YEAR 12 PRACTICE QCS TEST - WT, MC1, SR and MC2 Papers
Monday 22 and Tuesday 23 June 2015 (4-4 days)
Information for Students and Parents

STUDENT’S NAME: ____________________________
SDP CLASS: ______

Year 12 students will be sitting a full 2 day practice Queensland Core Skills Test on Monday 22/06/15 and Tuesday 23/06/15. Students will be sitting the 2014 papers. The school will pay for each WT and SR paper to be marked by a professional marker (Term 3 SDP lessons will be based on results from the papers).

Please note that all OP eligible students MUST sit for the actual QCS Test in Year 12. For this reason, all students in Year 12 are required to prepare for the QCS Test, including sitting for all practice tests. The only exception is if a student is not OP eligible AND has previously provided Ms Clarke with a written acknowledgement signed by a parent / guardian, that he / she will not be sitting for the actual QCS Test in September.

The conduct of the QCS Test is a little different from the way in which school exams are conducted. The practice test will also be conducted under the actual QCS Test conditions to familiarise students with all procedures. Please read and follow these instructions:

1. **Equipment** - please ensure you have all the necessary equipment well before the test.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TEST</th>
<th>Essential Equipment</th>
<th>Optional Equipment</th>
<th>Forbidden</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Writing Task</strong></td>
<td>• 2 x Black ink pens (cannot be multi pens)</td>
<td>• 2 x HB Pencils (cannot be mechanical pencils)</td>
<td>• Own paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MON AM</strong></td>
<td>Be ready to enter the Hall at 8:40am</td>
<td>• Pencil sharpener</td>
<td>• Dictionary</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Eraser (white gum)</td>
<td>• Thesaurus</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Ruler</td>
<td>• Translators</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Approved calculator</td>
<td>• Mobile phones</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Computers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Multiple Choice I and II</strong></td>
<td>2 x 2B Pencils (no other type of pencil is acceptable i.e. HB or mechanical pencils)</td>
<td>• Highlighter</td>
<td>• Own paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>MON PM &amp; TUES PM</strong></td>
<td>Be ready to enter the Hall at 12:30pm</td>
<td>• Transparent container to carry equipment</td>
<td>• Dictionary</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• A water bottle in a clear, unlabelled container</td>
<td>• Thesaurus</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Drawing compass</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Protractor</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Translators</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Mobile phones</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Computers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Short Response</strong></td>
<td>2 x Black ink pens (cannot be multi pens)</td>
<td>Highlighter</td>
<td>• Own paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TUES AM</strong></td>
<td>2 x HB Pencils (cannot be mechanical pencils)</td>
<td>Pencil sharpener</td>
<td>• Dictionary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 x Protractor</td>
<td>Correcting fluid / tape</td>
<td>• Thesaurus</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 x Drawing compass</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Translators</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 x Eraser (white gum)</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Mobile phones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 x Coloured pencils (at least 4 different colours)</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Computers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2. Go to the toilet before entering the Hall to avoid wasting valuable test time. You are not allowed to leave your seat during the first 40 minutes nor the last 10 minutes of each session.

3. Assemble outside the Hall and be ready to enter with your equipment at 8:40am. There won't be an SDP class or assembly roll marking - the rolls are marked during the exam. Don't be late - you will miss out on valuable instructions. You are not allowed to be admitted after a certain time on the actual test days and will therefore lose your OP eligibility.

4. Check your seat number on the seating plan before entering the Hall. Move directly to your seat.

5. Do not speak, communicate in any way with others or call out once you have entered the Hall. Do not turn around.

6. Do not touch any materials that have already been placed on your desk. However, whilst you are waiting you can set up your own materials on your desk.

7. You will be provided with a cover sheet for the Writing Task and Short Response papers for the professional markers. Please do not fill these out until instructed. Do not bend or make any marks on these cover sheets.

8. Do not write your name on any paper unless or until instructed to do so (no names are written on test papers in the real test in September - ID barcode labels are used instead).

