



Academic Upgrading

Academic Services

Study Guide for English Literature Placement Tests

COMM 181/182, English 20-1/30-1

Updated: September 2024

Important Information

Review the following information before preparing for the test.

The English Literature placement tests are assessments designed for Academic Upgrading placement purposes only. These assessments determine entrance into English Language Arts 20-1 or English Language Arts 30-1. **No section of the test may be used for admission to any SAIT program other than Academic Upgrading. The English Placement Test is not accepted for admission to any other institution, nor does the test determine English language proficiency.**

- **If you are not sure whether the English Placement Test will meet your needs, contact Academic Upgrading (upgrading@sait.ca or 403-210-5756).**
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The **COMM 181/182, English 20-1/30-1 English Placement Test** is composed of the following:

Grammar, Reading and Literature Comprehension

45 multiple choice questions

You have 2 hours and 15 minutes to complete the test (accommodated time is included).

****Note:** No part of these exams can be used to determine English Language proficiency at SAIT.

English Placement Test Study Resources

Accessing SAIT's Electronic and Print Resources

Go to: <https://www.sait.ca/student-life/reg-erhardt-library>

Grammar Resources

You may be tested on the following topics: parts of speech (nouns, verbs, pronouns, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, prepositions, interjections, and articles); types of clauses (dependent and independent); punctuation (apostrophes, commas, semicolons, colons, question marks, and periods); fragments, run-ons, comma splices, spelling, capitalization, etc. The following resources will help prepare you for the grammar portion of the test:

Electronic

Capital Community College Foundation. *Guide to grammar and writing*. Capital Community College, 2004. Web. 15 May 2015. <https://winningwriters.com/resources/capital-community-college-guide-to-grammar-and-writing-1>

Simmons, Robin L. *Exercises at Grammar Bytes*. Chompchomp, 2015. Web. 15 May 2015. <http://www.chompchomp.com/exercises.htm>

Writing Lab and the OWL Purdue. *General Writing - Grammar*. Purdue University, 2015. Web. 15 May 2015. https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.html

Print

Beason, Larry, and Mark Lester. *A commonsense guide to grammar and usage*. Boston, MA: Bedford/St. Martin's, 2006. *SAIT Reg Erhardt Library*. Web. 15 May 2015.

Faigley, Lester. *The brief penguin handbook with exercises*. Boston: Longman, 2012. *SAIT Reg Erhardt Library*. Web. 15 May 2015.

Langan, John, and Beth Johnson. *English essentials: What every college student needs to know about grammar, punctuation, and usage*. New York: McGraw-Hill, 2009. *SAIT Reg Erhardt Library*. Web. 15 May 2015.

Straus, Jane, Lester Kaufman, and Tom Stern. *The blue book of grammar and punctuation: An easy-to-use guide with clear rules, real-world examples, and reproducible quizzes*. San Francisco: Wiley, 2014. *SAIT Reg Erhardt Library*. Web. 15 May 2015.

Electronic

The Writing Centre. *Paragraphs*. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2014. Web 15 May 2015. <https://writingcenter.unc.edu/tips-and-tools/paragraphs/>

The Writing Centre. *Writing paragraphs*. University of Ottawa, n.d. Web 15 2015. <https://arts.uottawa.ca/writingcentre/en/hypergrammar/writing-paragraphs>

The Writing Lab and the OWL Purdue. *General Writing - The writing process*. Purdue University, 2015. Web 15 May 2015. https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.html

Print

Buckley, Joanne. *Fit to print: The Canadian student's guide to essay writing*. Toronto: Nelson Education, 2008. SAIT Reg Erhardt Library. Web. 15 May 2015.

Clouse, Barbara Fine. *Progressions with reading: Paragraph to essay*. New York: Pearson, 2009. SAIT Reg Erhardt Library. Web. 15 May 2015.

Gaetz, Lynne, and Suneeti Phadke. *The writer's world: Paragraphs and essays*. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Pearson/Prentice Hall, 2009. SAIT Reg Erhardt Library. Web. 15 May 2015.

Kelly, William J. *Simple, clear, and correct: paragraphs*. New York: Pearson Longman, 2009. SAIT Reg Erhardt Library. Web. 15 May 2015.

Reading Resources

You will be asked to read several different styles of texts and answer a few questions to demonstrate your understanding of the texts. The following resources will help prepare you for the reading portion of the test:

Electronic

Academy of American Poets. *How to read a poem*. Poets, n.d. Web 15 May 2015. <https://poets.org/text/how-read-poem-0>

Entryways into College Reading and Learning. *Context clues: Exercise 1*. McGraw-Hill Higher Education, 2008. Web 15 May 2015. https://highered.mheducation.com/sites/0073123587/student_view0/chapter3/context_clues__exercise_1.html

Entryways into College Reading and Learning. *Context clues: Exercise 2*. McGraw-Hill Higher Education, 2008. Web 15 May 2015.

http://highered.mheducation.com/sites/0073123587/student_view0/chapter3/context_clues_exercise_2.html

Poetry Foundation. *Glossary of poetic terms*. Poetry Foundations, 2015. Web 15 May 2015.

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/learn/glossary-terms?category=techniques-and-figures-of-speech>

Print

Carter, Christine Evans. *Landscapes: Groundwork for college reading*. Boston, MA:

Wadsworth/Cengage Learning, 2013. *SAIT Reg Erhardt Library*. Web. 15 May 2015.

Dillard, Mary L. *Reading in the academic environment*. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Prentice Hall,

2003. *SAIT Reg Erhardt Library*. Web. 15 May 2015.

Henderson, Eric. *The active reader: Strategies for academic reading and writing*. Don Mills, ON:

OUP Canada, 2012. *SAIT Reg Erhardt Library*. Web. 15 May 2015.

Milan Spears, Deanne. *Improving reading skills: A contemporary reader*. Boston: McGraw-Hill,

2010. *SAIT Reg Erhardt Library*. Web. 15 May 2015.

Citing Resources

You may be asked to demonstrate your understanding of quoting, paraphrasing, summarizing, plagiarism, direct vs. indirect speech, etc. The following resources will help prepare you for this portion of the test:

Electronic

Driscoll, Dana Lynn and Allen Brizee. *Quoting, paraphrasing, and summarizing*. Purdue

University. 2015. Web 15 May 2015. https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.html

Jennifer ESL. *Reported speech (intro) - English grammar*. YouTube. 22 May 2009. Web 15 May

2015. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5HBEw6cY17g>

Russell, Tony and et. al. *MLA formatting and style guide*. Purdue University. 2015. Web 15 May

2015. https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.html

Print

Fox, Tom, Julia Johns, and Sarah Keller. *Cite it right: The source aid guide to citation, research, and avoiding plagiarism*. Osterville, Mass.: Source Aid LLC, 2007. *SAIT Reg Erhardt Library*. Web. 15 May 2015.

Modern Language Association of America. *MLA handbook for writers of research papers*. New York: Modern Language Association of America, 2009. *SAIT Reg Erhardt Library*. Web. 15 May 2015.

Quaratiello, Arlene Rodda. *College student's research companion*. New York: Neal-Schuman Publishers, 2003. *SAIT Reg Erhardt Library*. Web. 15 May 2015.