

The University of the State of New York

REGENTS HIGH SCHOOL EXAMINATION

COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

IN

ENGLISH**SESSION ONE****Wednesday, June 18, 2008 — 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., only**

The last page of this booklet is the answer sheet for the multiple-choice questions. Fold the last page along the perforations and, slowly and carefully, tear off the answer sheet. Then fill in the heading of your answer sheet. Now circle “Session One” and fill in the heading of each page of your essay booklet.

This session of the examination has two parts. Part A tests listening skills; you are to answer all six multiple-choice questions and write a response, as directed. For Part B, you are to answer all ten multiple-choice questions and write a response, as directed.

When you have completed this session of the examination, you must sign the statement printed at the end of the answer sheet, indicating that you had no unlawful knowledge of the questions or answers prior to the session and that you have neither given nor received assistance in answering any of the questions during the session. Your answer sheet cannot be accepted if you fail to sign this declaration.

The use of any communications device is strictly prohibited when taking this examination. If you use any communications device, no matter how briefly, your examination will be invalidated and no score will be calculated for you.

DO NOT OPEN THIS EXAMINATION BOOKLET UNTIL THE SIGNAL IS GIVEN.

Part A

Overview: For this part of the test, you will listen to an account about Madame Marie Curie, answer some multiple-choice questions, and write a response based on the situation described below. You will hear the account twice. You may take notes on the next page anytime you wish during the readings.

The Situation: Your science class is exploring qualities that make scientists successful. You have decided to make a presentation to your class on the qualities that made Madame Marie Curie a successful scientist. In preparation for writing your presentation, listen to an account by writer and historian Barbara Goldsmith about Madame Marie Curie. Then use relevant information from the account to write your presentation.

Your Task: Write a presentation for your science class in which you describe the qualities that made Madame Marie Curie a successful scientist.

Guidelines:

Be sure to

- Tell your audience what they need to know about Madame Marie Curie and the qualities that made her a successful scientist
- Use specific, accurate, and relevant information from the account to support your description
- Use a tone and level of language appropriate for a presentation to a science class
- Organize your ideas in a logical and coherent manner
- Indicate any words taken directly from the account by using quotation marks or referring to the speaker
- Follow the conventions of standard written English

NOTES

DO NOT TURN THIS PAGE UNTIL YOU ARE TOLD TO DO SO.

Multiple-Choice Questions

Directions (1–6): Use your notes to answer the following questions about the passage read to you. Select the best suggested answer and write its number in the space provided on the answer sheet. The questions may help you think about ideas and information you might use in your writing. You may return to these questions anytime you wish.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 According to the speaker, Marie Curie advanced the cause of</p> <p>(1) religious freedom (3) women's rights
(2) universal literacy (4) voting rights</p> <p>2 According to the speaker, scientific discoveries continue today based on Marie Curie's understanding of</p> <p>(1) radioactivity (3) relativity
(2) magnetism (4) propulsion</p> <p>3 While first living in Paris, Marie Curie was happy despite her</p> <p>(1) failing health
(2) harsh living conditions
(3) limited academic success
(4) mounting debt</p> | <p>4 Madame Curie's claim that "the way to progress is never swift or easy" reflects an attitude of</p> <p>(1) pride (3) perseverance
(2) frustration (4) skepticism</p> <p>5 As a team, Pierre and Marie Curie used their financial profits to</p> <p>(1) patent chemical elements
(2) further scientific study
(3) sponsor Nobel prizes
(4) promote economic stability</p> <p>6 According to the speaker, Madame Curie could best be described as</p> <p>(1) a politician (3) an industrialist
(2) an economist (4) a humanitarian</p> |
|--|--|

After you have finished these questions, turn to page 2. Review **The Situation** and read **Your Task** and the **Guidelines**. Use scrap paper to plan your response. Then write your response in Part A, beginning on page 1 of your essay booklet. After you finish your response for Part A, go to page 5 of your examination booklet and complete Part B.