9. You are not allowed to borrow equipment from another student or pass equipment.

10. Do not ask for assistance from the supervisors unless there is a problem with your equipment or test paper or if you are ill. If you must go to the toilet, put your hand up. A supervisor will escort you to and from the toilet.

11. The only way to ask for assistance is to put your hand up and wait for a supervisor to come to you.

12. Listen carefully to all instructions.

13. Keep your responses covered where possible. Keep your papers flat on the desk at all times. Do not cheat. Students found cheating on the actual test may lose their OP eligibility.

14. You will be given 10 minutes perusal time during which you cannot touch any writing equipment or calculators.

15. The Writing Task and Short Response papers are 2 hours long. The Multiple Choice papers are 1½ hours long. You will be given a warning 30 minutes before the end, and 10 minutes before the end. In the WT you will be given a warning 45 minutes before the end. You must put down your pens immediately you are told to “Stop Work Now”.

16. You cannot leave the Hall before the end of the test sessions.

17. Revise the information you were given earlier in the year about how to manage your time and how to answer the Writing Task, Short Response and Multiple Choice papers. A summary is provided below.

18. Revise specific strategies for overcoming your individual weaknesses.

**WRITING TASK PAPER**

- Know before the test, how many pages / lines = 600 words in your neat handwriting.
- Perusal - Read “About Your Task” to identify topic or common theme. Read every piece of stimulus material. Brainstorm for ideas. Choose 1 or 2 pieces of stimulus material and appropriate genre.
- When perusal is finished, write a detailed plan. Ensure your planning includes links to both the common theme and the piece of stimulus material you chose. Also consider genre conventions when planning.
- Write a rough draft with only as much detail as time will allow.
- Check you have written about 600 words - incorrect lengths attract penalties.
• Leave at least 50 minutes to neatly write and proof-read your final copy in to your response book - loose sheets can’t be handed in for marking (You will be given a warning 45 minutes before the end to begin writing your final copy if you haven’t already done so).

• Write the final copy legibly in a black ink pen.

• Check you’ve written over correcting fluid / tape when proofreading.

MULTIPLE CHOICE PAPERS

• Perusal - scan units / items and plan approach order and use of time. Think about what you want to complete by the 30 minute warning and the 10 minute warning. You may begin reading a unit with a long passage if there is perusal time remaining.
  1. Read introduction (if applicable) of each unit to identify context
  2. Scan stimulus material and items to get general idea
  3. Read each item and highlight key words
     Read stimulus material to identify relevant information
  4. Apply - read each option carefully - cross out letters beside incorrect items and circle letter beside correct option.


• Fill in ovals neatly using a 2B pencil.

• Erase incorrect responses thoroughly.

• Give a response to every item – don’t leave blank spaces. Make an educated guess if necessary.

• Allow enough time to transfer all answers to the response sheet, check all responses have been copied correctly and all items have a single response.

SHORT RESPONSE PAPER

• Perusal - scan units / items and plan approach order and use of time. Check back fold-out page showing item and star value distribution. Allow approximately 2 minutes per star. Think about what you want to complete by the 30 minute warning and the 10 minute warning. You may begin reading a unit with a long passage if there is perusal time remaining.

• Working time – record your approach plan on fold-out star value page.

• Keep fold-out star value page open throughout the test to record your progress, items needing checking etc.

• Write neatly in black biro using full sentences (unless instructed otherwise) for written responses.
  1. Read introduction of each unit to identify context
  2. Scan stimulus material and items to get general idea
  3. Read each item and highlight key words in stem and cues
     Read stimulus material to identify relevant information
  4. Apply - think, plan and write your response to each item

• Give a response to every item – don’t leave blank spaces. Don’t presume you can’t do a unit because you think it is based on a subject you don’t study. All units are based on common curriculum elements (not subjects), so read all parts of each unit and you’ll probably be able to attempt them.

• Allow sufficient time at the end to check every item has a response, all white-out is written over etc.

LASTLY – DO YOUR VERY BEST…

IF YOU TRY TO DO YOUR BEST, THERE IS NO FAILURE!!! (Mike Farrell)