

Reading & Writing Volume 2

PERRY VITALIS

Practice Questions for

the CELPIP Tes

Reading & Volume 2

Perry Vitalis

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Contents

In	tro	dı	ict	ion
<u>ш</u>	<u>u U</u>	<u> </u>	<u>иоι</u>	<u> </u>

- **CELPIP Reading Module 1**
- **CELPIP Reading Module 2**
- **CELPIP Reading Module 3**
- **CELPIP Reading Module 4**
- **CELPIP Reading Module 5**
- **CELPIP Reading Module 6**
- **CELPIP Reading Module 7**
- **CELPIP Reading Module 8**
- **CELPIP Reading Module 9**
- **CELPIP Reading Module 10**
- **CELPIP Reading Module 11**
- **CELPIP Reading Module 12**

Answer Key: Reading

Explanatory Answers: Reading

- **CELPIP Writing Module 1**
- **CELPIP Writing Module 2**
- **CELPIP Writing Module 3**
- **CELPIP Writing Module 4**
- **CELPIP Writing Module 5**
- **CELPIP Writing Module 6**
- **CELPIP Writing Module 7**
- **CELPIP Writing Module 8**
- **CELPIP Writing Module 9**
- **CELPIP Writing Module 10**
- **CELPIP Writing Module 11**
- **CELPIP Writing Module 12**
- Sample Writing Responses

Introduction

The CELPIP Test (Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program), administered by Paragon Testing Enterprises, is a Canadian English test recognized by Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) for immigration and citizenship purposes. This book contains 12 Reading Modules and 12 Writing Modules that will help you to prepare for the CELPIP Test. Each Reading Module has 12 questions, and each Writing Module has 2 tasks. There are over 150 questions, similar to the kinds of questions that you can expect to find on an actual CELPIP Test. There is an Answer Key for the Reading Tests, as well as Explanatory Answers. In addition, there are 8 Sample Responses for Writing Modules 1 and 2.

Reading Test Tips:

- 1. Don't try to understand every word or idea in the passage. Skim the passage for one or two minutes, just to get the main idea of the passage. Then go to the questions.
- 2. Don't choose the answer too quickly. Consider each answer carefully, and choose the best answer. Try to spend about 1 minute on each question.
- 3. If you're not sure which answer is correct, try to eliminate the wrong answer choices first.
- 4. Don't worry too much if you feel you are making some mistakes. You can still get a good score, even if you make some mistakes. Just do your best to answer each question, and then go on the next question with a positive attitude.
- 5. Double check your answers.

Writing Test Tips:

- 1. Make sure that your sentences are clear. Remember that somebody needs to read your ideas. If they cannot understand your ideas, you cannot get a good score. Try to make shorter sentences with a Subject-Verb-Object order. For the Writing an E-mail task, make one paragraph for each point that you need to talk about. That will make it easier for the reader to see and understand your ideas. For the Responding to Survey Questions, separate your writing into two to four paragraphs.
- 2. Do not try to use grammar or vocabulary that you are not sure about. If you try to use grammar and vocabulary that you do not really understand, then you might make too many mistakes. That will lower your score.

- 3. Remember the basic grammar points. In English, some very basic grammar points include plural "s" (for example, "one day/two days"), third person "s" (for example, "I eat, you eat, he eats"), and the articles (for example, "We are having <u>a</u> party. We have invited so many people to <u>the</u> party.").
- 4. If a teacher has corrected your mistakes, make sure that you copy the corrections on paper or on the computer, so that you can remember the correct form. That will make it easier for you to avoid making the same mistakes in the future.
- 5. Try to write something a few times a week. If you are busy, you might not have time to practice a lot of writing. However, even if you can write a few sentences or paragraphs every few days, that will help you to improve your writing skills.
- 6. Always try to do the writing assignments on the computer, especially if you are not fast at typing. Remember that the CELPIP test is computer based.
- 7. This book contains 8 Sample Responses for the Writing Test; 4 sample responses for Writing an E-mail, and 4 Sample Responses to Responding to Survey Questions. The Sample Responses cover two levels of writing, basic and advanced. By understanding what kinds of vocabulary, grammar, sentence construction, and level of detail are used in those examples, it can help you to determine what quality of English you should be using in your writing in order to get the CELPIP score that you need. The Basic Sample Responses are for those test-takers who have a more basic level of English, and who probably require a basic CELPIP score for immigration purposes. Similarly, the Advanced Sample Responses are designed for those test-takers who have a higher level of English, and who probably need a higher CELPIP score. Remember that these are examples only, to give you general ideas for your own response. You may not memorize or copy any of the examples, in whole or in part, for use on an actual CELPIP test.

