

To the Student:

After your registration is complete and your proctor has been approved, you may take the Credit by Examination for English 9B.

WHAT TO BRING

- several sharpened No. 2 pencils
- blue or black ink pen
- notebook paper

ABOUT THE EXAM

This test gives you the opportunity to demonstrate your mastery of the Essential Knowledge and Skills for this subject, as outlined by the Texas Education Agency.

The Credit by Examination consists of 80 multiple-choice and true/false questions and a composition. The objective questions are worth one point each, and the composition is worth 20 points. You can prepare by reviewing any of the state-adopted textbooks that are used at your school. The textbooks used in our ENG 9B course are:

Glencoe Literature: The Reader's Choice, Course 4. New York: Glencoe McGraw-Hill, 2000.

Glencoe Writer's Choice: Grammar and Composition, Grade 9. New York: Glencoe McGraw-Hill, 2001.

You should read Charles Dickens's novel *Great Expectations* and Sophocles' play *Antigone*. Both of these are available online or in many printed editions.

A Scantron® answer sheet will be provided for the objective portion of the exam. You will have three hours to complete the exam.

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A sample examination is included with this letter. The sample exam will provide an example of the types of questions that will be asked on your examination. It is not a duplicate of the actual exam and it is *not* intended to serve as a review sheet. To maximize your chances for success on this examination, you must master *all* of the material covered by this subject.

For more information about CBE policies, visit <http://www.help.k12.ttu.edu/> or see your course Policies & Forms Guide.

Good luck on your examination!

CBE Study Topics

In order to be successful on the test, you must study and review all of the following concepts for English 9B (page numbers are from the ENG 9B textbook *Glencoe: Writer's Choice*, but any state-adopted English 9 textbook should have the same information). Remember, this examination is a general overview of the material. Good luck on your exam!

I. Composition

- A. The writing process (beginning on page 52 in *Glencoe: Writer's Choice*)
- B. Descriptive writing (beginning on page 132 in *Glencoe: Writer's Choice*)
- C. Expository writing (beginning on page 232 in *Glencoe: Writer's Choice*)
- D. Narrative writing (beginning on page 174 in *Glencoe: Writer's Choice*)
- E. Persuasive writing (beginning on page 282 in *Glencoe: Writer's Choice*)

II. Literature

- A. Literary terms (see “Literary Terms Handbook,” beginning on page R1 of *Glencoe Literature*). Also include *biography* and *autobiography*.
- B. The novel: *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens—read carefully.
- C. Greek drama: *Antigone* by Sophocles—read carefully.
- D. Short story: plot outline (exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution or dénouement)
- E. Nonfiction: selections in Unit Two, *Glencoe Literature*

III. Effective Writing

- A. Conciseness (avoiding wordiness)
- B. Subject-verb agreement (beginning on page 608 in *Glencoe: Writer's Choice*)
- C. Colons and commas (pages 733-734 and 738-748 in *Glencoe: Writer's Choice*)
- D. Pronoun-antecedent agreement (pages 640-647 in *Glencoe: Writer's Choice*)
- E. Parallel structure (pages 94, 364, and 924 in *Glencoe: Writer's Choice*)
- F. Shifts in time and person (pages 400 and 594 in *Glencoe: Writer's Choice*)

- G. Choosing the correct pronoun (beginning on page 632 in *Glencoe: Writer's Choice*)

IV. Writing

You may write about *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens, **or** you may write a personal essay on an assigned topic. Essays will be graded on

- writing for content, organization, appropriate transition, and word choice;
- proofreading for grammar, punctuation, and spelling;
- revising through use of notes, outlines, and rough drafts; and
- following the “Tips for Good Writing” on the following page.

IMPORTANT!

Tips for Good Writing

1. An interesting title that reveals the main idea of your paper gives your reader a good first impression. If it is a title that you make up, it should not be in quotation marks or underlined.
2. Neatness counts. Remember to double space typed papers. Use blue or black ink for handwritten ones.
3. Avoid using the proverbial *you* in your writing exercises. It may put your reader on the defensive. For example, when I read, "When you use drugs, you hurt yourself and your family," my immediate reaction is to exclaim defensively that I *don't* use drugs. It's better to write, "When a person..." or "When a teenager..." than to use *you*.
4. State your opinion as fact. Avoid "I feel that..." and "I think that..."
5. Avoid referring to your essay or to any part of it. "Edgar Allan Poe uses gothic devices in many of his poems" sounds much better than "In this essay, I will prove that..." or "In the following paragraphs, I will show..."
6. Use present tense when writing about literature. The events of a story occur each time the story is read.
7. Be consistent in number. If you start out with a singular subject, the pronouns that refer to it must also be singular. Look at this example: "Everyone has their own differences that make them who they are as a person." *Everyone* is singular; *their* is plural; *them* is plural; *they* is plural; *a person* is singular. (Remember that any word ending in *-body* or *-one* is singular.) The easiest way to achieve consistency in number is to make the whole thing plural: "All individuals have their own differences that make them who they are as people." This sentence isn't profound, but it is grammatically correct.
8. Paragraph indentions should be about a thumb's width.
9. Elaborate. Give several examples and details for each topic sentence. Back up what you write (sometimes by quoting).
10. Proofread.

