



English 1A

Credit by Exam Study Guide

This CBE Study Guide can help you prepare for the exam by giving you an idea of what you need to study, review, and learn. To succeed, you should be thoroughly familiar with the subject matter before you attempt to take the exam.

Every question that appears on the CBE is grounded in the knowledge and skills statements and student expectations within the state-mandated standards, the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS). It should be noted that the exam will not test every student expectation.

However, it is important that students study and know the entire scope of the TEKS so that they can develop a complete understanding of the content. The CBEs are global exams grounded in the TEKS and are not designed to be a final exam for the University of Texas high school courses. You can view the TEKS for this exam online at

<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index2.aspx?id=6148>. Since questions are not taken from any one source, you can prepare by reviewing any of the state-adopted textbooks.

CBEs and End of Course Exams

TEA recently instituted a new policy for exams for acceleration under 19 TAC Chapter 74 Curriculum Requirements, Subchapter C, Other Provisions, §74.24. The Algebra 1, Biology, English 1, English 2, and United States History exams for acceleration (credit by exams with no prior instruction) must have been validated to meet the rigor of the end of course exams.

However, credit by exams used for credit recovery do not need to meet this rigor. We are still offering credit by exams (with prior instruction) in these subjects for credit recovery only. For more information about this policy change, please visit:

<http://www.tea.state.tx.us/index3.aspx?id=2206>.

About the Exam

The CBE consists of 50 multiple-choice questions that are worth 1 point each. The exam may consist of multiple-choice, true-false, and matching type questions. You will be allowed **3 hours** to take the exam.

Concepts and Objectives

The Concepts and Objectives below may not refer to all the material that will be on the exam. They provide additional information for some of the expectations tested in English 1, First Semester. The sample questions will give you a better idea of the types of questions you can expect on the exam. These are provided to illustrate the format of the exam. They are not the actual exam. In order to be successful on the exam, you should use the TEKS to guide your preparation.

Part 1: Reading Assessment

This part of the exam tests your understanding of the given selections and their literary elements, your understanding of the way in which the selections are written, and your ability to analyze and evaluate the selections.

1. The *blue-shirted laborers* are most probably _____.
A some workers on strike
B the main characters in the story
C strangers in the community
D merely part of the setting

Part 2: Literary Terms

This part of the exam tests your knowledge and understanding of the literary terms. The definition of the literary element is given, and you must choose the correct element.

2. The high point or the point of greatest intensity in a literary piece is the _____.
A climax
B plot
C conflict
D irony

Part 3: Vocabulary Strategies

This part of the exam tests your understanding and application of vocabulary techniques and relationships between words.

Section A – Analogies: Choose the word pair that has a relationship similar to the relationship of the given word pair.

3. juice : orange ::
A beef : steer
B apple : core
C pie : bakery
D milk : cow

Section B – Vocabulary in Context: Use the context clues given in the sentence to determine the meanings of the italicized words.

4. The athlete's *peripheral* vision was as good as her vision directly ahead of her.
Peripheral means _____.
A to the side
B night
C close up
D squinting

Part 4: Media Literacy

This part of the exam tests your ability to analyze and critically evaluate texts and visual representations used in media. You will be asked to analyze a provided advertisement.

5. What is the purpose of bolding certain words and phrases?
A To indicate emphasis
B To improve the layout
C To replace underlining
D To replace quotation marks

Part 5: Poetic Elements

This part of the exam tests your understanding of poetry, the literary elements within the selection, and your ability to analyze and evaluate the selection. You should understand the literal as well as the figurative language of poetry and the poetic techniques used to achieve the author's purpose.

6. The comparison between two unlike things, developed throughout the entire poem, is called _____.
A metaphor
B simile
C personification
D alliteration

Part 6: Literary Analysis

This part of the exam tests your ability to evaluate and analyze different types of literature and the literary elements typically assigned at this level. You should read the *Odyssey* by Homer in order to be successful on this part of the exam.

7. Circe's final warning to Odysseus, unfortunately ignored by his men, is not to ____.
- A go near Scylla and Charybdis
 - B go ashore again
 - C offend the Sirens
 - D harm the sun god's cattle

Part 7: Writing Assessment

This part of the exam tests your understanding of the purpose of written expression and the structural make-up of a literary analysis. You will be given part of an essay written on a particular reading selection. You will be asked to identify parts of an essay and writing techniques used in well-organized writings.

8. Loyalty, love of family and perseverance are personal qualities that the Greeks valued in the *Odyssey*.
- A Thesis statement
 - B Example to support the thesis statement
 - C Topic sentence
 - D Summary of plot

Answer Key

NUMBER	CORRECT ANSWER
1	D
2	A
3	D
4	A
5	A
6	A
7	D
8	A