We wish you luck on the test, and with your life in Canada.

Perry Vitalis

Reading Correspondence: "A Concerned Listener"

Part 1 Directions: Read the following letter.

Dear Radio Programmer:

I have been a loyal listener for the past decade. I have really enjoyed your programming. It has brought so much pleasure every single day to my otherwise extremely long, drab workday, and I thank you for that. I cannot fathom a day going by without one of your shows to pick me up. Well, enough of the intro. I should cut to the chase so you understand the point of my letter.

It's precisely that I enjoy your station so much that I want to bring up my concern to you. I was listening to your station as usual the other day, when I heard something that bothered me. One of your radio hosts mentioned something about CXRZ going off the air. Not only that, he then said that he would never work in radio again. I was so upset to have him say that. My favourite radio station was going off the air forever. I was stupefied, flabbergasted, you name it. Imagine the even bigger shock when CXRZ continued broadcasting, with the same host on air again the next day. Was that some kind of bad joke? If so, it wasn't very funny. It wasn't even April Fools. I won't name names, but the radio host I'm referring to has been a regular for at least as long as I've been a loyal listener.

Now, please understand that the only reason I was so upset, and I think I still am, is because CXRZ means so much to me. It's the only radio station worth listening to nowadays. Your 24-hour talk show format is brilliant. There's always an interesting topic or two that give listeners some food for thought. We need more of that nowadays. Just last week you folks were covering some issue that was happening in the Maritimes. Something about the inhumanity of lobster traps I think. Or maybe it was about the way they're cooked.

Anyway, I won't be eating lobster again anytime soon, rest assured. That's how much I'm affected by your shows. I don't know what I'd do if you ever went off the air. There would be nothing decent left to listen to on the radio.

I don't know what you plan on doing with my e-mail, but I would really just like to say that I didn't find that host's comment very funny. At the same time, I'm glad you're still broadcasting.

Your faithful listener, Jeanette Braun

Part 2 Directions: Answer the questions by choosing the best option among the four answer choices, referring to the above letter.

1. Jeanette Braun has been following this radio station for
a. decades.
b. a couple of years.
c. a long time.
d. just a few years.
2. Ms. Braun is
a. a homemaker.
b. a full-time university student.
c. a radio programmer.
d. a full-time worker.
3. Ms. Braun is bringing up her concern because .

a. she is so precise.
b. she bothered something.
c. she is writing this letter.
d. she enjoys the station so much.
4. According to Ms Braun, one of the radio hosts said
a. something that upset her.
b. that CXRZ would go on the air.
c. that he would be back the next day.
d. something very funny.
5. Ms. Braun does not want to
a. listen to the radio station anymore.
b. say which radio host made the comment.
c. be shocked so much.
d. hear any jokes.
6. The radio host has been
a. a listener.
b. referred by Ms. Braun.
c. at the station for a long time.
d. shocking many listeners with his bad jokes.
7. CXRZ means
a. a lot to a listener.
b. a radio station.

- c. a 24-hour talk show radio station.
- d. a 24-hour talk show format.
- **8.** By the end of her letter, Ms. Braun _____.
- a. is very satisfied with everything.
- b. is apologetic.
- c. is completely glad.
- d. has mixed feelings.

