



## High School English Placement Test Preparation Guide

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The Vanguard School's high school English placement test is designed to help the school enroll any incoming high school student in the appropriate level of English for that student's skill and content background. It has been carefully calibrated against the performance of students who enter our high school and are set up for success with appropriate dedication and effort.

This test assesses a student's current skill in reading comprehension, grammar, and writing. To be prepared for this test, a student should be confident in the following areas:

**Reading** - Reading a challenging piece of literature you would typically find in a late junior high or early high school classical education setting, and in response, do the following:

- Accurately state facts and details from the text.
- Make accurate inferences based on information in the text.
- Identify unfamiliar word meaning in the text based on context clues.
- Analyze the circumstances presented in the text and accurately assess character motivations.
- Predict what will happen after the ending of the text.
- Summarize the overall events of the text.

**Grammar** - Defining terms, correcting errors, applying concepts for the following:

- Parts of speech
- Basic sentence structure
- Capitalization rules
- Punctuation rules
- Pronoun-antecedent agreement
- Subject-verb agreement
- Verb tenses
- Standard usage

**Writing** - Writing an essay, displaying proficiency in the following:

- Thoughtful planning
- Organizing writing with standard essay conventions
- Appropriate detail and development
- Strong high-school-level vocabulary
- Correct grammar and syntax
- Appropriate style
- Evident thoughtfulness and effort