ENG 9B Sample Exam

The following review serves as a guide and offers examples of test questions and exam format. Answers can be found at the end of the sample questions.

1. An autobiography is
 - A. about the author's own life.
 - B. about someone else's life.
 - C. intended to be read or spoken.
 - D. all of the above.

2. Alliteration is
 - A. a reference to a literary work.
 - B. the repetition of beginning consonant sounds.
 - C. an association surrounding a word.
 - D. the method used to develop a character.

3. A figure of speech that compares two things using *like* or *as* is a(n)
 - A. metaphor.
 - B. consonance.
 - C. alliteration.
 - D. simile.

4. Tone is
 - A. the author's attitude toward his subject.
 - B. a reasonable conclusion based on specific information.
 - C. a contrast between appearance and reality.
 - D. the use of words that sound like their meaning.

5. A thesis statement
 - A. communicates facts about your topic.
 - B. concludes your body paragraphs.
 - C. is argumentative and focuses on one idea.
 - D. gives examples from a literary work.

6. Revising is an important stage of the writing process because it makes the difference between a
 - A. satisfactory paragraph or essay and one that's first-rate.
 - B. detailed paragraph and a lengthy one.
 - C. formal essay and an informal one.
 - D. five-paragraph theme and a research paper.

7. The narrator of *Great Expectations* is
- A. 3rd person omniscient.
 - B. Philip Pirrip.
 - C. Miss Havisham.
 - D. Mr. Jaggers.
8. Pip lives with his sister and her husband, who works as a
- A. carpenter.
 - B. farmer.
 - C. blacksmith.
 - D. miner.
9. Miss Havisham is
- A. married to Drummle.
 - B. Herbert's girlfriend.
 - C. an eccentric woman.
 - D. Pip's benefactor.
10. During most of the novel, when Pip is with Estella, he is
- A. miserable.
 - B. jolly and joyful.
 - C. covered with soot.
 - D. none of the above.
11. When Pip first learns the truth about his benefactor, he feels
- A. warm and loving.
 - B. sick and disgusted.
 - C. worried but grateful.
 - D. none of the above.
12. Sophocles, the writer of *Antigone*, lived near
- A. Memphis in the 8th century B.C.
 - B. Syracuse in the 3rd century A.D.
 - C. Athens in the 5th century B.C.
 - D. Sparta in the 12th century B.C.
13. Antigone's father was
- A. Zeus, king of the gods.
 - B. Creon, new king of Thebes.
 - C. Oedipus, the king who murdered his father.
 - D. Apollo, god of music.

14. Antigone's two brothers, Eteocles and Polynices,
- A. were athletes in the Olympic games.
 - B. murdered their father and hid his body.
 - C. hated Antigone and wanted her dead.
 - D. fought on opposite sides in a war for power in Thebes.
15. True or false? The climax of a short story is its turning point.
- A. true
 - B. false
16. Tone is
- A. the author's attitude toward his subject.
 - B. a reasonable conclusion based on specific information.
 - C. a contrast between appearance and reality.
 - D. the use of words that sound like their meaning.
17. Symbol is
- A. the author's choice of narrator for a story.
 - B. the chief character in a story or play.
 - C. an arrangement of stressed and unstressed syllables.
 - D. something concrete that stands for an idea, a feeling, or an emotion.

Indicate whether each sentence is correct or not.

18. We packed the following items in the picnic basket: napkins, paper plates, and drinks.
- A. correct
 - B. incorrect
19. One of the boys left their book in my locker.
- A. correct
 - B. incorrect
20. I like swimming, dancing, and to play basketball.
- A. correct
 - B. incorrect

Essay

Choose **one** of the following topics and write a five-paragraph essay on your own paper. Be sure to include three body paragraphs, the first beginning with a thesis sentence and the last ending with a concluding sentence. Use what you know of prewriting and the writing process to guide you in writing these paragraphs. Be sure to proofread for proper sentence structure, spelling, and punctuation. Remember to use present tense when you write about literature.

Sample topic: Write a descriptive essay about Dickens's England.

ENG 9B Sample Exam Answers

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|------|-------|-------|
| 1. A | 8. C | 15. T |
| 2. B | 9. C | 16. A |
| 3. D | 10. A | 17. D |
| 4. A | 11. B | 18. A |
| 5. C | 12. C | 19. B |
| 6. A | 13. C | 20. B |
| 7. B | 14. D | |