



# EXIT EXAMINATION 2017-18



Clonlara seeks your responses to this exam because they exhibit several things about you. Some of these are your creativity; your values and opinions; and your ability to follow directions, analyze information, write clearly and concisely, research new topics, and make a logical and persuasive argument.

The answers you give and the writing you do for this exam are expected to be original work by you, done specifically to meet Clonlara School's graduation requirements. As with all aspects of our program, Clonlara's students are on the honor system when taking this exam: You are trusted to be honest in your work, **including citing any sources that are not your own original work.**

Your Advisor will review your Exit Exam, but Clonlara School will not issue a grade for it. Clonlara reserves the right to request further information and/or rewrites before granting final approval.

## **DIRECTIONS:**

Make sure all required sections are completed for option you choose to take before submitting for approval to your Advisor.

### **Due Date:**

**December 1, 2017 for January 2018 graduates;**

**May 1, 2018 for June 2018 graduates.**

Your completed Exit Exam can be emailed or mailed to your Advisor.

All of us at Clonlara join in wishing you success in your future. We are eager to hear about your accomplishments. Feel free to let us know of them anytime!

Please note that we will request follow-up information about your future activities through an Alumni Survey in the coming years.

# INSTRUCTIONS

## Select your preferred exam option

Choose either the Standard Option or the Research Topic Option.

1. The Standard Option consists of three sections. In Sections 1A, 1B and 1C, you will choose and answer a total of 34 short answer questions, four of which you will write yourself. In Section 1C you will write a five paragraph essay (approximately 500 words) about your choice of one of five topics.

**Or:**

Complete

2. Section 2:  
The Research Topic Option consists of one in-depth research paper (approximately 1,500 to 2,500 words) written in standard format. You may take an analytical or argumentative approach to your topic.

**Choose your own topic: Personal topics must be submitted by October 30 for January graduates, and by March 31 for June graduates.**

**For your information:** This is an “open book” exam. Students have typically taken 8-20 hours to complete it. Of course, each student works at a different pace and brings different knowledge and skills to the exam. We ask that you invest enough time in supplying your answers to complete the exam with a sense of pride and accomplishment in your work.

# STANDARD OPTION

**If you choose the Standard Option follow the directions to complete Sections 1A, 1B and 1C**

## **Section 1A – Short Answer Opinion Questions**

### **DIRECTIONS:**

Provide your answers to 15 of the first 20 questions listed in this section and answer questions O.21 & O.22. Please be as specific as possible in your responses, use full sentences in your answers, and ensure that the facts you use to support your opinions are correct.

- O.1. What is one of the most exciting things you have ever learned? What makes it exciting?
- O.2. What four intellectuals or “thinkers” do you admire and why?
- O.3. Do you believe there is value in establishing human settlements on another planet? Why or why not?
- O.4. Reduce, reuse, or recycle: Which do you think is most important and why?
- O.5. Pick a famous quote that you like. Explain its meaning and why you like it.
- O.6. What are some major factors that have contributed to conflict in the Middle East? Why are these factors significant?
- O.7. What are the benefits of pursuing your education with Clonlara?
- O.8. Which four world leaders have do you believe have had the most significant impact on history? Explain the reason behind your selections.
- O.9. What do you consider the most important landmark in your area? Why?
- O.10. How does global climate change (formerly known as global warming) have an impact on your way of life? How does your way of life have an impact on global climate change?
- O.11. Is meat necessary to a balanced diet? Explain.
- O.12. Predict how you think communication and information-sharing will advance in the future. Give a short explanation of your prediction.

- O.13. Does banning the wearing of hijabs, niqabs or burkas in public places infringe on people's rights? Why or why not?
- O.14. Could an event like the Holocaust happen again? Why or why not?
- O.15. Do you think a college education is important for success? Why or why not?
- O.16. Who is your favorite artist or musician? What is it about this person's work that you admire?
- O.17. Do you think money is corrupting sports? Why or why not?
- O.18. What is the most important scientific discovery in your lifetime? How has it affected the world?
- O.19. Name three news sources you consider reliable. Why do you believe they are more reliable than others?
- O.20. Other than immediate family members, name one person, living or dead, with whom you would like to have a conversation. What would you like to ask that person? What would you like to share about yourself? Why?
- O.21. & O.22. Pose two questions about issues on which you have a strong opinion. Provide answers to both.

**Standard Option**  
**Section 1B – Short Answer Factual Questions**

**DIRECTIONS:**

Provide your answers to 15 of the first 20 questions listed in this section and also answer questions F.21 & F.22. Please be as specific as possible in your responses, and use either full sentences or scientific/mathematical notation when giving your answers. Diagrams, maps, graphs, etc. may be included in your answers.