Part 3 Directions: Read the response to the above letter. Answer the questions by choosing the best word to complete the sentence, referring to the above letter when necessary.

To: Ms. Jeanette Braun

From: Derrick Banner, Programming Director, CXRZ 100.5 FM

Dear Ms. Braun:

Thank you for your letter. We appreciate getting such correspondence from our audience. It is nice to know that we have such **(9. unhappy / loyal / female / worried)** listeners out there. It's what makes our programming all worth it.

I spoke to the host in question, Miles Palomino, and I asked him about the (10. comment / letters / listeners / truth). He remembered that moment, and told me that what he had said was that "If CXRZ ever went off the air, I would never work in radio again." He was merely stating his own loyalty to the station. We reassure you that Miles is staying, and so is our (11. host / radio / station / listener). Indeed, the message you received would be very upsetting to a loyal listener such as yourself.

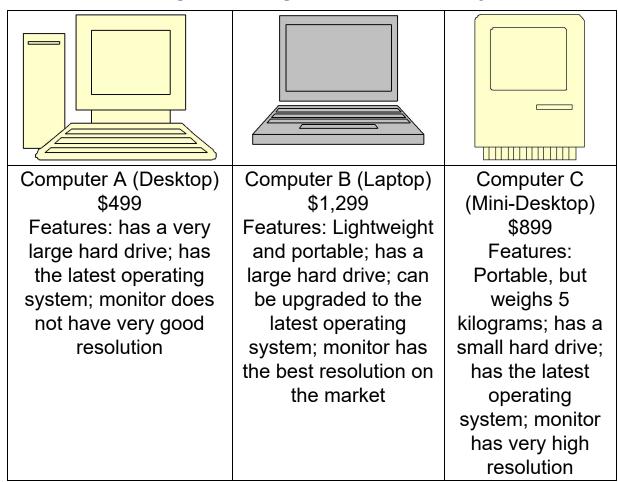
I trust that my explanation clears up this issue that has been concerning you. I also hope that we can continue to provide the

excellent programming that you have come to expect from CXRZ, and that we may be fortunate enough to have you continue to enjoy our station on a regular (12. day / time / basis / situation).

Kindest regards, Derrick Banner

Reading to Apply a Diagram: "New Office Computers"

Part 1 Directions: Read the e-mail about the diagram. Answer the questions by choosing the best word to complete the sentence, referring to the diagram when necessary.



Subject: New Office Computers

To: Jim Woodman From: Paul Ward

Hi Jim:

I have been looking over some new computers for our office, and I've (1. give / made / attached / put) some ideas for you to look over. I did my best to narrow down the choices, to make things easier once we're ready to decide.

Basically, we need to make a balance between (2. features / portable / characters / computers) and price. As you can see, there's quite a range of prices. If we go with the (3. lower / cheap / expensive / mid-priced) model, we'll have some degree of portability, although I don't imagine the office staff will be wanting to take it home on a regular basis due to the (4. portability / large hard drive / kilograms / weight). The price on that one is quite reasonable. On the other hand, if we decide to go for the (5. computers / desktops / laptops / mini-desktops), then we could have an (6. problem / issue / option / policy) with staff taking them home too frequently, as those are the most portable. I'm actually kind of (7. leaving / learning / leaning / running) away from that option, now that I (8. consider / concern / think / worry) about it.

I will leave these ideas with you for now. Thanks Jim, and let me know your thoughts whenever you have a moment. After that, we'll make a final decision together.

Regards,	
Paul	

Part 2 Directions: Answer the questions by choosing the best word to complete the sentence, referring to the diagram and to the e-mail when necessary.

9.	Paul	
		 _

- a. has decided which computer to buy.
- b. wants some input.

c. has an e-mail from Jim.
d. needs Jim's answer immediately.
10. Paul and Jim
a. work for each other.
b. will each have a say in the selection process.
c. have bought some new computers.
d. have put some ideas together regarding a computer purchase.
11. Paul is worried that
a. some computers are too expensive.
b. the staff will take the desktop computers home.
c. one kind of computer would be taken home too often.
d. one model will have some degree of portability.
12. Paul is
a. happy that Jim gave his thoughts on the computers.
b. losing interest in one of the choices.
c. leaving the ideas with Jim until Jim decides which computers they

d. going to ask Jim to make a buying decision for both of them.

will buy.