Part B

Directions: Read the text and study the table on the following pages, answer the multiple-choice questions, and write a response based on the situation described below. You may use the margins to take notes as you read and scrap paper to plan your response.

The Situation: The students in your health class have been asked to produce a monthly newspaper for the school community which will provide information about health threats and suggest how to avoid them by adopting a healthier lifestyle. You have been asked to write an article about the threat of sun exposure and to suggest ways that people can protect themselves from this threat.

Your Task: Using relevant information from *both* documents, write an article for a monthly school newspaper in which you discuss the threat of sun exposure and suggest ways that people can protect themselves from this threat.

Guidelines:

Be sure to

- Tell your audience what they need to know about the threat of sun exposure
- Suggest ways that people can protect themselves from this threat
- Use specific, accurate, and relevant information from the text *and* the table to support your discussion
- Use a tone and level of language appropriate for an article for a school newspaper
- Organize your ideas in a logical and coherent manner
- Indicate any words taken directly from the text by using quotation marks or referring to the author
- Follow the conventions of standard written English

Text

Erin Elovecky loves to feel the warmth of the sun on her body. Growing up, she spent many summer days on Long Island Sound, cruising around in her parents' boat and soaking up rays. Elovecky admired her mother, who could quickly develop a rich, brown tan, thanks to her Lebanese heritage. But Elovecky
5 took after the Irish side of the family, with fair skin and green eyes, and got burned by the sun more often than not.

Hoping to give her skin a year-round sun-kissed glow, Elovecky started visiting a tanning salon near her Southbury, Conn., home a few times a week in her early 20s. She went for a couple of years. "It made me feel like I didn't need
10 to wear a lot of makeup, and I thought I looked so much healthier with a tan," she remembers.

Two years ago, at the age of 27, Elovecky noticed a small red spot at the edge of her eyebrow. It itched, and the skin kept peeling off. She didn't do anything about it until her hairdresser said, "You have to get that checked out right away."
15 One very painful biopsy later, Elovecky got the bad news: She had basal cell skin cancer.

Cases like Elovecky's are becoming increasingly common. A recent study published in the *Journal of the American Medical Association* found that the incidence of basal cell carcinoma (a slow-growing tumor of the basal cells at the
20 bottom of the epidermis) among women under the age of 40 more than doubled between 1976 and 2003, to 31.6 per 100,000. The rate for men increased only slightly during that time. The study also found that both women and men showed significant increases in squamous cell cancer, which occurs in the middle layer of the epidermis. Like basal cell cancer, squamous cell cancer typically doesn't
25 metastasize¹ and is rarely ever fatal. The reasons for the rise in skin cancer are clear, say doctors. "Either they're getting lots of chronic sun exposure because they're out all the time or using tanning beds, or it's these intense burns that they're getting," says Leslie Christenson, a dermatologic surgeon at the Mayo Clinic and one of the study's authors. Stepped-up screening for skin cancer and
30 the thinning ozone layer, which allows more of the sun's ultraviolet rays in, may also play a role. The Indoor Tanning Association notes that the study didn't address whether the women tanned indoors or outdoors.

Basal cell carcinoma is the most common cancer in humans, with 800,000 new cases each year. Squamous cell cancer is the second most common skin
35 cancer, with 200,000 new cases. Next in line is melanoma, a tumor that begins in the cells that produce the skin's pigment, which accounts for only about 100,000 new cases annually. But melanoma is much more lethal, killing 1 in 4 people who develop it. Ultraviolet radiation from the sun is a principal cause of all types of skin cancer, either from damaging sunburns or the cumulative effect of long-term
40 exposure. Family history also plays a role, especially in melanoma. The typical sufferer used to be an older man who had either worked outdoors all his life or was an avid golfer or boat owner who spent long hours in the sun. But as the new study shows, that profile is changing.

