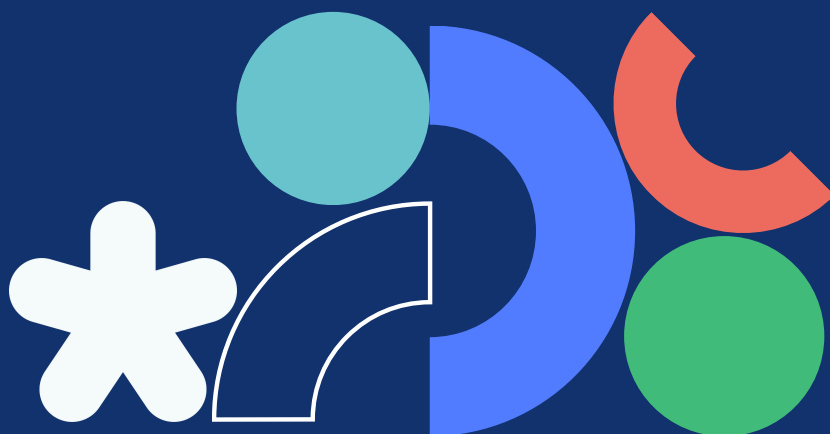




The 2026 OET Writing Clinical Filter





The "Filter" Method for Data Selection and Clinical Relevance

Use this map when practicing your **5 minutes of Reading Time** to decide what makes the cut.



1. The "Who & Why" Audit

Before reading the notes, answer these three questions:

1. **Who is the recipient?** (Specialist? Nurse? Allied Health?)
2. **What is the urgency?** (Emergency? Routine follow-up? Discharge?)
3. **What is the "Ask"?** (What do I want them to do? Diagnose? Provide home care? Perform surgery?)



2. The Three Buckets of Data

As you read the case notes, mentally (or with a pencil) place every detail into one of these three buckets:

Bucket 1: VITAL	Bucket 2: SECONDARY	Bucket 3: NOISE
Criteria: The recipient <i>cannot</i> treat the patient safely without this.	Criteria: Provides context but isn't the primary reason for referral.	Criteria: Historical data or social facts with no current impact on the "Ask."
Examples: Current symptoms, Allergies, Immediate medications, The "Request."	Examples: Well-controlled chronic conditions, relevant family history.	Examples: Childhood illnesses, irrelevant social hobbies, redundant vitals.



3. The "Conciseness" Logic (2026 Criteria)

The OET no longer gives a strict word count, but the **conciseness** penalty is real.

- **Red Flag:** Using three sentences to describe a single diagnostic result.
- **The Fix:** Use **Synthesis**.
 - *Bad (Data dump):* "The patient had a high BP on Monday. It was 150/90. On Tuesday it was 145/85. On Wednesday it was 148/90."
 - *Better (Synthesized):* "The patient's blood pressure has remained consistently elevated over the last 72 hours."



4. The Organization Strategy

The order of your paragraphs is a logical signal to the examiner.

1. **Intro:** The "Why" (Purpose).
2. **Paragraph 2:** The "Now" (Current clinical situation/Urgent data).
3. **Paragraph 3:** The "Before" (Relevant history only).
4. **Paragraph 4:** The "Request" (Next steps/The specific "Ask" for the recipient).

Logic Tip: If you put the patient's 10-year-old medical history in Paragraph 2 and the current emergency in Paragraph 3, you have lost points in the **Organization** and **Clinical Logic** criteria.