Reading for Information: "Quebec City"

Part 1 Directions: Read the following passage.

- **A.** Canada consists of so many beautiful and interesting places that are definitely worth visiting. One such place is Quebec City, the capital of Quebec. It was settled by the French in the 1500s, making it Canada's oldest city. It is located in the province of Quebec, which is situated in Eastern Canada. Quebec City is the province of Quebec's second-largest city, after Montreal. While Montreal is a more cosmopolitan city, Quebec has a more old-world flavour and charm that distinguishes it from other North American cities. It is, in fact, one of the top travel destinations in North America.
- **B.** The original city was a walled fortress, designed to protect it from being attacked. However, now it sprawls well beyond its original borders. Central Quebec City is now punctuated by Chateau Frontenac, a majestic old hotel that sits atop an embankment overlooking the St. Lawrence River. The hotel is easily recognizable by its fortress-like architecture, and its distinctive green roof. The hotel is famous not only in Canada, but around the world. It appears in travel brochures, postcards, and tourism videos. Although it is over one hundred years old, Chateau Frontenac remains a relevant, popular tourist attraction in the city of Quebec.
- **C.** Below the hotel sits Lower Town, the remaining old part of Quebec City. Here, you can find narrow streets lined with charming old buildings that date back centuries. The European influence of the architecture in Lower Town is apparent. Thousands of tourists come here from around the world to wander around Lower Town, strolling past sidewalk cafes and artists who display their art for sale. Tourists take pictures of the wonderful cobblestone streets and stone buildings, reminiscent perhaps more of Old Europe and appearing like nothing North American. Those who love shopping can get their

fill with the dozens of clothing boutiques and souvenir shops that contain something for everyone.

D. Centuries after being settled as a French colony, Quebec City retains its French flavour, both culturally and linguistically. As Quebec is a predominantly French-speaking city, it is much more common to encounter a conversation in French than in English. As such, if you are planning to visit this wonderful city, it is in your best interest to learn a few phrases in French before you go. For example, being able to say "Hello", "Excuse me", "How much is this?", and "Thank you" will go a long way in helping you to communicate successfully with the locals.

E. (Not mentioned)

Part 2 Directions: Decide which paragraph (A, B, C, or D) ents. If S,

the		matio		ation in each of the following statement ot discussed in any of the paragraphs,	
1 . T	he or	ginal	settleı	ment was bigger than the present-day city.	
Α	В	С	D	E	
2. F	rench	is im	portar	nt in Quebec.	
Α	В	С	D	E	
3. S	3. Something in Quebec is well known.				
Α	В	С	D	E	
4. C	ne th	ing is	wond	erful.	
Α	В	С	D	E	

5 . T	he cit	y was	settle	d in Fran	ce.	
Α	В	С	D	Е		
6. S	Somet	hing n	night r	emind us	of another pla	ce.
Α	В	С	D	Е		
7. F	People	shou	ld do	something	g.	
Α	В	С	D	E		
8. T	he ho	tel sit	s belo	w someth	ning.	
Α	В	С	D	E		
9 . <i>A</i>	A body	of wa	ater is	mentione	ed.	
Α	В	С	D	E		
10.	Some	e peop	le sho	w someth	hing.	
Α	В	С	D	E		
11.	Some	thing	is loca	ited in a h	nigh place.	
Α	В	С	D	E		
12.	A cert	tain co	oloure	d item sta	ands out.	
Α	В	С	D	E		

Reading for Viewpoints: "Climate Change: Real or Not?"

Part 1 Directions: Read the following passage.

