ENGL 100 – Study Tips

Exam format:

Part A: Literary terms
  • Define, offer an example, and briefly comment on four out of ten literary terms

Part B: Close reading
  • Analyze one of the few given passages from a short story read in class
  • Comment on plot, characterization, setting, point of view or other literary devices seen in class
  • Brief essay - three to four paragraphs in length

How to study:

Literary term identification
  • Make sure to come up with an example from a literary work for every term
  • Don’t forget to explain how the term operates with the example you provide, by thinking about their effects and significance in relation to the work.
  • Find a way to constantly self-test yourself for this portion of the exam. Use cue cards, concept charts, or review with classmates.

Essay question
  • While studying, identify common themes and literary devices in the course to guide your ideas for this portion
  • Identify common themes between works to create meaningful connections
  • During the exam, create an outline before beginning to write your paper. Properly formulate your essay with a short introduction, body paragraphs and a conclusion. Make sure every paragraph has a topic and concluding sentence.

Study resources
  • Queen’s Writing Centre
  • ExamBank (for past years’ exams)
  • Your professors and TAs
  • Queen’s SASS how-to-study workshops
  • www.sass.queensu.ca
    o Essay-style exam writing: https://sass.queensu.ca/onlineresource/topics/exam-writing/
    o Exam prep: https://sass.queensu.ca/exam-prep/