

## English 030-1 Challenge Exam – Part A Information

Part A of the NorQuest ENGL 030-1 Challenge Exam is worth 50% of the total Challenge Examination. It consists of two writing assignments:

**Assignment I: Personal Response to Text – 20%**

**Assignment II: Critical/Analytical Response to Text – 30%**

Complete Assignment I first. The Personal Response to Text assignment is designed to allow you time to think and reflect upon the ideas that you may also explore in Assignment II.

The two assignments are thematically linked, but are not identical. You must complete **both** assignments.

### Assignment I: Personal Response to Text

#### Definition

A Personal Response to Text is a response that connects the text(s) provided on the examination to the assigned topic. You must create a controlling idea. You may include personal understanding when discussing how the text(s) relate to the assigned topic.

#### Sample Wording

The wording of the question for the Personal Response to Text will be:

What do these text(s) suggest to you about key words? Support your idea(s) with reference to one or more of the texts presented and to your previous knowledge and/or experience.

You must write using prose. (Do not create a poem.) **You must reference one of the texts provided** on the exam. You may reference more than one if you prefer.

The Personal Response to Text is graded on the following:

- ideas and impressions
- writing skills

## Assignment II: Critical/Analytical Response to Literary Text

### Definition

A Critical/Analytical Response to Literary Text is an essay that explains and proves what an author has conveyed about the assigned topic in the literature you have chosen to discuss. You must create a controlling idea and carry the idea into every paragraph.

### Sample Wording

The wording of the question for a Critical/Analytical Response to Literary Text will be:

Discuss the idea(s) developed by the text creator in your chosen text about key word(s).

All the details that you include in the Critical/Analytical Response to Literary Text must come from the literature itself. **Do not include personal examples or opinions.**

Be prepared to write about a piece of literature that **you have read or seen prior to writing the Challenge Exam**. You must not use the literature provided in the examination for the Personal Response to Text. Any one of the following literary texts is appropriate:

- a short story
- a novel
- a movie
- a drama or play

The Critical/Analytical Response to Literary Text is graded on the following:

- thought and understanding
- supporting evidence
- form and structure
- matters of choice/style of writing
- matters of correctness of writing

To see samples of acceptable standards of students' writings, visit the Alberta Education website:

<https://education.alberta.ca/writing-diploma-exams/exemplars/?searchMode=3>

A sample outline for a Critical/Analytical Response to Literary Text is provided on the next page.

*continued...*

**Introductory Paragraph** (connect topic ideas and the text)

**Opening Hook:** \_\_\_\_\_ *key word* \_\_\_\_\_  
(optional) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ *key word* \_\_\_\_\_

**Title, Author, Genre:** \_\_\_\_\_ *key word* \_\_\_\_\_  
(and brief summary) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Thesis:** \_\_\_\_\_ *key word* \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Blueprint:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ point A, point B, point C.

**BODY PARAGRAPH**

**Topic Sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_ point A \_\_\_\_\_

**Explanation and** \_\_\_\_\_

**example** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Concluding Sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_ key words & point A \_\_\_\_\_

**BODY PARAGRAPH**

**Topic Sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_ point B \_\_\_\_\_

**Explanation and** \_\_\_\_\_

**example** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Concluding Sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_ key words & point B \_\_\_\_\_

**BODY PARAGRAPH**

**Topic Sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_ point C \_\_\_\_\_

**Explanation and** \_\_\_\_\_

**example** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Concluding Sentence:** \_\_\_\_\_ key words & point C \_\_\_\_\_

**CONCLUDING PARAGRAPH**

**Thesis & Blueprint:** \_\_\_\_\_ key words & point A, point B, point C \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Closing Comment:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_