Climate change has been a hot topic for the past decade. The topic of climate change can be a confusing one at best. Opinions abound as to the mere existence of climate change. One person has one view, while someone else has quite the opposite view. Not only laymen, but even scientists argue whether or not climate change is a real issue. It is not surprising that this controversy leads to confusion and even more questions. The rift between believers and non-believers seems to be growing, with each side adamant about their respective views.

The believers hold that mankind's activities contribute to a phenomenon known as climate change. Pollution that we create is believed to alter the temperature of the oceans, which leads to rising sea levels and temperature changes. Supporters of the climate change theory also claim that, by changing our daily habits, we can minimize our environmental footprint, which will decrease, and maybe even reverse, climate change. Such changes to our habits include recycling more conscientiously, walking or cycling instead of driving, and patronizing businesses that support green efforts.

Conversely, the non-believers argue that changes to the planet's climatic characteristics occur naturally every several millennia. They claim that such patterns were in existence long before we ever walked the earth. Therefore, such changes would occur whether or not human beings existed. Non-believers cite past cycles, based on scientific evidence, to support the claim that such change is natural, and basically out of our control. As a result of non-believers refusing to accept that humans are responsible for climate change, people may argue that non-believers do not care about the environment. However, there is no known correlation between a person's view on

the existence of climate change, and how much they care about the environment.

Debate continues to rage among believers and non-believers as to whether it is indeed the case that such change happens naturally, or that the human race somehow factors in. Clearly, there are disparate views on the topic of climate change. It may be impossible to get everyone to agree on whether climate change is a fact or not. One thing is certain, though. Without a doubt, we as humans should care about and care for the planet. After all, we have the intelligence, the resources, and the ability to preserve our natural environment. It is our duty and responsibility to save the planet for future generations. Therefore, rather than continuously arguing over whether climate change is real or not, each of us should focus on finding ways to make a positive contribution to the environment.

Part 2 Directions: Answer the questions by choosing the best word to complete the sentence, referring to the passage when necessary.

1.	Th	ne	wri	ter		
----	----	----	-----	-----	--	--

- a. establishes that climate change is real.
- b. presents two arguments.
- c. argues for the existence of climate change.
- d. is not surprised by climate change.
- **2.** According to the passage, . .
- a. both sides are starting to see eye to eye.
- b. both sides agree more than they disagree.
- c. agreement is growing between believers and non-believers.
- d. each side maintains their position.

3. According to the believers, rising sea levels
a. lead to the temperature of the oceans.
b. alter the temperature of the oceans.
c. are altered by the temperature of the oceans.
d. are the result of changing ocean temperatures.
4. According to the believers, the environmental footprint
a. can minimize.
b. will decrease.
c. can be reduced.
d. will change our daily habits.
5. The believers feel that we should support the companies that
a. care about protecting the environment.
b. can afford to be green.
c. support walking or cycling.
d. are known as "patronizing businesses".
6. The non-believers hold the opinion that
a. climate change is not natural.
b. we should argue about climate change being natural.
c. climate change happens every few thousand years.
d. changes to the climate's characteristics happen for several millennia.

7. Views on the topic of climate change
a. vary.
b. disappear.
c. are the same.
d. are desperate.
8. In the writer's opinion,
a. it is better to stop arguing and agree that climate change is real.
b. it is better to stop arguing and focus on climate change.
c. it is better to stop arguing and take individual responsibility for the

environment.

continuously argue.

Part 3 Directions: Read someone's comment about the above passage. Answer the questions by choosing the best word to complete the sentence, referring to the above passage when necessary.

d. instead of finding ways to help the environment, we should

I enjoyed reading your article on the controversy surrounding climate change. (9. Fortunately / Personally / Especially / On the other hand), I'm confused by the whole debate, so I've chosen to be proactive about the whole issue. Whether or not humans are to blame for climate change, I'm not taking any (10. steps / chances / opportunities / blame) with our fragile planet. I've sold my car, and now I get around town (11. on foot / by plane / for a walk / by pedestrian) or by bike. I've also pledged to conserve electricity at home as much as possible. My electric and heating bills have plummeted as a result. I challenge everyone else who (12. agree

with / read / believe / like) the above article to make their own contribution to saving the planet!

