**Grade 9 English Exam Study Guide**

There will be two booklets: a Reading Booklet and a Response Booklet. You will write your paragraph and composition in the Response Booklet. You will read the multiple choice questions and the story in the Reading Booklet. You will record your multiple choice answers on the Scantron.

**Part I – Language Conventions**

You will see 10 groups of 5 sentences each and will have to select the correct sentence in each group. This is where your understanding of homonyms/homophones comes in. This is out of 10.

Example:

1. a) They’re are for pares and too apples in the bowl.

b) There are four pairs and two apples in the bowl.

c) There are four pears and two apples in the bowl.

d) Their are four pares and to apples in the bowl.

e) Their are for pears and two apples in the bowl.

**Part II – Reading Comprehension**

This is divided up into short story vocabulary and reading and responding to a short story.

1. Multiple Choice definitions

Be sure you know the definitions of and understand the following terms:

* exposition
* rising action
* climax
* falling action
* resolution
* conflict
* plot
* character
* point of view
* mood
* theme
* setting
* foreshadowing
* symbolism
* irony
* suspense

1. Read the story and respond to the questions. There will be 5 multiple choice in part B and 5 matching in part C.

Part D asks:

In the space provided **in your Response Booklet,** write **a well-developed paragraph** in response to **one** of the following questions.

The questions will ask you either to write a paragraph describing one of the characters or the theme of the story. Be sure to include evidence from the story when you write. Also be sure to put quotation marks around the title of the story and use the author’s full name. Each point you make should be backed up by a piece of evidence from the story and explanation about that evidence.

**Part III – Original Composition**

The instructions read:

* In the space provided **in your Response Booklet**, write a **multi-paragraph composition** of approximately 200-300 words.
* Choose **one** of the topics.
* You may choose to agree or disagree with the topic.

After that, you’ll see two writing prompts, similar to the ones you wrote at the beginning of the year. They were

**Choice 2**

**Everybody deserves forgiveness.**

**Choice 1**

**Challenges create opportunities.**

These topics will be different, but it’s the same idea. You should try to think of something in your life that can help illustrate the point. You can also refer to books or stories you’ve read. Remember, you can disagree with the prompt.

* Make sure there are at least **3** paragraphs in the composition.
* Please **SINGLE space** your writing.
* Please **write in blue or black ink.**
* Be sure to title your composition.

Be sure to note the suggested times. Part I is 10 minutes. Part II is 40 minutes, and Part III is 40 minutes. Remember, for Part II, the 40 minutes is for you to complete the multiple choice vocabulary, read the story (about 3 pages), answer the multiple choice and matching questions, and write the paragraph.

A good strategy is to look at the writing prompts for the original composition before you start the exam. That way, in the back of your mind, you can try to think of ideas to use for that writing.