- F.1. Why is the sky blue?
- F.2. Who is Pat Montgomery? What is her significance to education?
- F.3. What are the known essential nutrients of the human body?
- F.4. Explain the four laws of thermodynamics.

- F.5. You are about to buy a pair of jeans in a clothing store. Their price tag indicates a cost of \$24.99, but there is a sign indicating that they are “20% off.” What is the sale price of the jeans (before any taxes)? Show your calculations.
- F.6. What was the Holocaust? Who was responsible for it? How many people were killed?
- F.7. A man goes to a tub of water with two jugs, one with a capacity of exactly three pints and the other five pints. Both jugs are opaque (you can’t see inside them) and irregularly shaped. How can you use only the two jugs to measure exactly four pints of water?
- F.8. Answer *either* A) *or* B):
- A) How many senators are there in the United States Senate, and how many representatives are there in the House of Representatives? How are these numbers determined? Who is the representative for your area? How can you contact him or her?
- B) How are members of the European Parliament elected? Whom do they represent? What powers do they have?
- F.9. The grand prize for winning a contest is \$15,000. After 42 percent of the prize is deducted for taxes, the winner receives the balance of the prize in annual payouts of equal amounts over a 4-year period. How much money will the prizewinner receive each year? Show your calculations.
- F.10. What role do tectonic plates play in the formation of earthquakes?
- F.11. List a historically significant event that happened in each of the following years: 196BC, 1215, 1588, 1776, 1789, 1860, 1914, 1967, 1978, and 2008.
- F.12. The balance in your checkbook is \$863.65. You make the following transactions:
- Deposit \$337.85 from your part time job mowing lawns.
  - Withdraw \$65.78 for electricity.
  - Withdraw \$237.94 for car insurance.
  - Withdraw \$168.23 for gas.
  - Withdraw \$79.34 for food.
  - Deposit \$200.00 from babysitting.

What is your new balance? If this is a typical month, are you living within your means?

- F.13. In what country was the Berlin Wall located? What was its purpose? What is the significance of its destruction?
- F.14. Who was the first woman in space? Where was she from?

F.15. Georgia wants to cut down a large tree. She is worried it will fall on her garage which is 30' from the tree. She decided to measure the height of the tree by its shadow. The tree's shadow measured 36 feet. She put a yardstick next to the tree and the yardstick cast a shadow of 4'. If the tree falls exactly in the direction of its shadow, will it hit the garage? Why or why not? Show your calculations.

F.16. The following sentence has two blanks, each blank indicating something that has been omitted. Beneath the sentence are five sets of words labeled *a.* through *e.* Choose the set of words that, when inserted in the sentence, best fits the meaning of the sentence as a whole.

*The World Bank estimates 925 million people are hungry in the world today. The figure has been rising since 1995-97 due to rising food prices, a \_\_\_\_\_ of economic crises, and a neglect of agricultural innovation, especially \_\_\_\_\_ to the poor.*

- a. observation...confusing
- b. cessation...helpful
- c. succession...relevant
- d. history...beneficial
- e. pyramid...characteristic

F.17. Answer both A) and B); Note: In answering this question you may find it helpful to use a grid.

Betty's Books is a store that is open Monday – Saturday. The bookstore has a sale on magazines on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, and a sale on CDs on Wednesdays and Fridays. On days that Betty's Books is open for business, shelves are dusted and floors are mopped according to the following policies:

Floors are mopped two days each week, but never on consecutive days and never on the same day that shelves are dusted.

Shelves are dusted three days each week, but never on consecutive days. The bookstore's shelves are dusted on either:

- a. Tuesday or Wednesday
- b. Wednesday or Thursday
- c. Tuesday or Thursday
- d. Thursday or Friday
- e. Thursday or Saturday

If there is a sale on CDs on a day that the floors are mopped, which of the following must be true?

- a. Floors are mopped on Tuesday.

- b. Shelves are dusted on Wednesday.
- c. Floors are mopped on Wednesday.
- d. Shelves are dusted on Saturday.
- e. Floors are mopped on Saturday.

F.18. A barrel contains only mangoes, papayas, and pineapples. There are three mangoes for every two papayas. There are twice as many mangoes and papayas as there are pineapples. If one piece of fruit is to be drawn at random from the barrel, what is the probability that the piece drawn will be a mango? Show your calculations.

F.19. Where is Hiroshima? What is its historical significance?