Reading Correspondence: "Our New Place in Costa Rica"

Part 1 Directions: Read the following letter.

Hello Juan:

How are you doing? All's well in St. John's. I have some exciting news to tell you! Do you remember that real estate opportunity I was telling you about in Costa Rica? Well, I have decided to take the plunge! May and I will be buying a house somewhere along the Pacific Ocean side. Sounds great, right?

On our last trip there, sometime in November, we found a realtor, with the same first name as you by the way, who had some excellent leads for us. Not only that, his English is much better than our Spanish, so that helped! We told him that we were looking for a smaller, cheaper bungalow, not too far from the beach, but also that it didn't necessarily need to be beachfront (which would have driven the price right up). So he found a few listings that were within a few kilometres of the beach, but that were also within our very limited budget. We checked out three places on the first day. Unfortunately, the jet lag hit me hard after seeing the third place, so we decided to call it a day. By the way, none of the first three houses really caught our eye.

The next day, we continued our search. Juan showed us another three houses. After considering all six, May and I decided to put in an offer for the fifth one that we had seen. The offer was not accepted, but the owner countered, and by the end of the day we had a place to call our second home. It's a bigger and more expensive bungalow than what we had actually hoped for. It's just over 1,000 square feet. It has two bedrooms at the front of the house. Then at the back of the house, there's another smaller bedroom. The really nice thing about the property is that it's pretty

big, and there's actually a small guest house included, with another two bedrooms. There are also two bathrooms in the main house, and one in the guest house. And of course there's a kitchen (but none in the guest house, so the guests would have to borrow the cooking facilities in the main house), and each house has a living room as well.

The reason I keep mentioning the guest house is that May and I would love to see you and Carla there. How far is Costa Rica from Mexico anyway? Well, I will let you know when we're ready to move in, which should be soon, and then maybe we can plan for you to visit.

Take care Juan, Stephen

Part 2 Directions: Answer the questions by choosing the best option among the four answer choices, referring to the above letter.

1. Stephen is writing this letter to
a. his friend.
b. his realtor.
c. his wife.
d. his real estate agency.
2. Stephen lives in
a. in Costa Rica.
b. in Mexico.
c. in St. John's.
d. along the Pacific Ocean.

3. Stephen and May were hoping for
a. a smaller beachfront bungalow.
b. a smaller, cheaper bungalow.
c. a pretty big property with a guest house.
d. a main house with three bedrooms and two baths.
4. The house that Stephen and May decided on was
a. the second one they had seen.
b. the third one they had seen.
c. the fifth one they had seen.
d. the sixth one they had seen.
5. The property has
a. two bedrooms.
b. three bedrooms.
c. four bedrooms.
d. five bedrooms.
6. On the property, there is only one
a. building.
b. house.
c. kitchen.
d. living room.
7. Stephen mentions the guest house multiple times because

- a. he has invited Juan to stay there.
- b. he loves to see Juan and Carla there.
- c. he needs to plan for Juan and Carla to visit there.
- d. he wants Juan and Carla to visit there.

Part 3 Directions: Read the response to the above letter. Answer the questions by choosing the best word to complete the sentence, referring to the above letter when necessary.

Hi Stephen:

Thanks for the great news! I (8. know / knew / heard / wish) that you and May would finally buy (9. a houses / big homes / something / small homes) over there. When do you (10. plan / think / anticipate / guys) on moving in there? Carla and I would love to see you and May there (11. once / if / by the time / afterward) you've settled in.

By the way, Mexico's not all that **(12. close to / close from / far to / far from)** Costa Rica. I think it's only an hour or so by plane.

Talk to you again soon,

Juan

Reading to Apply a Diagram: "A Special Birthday Present"

Part 1 Directions: Read the e-mail about the diagram. Answer the questions by choosing the best word to complete the sentence, referring to the diagram when necessary.