Dermatologists who treat skin cancer aren't surprised. "A week doesn't go by that I don't see a woman in her 20s or early 30s with skin cancer," says David
45 Leffell, a professor of dermatology and surgery at the Yale School of Medicine. And although basal cell and squamous cell cancers hardly ever kill, those who develop them are at higher risk for melanoma. Among 25-to-29-year-old women, melanoma is more common than any non-skin cancer, including breast and
50 colon cancer.

¹metastasize — to change form and spread

When you're young, though, health concerns often take a back seat to more pressing worries, like having a tan for prom. That's how Erika Smith felt. Her grandmother died of melanoma, so Smith knew she was at higher risk for the disease, but that didn't stop her from sunbathing in the backyard of her family's home north of Seattle or going to the tanning parlor regularly. "I felt invincible," says Smith.

But then melanoma struck her family again. Her uncle's wife died of the disease last year at age 35, and Smith, then 19, was devastated. Because she wasn't a blood relative her risk didn't change, but her perspective did. She went to the dermatologist, who biopsied a mole on her calf that looked normal but for a tiny black speck on it. Diagnosis: melanoma, at a very early stage. Now she goes to the dermatologist every six months for a full-body skin exam and avoids the sun.

Leffell and other skin cancer experts believe tanning parlors are one of the major culprits in the rise of skin cancer among young women. A study published in the journal *Pediatrics* in 2002 found that 40 percent of 17- and 18-year-old girls reported visiting a tanning parlor in the past year (compared with just 11 percent of boys in the same age group). Twenty-three states now restrict minors' use of tanning beds in some way, according to the American Academy of Dermatology. Many states either require parental consent or restrict use to certain age groups....

Even though most sun worshipers no longer aim for the deep, nut-brown tan that was popular in the 1970s, it's still fashionable to get a "healthy" tan in the summer. But there is no such thing, say dermatologists. People tan when the melanin in their skin darkens to protect it from the sun's rays. "The fact that you're making a tan is a sign that you've had an injury to your skin," says John Carucci, director of Mohs micrographic and dermatologic surgery for Weill Medical College at Cornell University.

Self-tanners are a safe alternative for people who want a golden glow that doesn't depend on radiation. These products contain a colorless sugar that stains the skin's surface cells darker, although most do not offer any protection from the sun's rays. Self-tanners were the fastest-growing sun care product between 1999 and 2004, according to Euromonitor International, a market research company....

Since most skin cancers, even melanoma, are curable if caught soon enough, early detection is key. Check your own body for new or changing moles, lesions, or other spots on your skin once a month, and visit a dermatologist for a professional skin check annually. Any lesion that changes size, shape, or color, or that begins to itch, doesn't heal, bleeds intermittently, or becomes worse over the course of a month should be examined right away. Shonda Schilling, 38, who has had five melanoma surgeries since 2001 and who founded the Shade Foundation to educate people about skin cancer, says some of her skin lesions didn't look bad at all. "It doesn't have to look nasty to be skin cancer," says Schilling. "If you wait until it's as nasty looking as the pictures in books, it's probably going to kill you."

—Michelle Andrews
excerpted from "Not So Sunny Spots"
U.S. News & World Report, November 14, 2005

TABLE

UV Index Sun Protection

UV (ultraviolet) rays can cause sunburns, eye cataracts, skin aging, and skin cancer. The higher the UV Index number, the stronger the sun's rays, and the greater the need to take precautions. The table below outlines the sun protection actions recommended at different levels of the UV Index.

UV Index	Description	Sun Protection Actions
0–2	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimal sun protection required for normal activity• Wear sunglasses on bright days. If outside for more than one hour, cover up and use sunscreen• Reflection off snow can nearly double UV strength. Wear sunglasses and apply sunscreen
3–5	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Take precautions – cover up, wear a hat, sunglasses and sunscreen especially if you will be outside for 30 minutes or more• Look for shade near midday when the sun is strongest
6–7	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Protection required – UV radiation damages the skin and can cause sunburn• Reduce time in the sun between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. and take full precautions – seek shade, cover up, wear a hat, sunglasses and sunscreen
8–10	Very High	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Extra precautions required – unprotected skin will be damaged and can burn quickly• Avoid the sun between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. and take full precautions – seek shade, cover up, wear a hat, sunglasses and sunscreen
11+	Extreme	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Values of 11 or more are very rare in Canada. However, the UV Index can reach 14 or more in the tropics and southern U.S.• Take full precautions. Unprotected skin will be damaged and can burn in minutes. Avoid the sun between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., cover up, wear a hat, sunglasses and sunscreen• White sand and other bright surfaces reflect UV radiation and increase UV exposure