F.20. The question below consists of a related pair of words, followed by five pairs of words labeled a. through e. Select the pair that best expresses a relationship similar to that expressed in the original pair.

EVIDENCE: EXONERATE

- a. theory: develop
  - b. nonsense: defend
  - c. rights: exercise
  - d. facts: substantiate
  - e. ideas: generate
- F.21. & F. 22. Pose two factual questions of your own which represent information or facts you think a high school graduate should know and provide answers to both.

# **Standard Option**

## **Section 1C – Essay**

Choose one of the following issues and compose a five paragraph essay (approximately 500 words) in response to it. If you have a strong interest or a concern about another topic you may write about that. Please remember, the writing you do for this exam must be original work by you.

Any references to outside sources in your essay must be cited in accordance with the standard formatting of the Chicago Manual of Style, the American Psychological Association (APA) or the Modern Language Association (MLA).

The Online Writing Lab from Purdue University is a valuable free resource that can guide you in the writing process. It is available at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu>. At this website you will find information and articles about an array of topics including plagiarism, citing sources, summarizing, and paraphrasing.

### **Topics**

- E.1. Discuss your views on democracy.
- E.2. You are the sole contact in an encounter of the fourth kind (physical contact with an intelligent alien life form). The alien being says to you, “I am the leader of the alien race, determined to stop human infestation in the rest of the galaxy.” After showing you a substantial body of evidence that humankind is severely flawed, selfish, murderous and unable to change, the alien goes on to say, “You have 45 minutes to change my opinion of your fellow humans, before I push the button to exterminate the human race.” How would you defend planet earth and its inhabitants?
- E.3. What is the impact of social media on interpersonal relationships?
- E.4. Analyze a work of art, literature, or music that has had an impact on you.
- E.5. Everyone has a messy space – be it a shoebox of mementos, an “I don’t know what to do with this!” junk drawer, or maybe your entire bedroom. What would we find in your messy space, and what does it say about you?
- E.6. If you had the power to change one current event in the world, what would it be and why? You can choose to “correct” this event or simply alter it. Be specific in defending your reasons as to why you would choose this course of action.



# RESEARCH TOPIC OPTION

## Section 2 – Research Topic Option

Write an in-depth research paper (approximately 1500 – 2500 words) in standard format. This option requires you to perform an involved process of research, critical thinking, source evaluation, organization, and composition. Be sure to spend adequate time investigating and evaluating your sources in order to offer interpretations of the material; do not simply summarize those sources.

Please remember, the writing you do for this option must be original work by you.

### **DIRECTIONS:**

1. Choose your own topic and notify your advisor of the topic. If you're having trouble finding a topic that interests you, suggestions are listed below.  
**Personal topics must be submitted by October 30 for January graduates, and by March 31 for June graduates.**
2. Identify sources of information on your topic. You must use a minimum of three (3) sources, of which one (1) must be a book (paper or electronic) and one (1) must be a journal article (paper or electronic).
3. Identify useful information for your paper from these sources and take notes.
4. Organize your ideas in an outline.
5. Write a minimum of five to seven pages (approximately 1,500 to 2,500 words). Format your work according to the Chicago Manual of Style the American Psychological Association (APA) or the Modern Language Association (MLA).
6. Use footnotes and/or endnotes and write a bibliography for your research paper.
7. Ask someone to proofread your work before submitting to Clonlara.
8. Edit and revise your work at least once after someone else has read your work.

The Online Writing Lab from Purdue University is a valuable free resource that can guide you in the writing process. It is available at <http://owl.english.purdue.edu>. At this website you will find information and articles about an array of topics including plagiarism, citing sources, summarizing, and paraphrasing.

## Ideas/suggestions

- Many scientists believe it is possible to extend the human lifespan. Several different techniques for growing synthetic organs are being tested, and some researchers are attempting to “turn off” the biological factors which cause us to age. Address the ramifications of eternal life.
- Research the history and value of vaccination programs.
- Research what a carbon footprint is and how it is calculated. What is your carbon footprint? How could you reduce it? What changes do you expect in your carbon footprint as you emerge into the adult world of home and automobile ownership and parenthood?
- What are the most crucial aspects of data privacy online? Should only data security experts be concerned about this issue?
- How are the treaties established after World War II embedded in our lives today? Do you believe they have a positive or negative effect on your country’s culture and politics?
- “Beauty is in the eye of the beholder.” Cite aesthetic philosophers on the difference between art and non-art. How should government determine which art projects to support with taxpayer funds?

**Choose your own topic: Personal topics must be submitted by October 30 for January graduates, and by March 31 for June graduates.**