	A cat is very interactive; fun to play with	A cat will walk freely around the house; could make a mess
9	A bird is not very interactive	A bird will stay in a cage; will not mess up the house
	A rabbit is somewhat interactive; somewhat fun to play with	A rabbit could stay in a cage; if so, will probably not mess up the house

Subject: Birthday Present Ideas for Jennifer

To: Marisa (mpatrick@notmail.com)

From: Samantha

Hi Marisa:

Thanks for offering to help pick out a pet for Jennifer's 10th birthday. Sometimes I think an **(1. relative / friend / sister / aunt)** is better at picking out a birthday present than a mother.

So I've attached some ideas for us to think over. I have three ideas that I think I should be able to (2. afford / care / get / adapt). I just don't know which of the (3. animal / choice / three / idea) Jennifer would be happiest with though.

If I get her a (4. pet / cat / bird / rabbit), Jennifer might end up getting (5. excited / bored / used / along) with it if it just sits in its cage staring at her, swinging back and forth and possibly chirping. A rabbit or a (6. pet / cat / bird / dogs) would be more playful and interactive for Jennifer, don't you think? Especially a cat. The thing I like about a bird though, is that I don't have to worry about it (7. cleaning / disturbing / running / messing) up the house while I'm out. I guess I could also keep the rabbit in some (8. sort / kinds / part / place) of cage.

I'll phone you later tonight to talk more about this.

Bye for now, Samantha

Part 2 Directions: Answer the questions by choosing the best word to complete the sentence, referring to the diagram and to the e-mail when necessary.

9. Jennifer's birthday is
a. going to be a pet.
b. going to get a pet.
c. coming up.
d. going to be a surprise party.
10. Samantha feels that
a. she may be the best at selecting something.

c. a cat should be in a cage.
d. her sister can help her with something.
11. Marisa and Samantha will
a. choose a rabbit.
b. discuss this topic further.
c. get a pet for Jennifer.
d. get a cage for the pet.
12. Samantha provides a clear advantage and disadvantage of
12. Samantha provides a clear advantage and disadvantage of having
·
having
having a. many pets.
having a. many pets. b. a cat.
having a. many pets. b. a cat. c. a bird.
having a. many pets. b. a cat. c. a bird.

b. she wants to select something alone.

Reading for Information: "The Chinook Wind"

Part 1 Directions: Read the following passage.

- **A.** Around the world, there are various weather phenomena, each with their own special names. There is the haboob in desert areas, the foehn in Europe, and the typhoon in Japan. In Canada, one kind of wind is called a "Chinook". A Chinook wind is a warm wind that blows over the Rocky Mountains. Chinook winds occur in southern Alberta, mostly in winter. While winters in that part of the country can be quite cold, a Chinook can bring relief in terms of milder temperatures.
- **B.** A Chinook wind originates over the Pacific Ocean, off the coast of British Columbia. Basically, it starts as a warm, wet wind that blows from west to east off the coast of B.C. The wind approaches the mainland in the southeast part of the province. It then travels inland over southern B.C. for several hundred kilometers. Because it originates over the ocean, the wind carries a lot of moisture with it. The wind blows towards the Rockies, and it slows down as it blows against the mountains. As it slows down and moves upwards against the west side of the Rockies, the wind cools down.
- **C.** At the same time, the wind continues to blow from behind. That causes the rising, cooling wind in front to continue blowing eastward, over the tops of the Rockies. When this happens, the cool wind in front rolls down the east side of the Rockies. As it picks up speed, it warms up and rushes across southern Alberta. Cities in the path of Chinook winds include Calgary, Lethbridge, and Medicine Hat. Interestingly, the phenomenon of Chinook winds is limited to quite a small area of Canada. Those who live in that part of the country know when a Chinook event is happening by the distinct cloud pattern in the sky.
- **D.** Chinook winds can cause temperatures to rise by 30 or 40 degrees in a matter of hours, melting snow and ice. It is not

uncommon for southern Albertans to go to bed when the outside temperature is -20 degrees, and to wake up the next morning to a balmy 10 degrees. That is how much the temperatures can fluctuate during a Chinook. Unfortunately, many people also experience migraine headaches, which are thought to be brought on by a sudden change in air pressure that the Chinook wind brings with it. All in all though, most southern Albertans are probably grateful for the respite that Chinooks offer from the cold winter temperatures.

