which statement is true about ... What piece of evidence is most relevant to ...
RL2	What is the author's claim ... Which statement best summarizes lines _____ to _____ Which statement best describes the central theme of the story? What underlying message is developed through the author's choice to ...
RL3	How does _____ character evolve ... The text structure primary serves to ...
RL4	As used in line _____, the word _____ most likely refers to ... The quote "_____" (lines _____-_____) is primarily meant to convey ...
RL5	The main purpose of the _____ paragraph is to ... (RL 9.5) What effect does the shift in tone in lines _____ have on the development of the theme? (RL 9.5)
RL6	What reason might the author have for choosing to tell this story from _____ point of view?

Question Stems for Informational Texts

RI1	Which choice best supports the author's claim? The purpose of lines ____ - ____ is to ... What can be inferred about _____ from the graph/chart ... Which choice provides the best evidence for ... What does the phrase _____ imply ... The antecedent of ...
RI2	What is the author's claim/main point about ... The information in the graph/chart create a strong case for ... The author chooses to include _____ for what purpose? The purpose of the passage is to ... This passage implies that _____
RI3	The reference to _____ primarily serves to ... The function of lines ...
RI4	As used in line _____, the word _____ most nearly means ... What effect do the quotations in lines _____ have on the tone ... Which words contribute to overall tone of the passage ...
RI5	The author uses _____ as a way to ... What conclusion can be drawn from the author's decision to ... The repetition of the phrase _____ is used to emphasize ... The argument of the passage ...
RI6	The author's choice to use the perspective of [POV/age/gender/religion] reveals that ... What rhetorical purpose does the quotation ...