Source: (adapted) UV Index Program,
Environment Canada
www.msc.ec.ca

Multiple-Choice Questions

Directions (7–16): Select the best suggested answer to each question and write its number in the space provided on the answer sheet. The questions may help you think about ideas and information you might want to use in your writing. You may return to these questions anytime you wish.

- 7 According to the article, between 1976 and 2003 the population that experienced a large increase in cases of basal cell skin cancer was
- (1) women under 40 (3) women over 40
(2) men under 40 (4) men over 40
- 8 The sun's rays have become more dangerous because of the
- (1) ineffective performance of modern sunscreens
(2) rapid increase in ocean temperatures
(3) unpredicted loss of cooling air currents
(4) continued depletion of the ozone layer
- 9 A factor which contributes to an increased risk of people like Erika Smith developing skin cancer is
- (1) geographic location (3) family history
(2) population density (4) education level
- 10 According to Erika Smith, she engaged in risky behavior following her grandmother's death because she felt
- (1) angry (3) bewildered
(2) untouchable (4) sad
- 11 According to dermatologists, a tan that is labeled "healthy" (line 73) is actually
- (1) preventing cancers (3) increasing burns
(2) blocking radiation (4) damaging skin
- 12 According to the article, market researchers have observed a rapid increase in the use of
- (1) sunscreens (3) self-tanners
(2) tanning beds (4) sunglasses
- 13 According to the article, the cure rate for skin cancers is greatly increased by
- (1) early detection
(2) modern medicine
(3) health insurance
(4) educational foundations
- 14 According to the table, besides the skin, ultraviolet rays can cause damage to
- (1) nerves (3) muscles
(2) eyes (4) bones
- 15 According to the table, the strength of UV radiation can be greatly increased by
- (1) wind (3) mud
(2) rain (4) snow
- 16 According to the table, when is UV radiation from the sun the strongest?
- (1) 9 a.m. (3) 12 p.m.
(2) 10 a.m. (4) 5 p.m.

After you have finished these questions, turn to page 5. Review **The Situation** and read **Your Task** and the **Guidelines**. Use scrap paper to plan your response. Then write your response to Part B, beginning on page 7 of your essay booklet.

COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION IN ENGLISH

SESSION ONE

Wednesday, June 18, 2008 — 9:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., only

ANSWER SHEET

Session One – Essay A _____
Essay B _____

Session Two – Essay A _____
Essay B _____

Total Essay Score

Session One –
A–Multiple Choice _____
B–Multiple Choice _____

Session Two –
A–Multiple Choice _____

Total Multiple Choice

Final Score

Tear Here

Student Sex: Male Female

School Grade Teacher

Write your answers to the multiple-choice questions for Part A and Part B on this answer sheet.

Part A

Part B

1 _____

7 _____

2 _____

8 _____

3 _____

9 _____

4 _____

10 _____

5 _____

11 _____

6 _____

12 _____

13 _____

14 _____

15 _____

16 _____

HAND IN THIS ANSWER SHEET WITH YOUR ESSAY BOOKLET,
SCRAP PAPER, AND EXAMINATION BOOKLET.

Your essay responses for Part A and Part B should be written in the essay booklet.

I do hereby affirm, at the close of this examination, that I had no unlawful knowledge of the questions or answers prior to the examination and that I have neither given nor received assistance in answering any of the questions during the examination.

Signature

Tear Here

Tear Here

Tear Here