E. (not mentioned)

Part 2 Directions: Decide which paragraph (A, B, C, or D) lf

th	contains the information in each of the following statements. the information is not discussed in any of the paragraphs, choose "E".					
1.	The wir	nd ind	crease	s in speed on the east side of the mountains.		
Α	В	С	D	E		
2.	The wir	nd ori	iginate	es in the west.		
Α	В	С	D	E		
3.	The wir	nd ca	n incre	ease temperatures drastically.		
Α	В	С	D	E		
4.	Some pe	ople	go to th	ne doctor during a Chinook.		
Α	В	С	D	E		
5 .	The wind	l start	s over	a body of water.		
Α	В	С	D	E		

6. Examples of locations outside Canada are given.

Α	В	С	D	Е			
7	Γhe win	d incre	ases i	n tempe	erature.		
Α	В	С	D	E			
8. l	Headac	hes ca	use a	change	in air pre	ssure.	
Α	В	С	D	E			
9 . (Chinook B	winds C	gener D	ally occ	cur in one	season.	
10.	Somet	hing is	pushe	d.			
Α	В	С	D	Е			
11 . A	There i	s a do C	wnside D	to the	Chinook	wind.	
12.	12. The wind moves across the first of two provinces.						
Α	В	С	D	Е			
					e first of to	wo provii	nces.

Reading for Viewpoints: "Adapting to a New Country"

Part 1 Directions: Read the following passage.

Moving to a new country is never easy. I should know. I learned first-hand how challenging it can be to arrive in an unfamiliar place, not knowing much about the people, the language, the weather, and the way things work. There were things I went through that would make me the person that I am today.

The experience of leaving my homeland was in itself emotional; I had never been abroad before. That was about 14 years ago. I arrived in Canada with my parents, my brother, and my sister. At the time, none of us spoke much English, so we had a variety of language issues right from the start. I was put into Grade 10, and although I understood most of what was being said, I really couldn't respond. So I probably came across as less than friendly, although I was desperate to make friends in my new country. I remember having to stand up in front of the class while my classmates bombarded me with questions. "Where are you from?"; "When's your birthday?"; "What kind of music do you like?"; "Do you guys speak English in your country?" It was agonizing, being able to understand the questions, yet not being able to answer with any fluency. Well, luckily, the teacher asked everyone to slow down, and to give me a chance to respond. I think I gave one-word answers for every single question, with the exception of "When's your birthday?", to which I gave a one-word and a one-number response.

Although it was quite a painful experience, it also gave me the incentive to pick up the language as fast as possible. I started watching English TV for about an hour every day; I listened to the radio every night before bed, and I read as much English as I could lay my hands on. But the most significant thing I did was to embrace my opportunity to immerse myself in the culture; I made friends with

several of my classmates, and I greeted and chatted with my neighbours on a daily basis. Within only a few months, my spoken English had really improved. I was no longer tongue-tied when I conversed with Canadians.

Looking back, I have learned that a lot of challenges can be overcome by having a positive outlook. For anyone thinking about immigrating to another country, I would definitely recommend staying positive, and doing your best to embrace your new opportunity.

Part 2 Directions: Answer the questions by choosing the best word to complete the sentence, referring to the passage when necessary.

1. The writer
a. never moved to a new country easily.
b. moved to a new country not knowing it would be easy.
c. never found it easy to move to new countries.
d. found some difficulties adjusting to a new country.
2. According to the writer,
a. unfamiliar places can be learned first-hand.
b. there is a challenge to a specific situation.
c. arriving first-hand can be a challenge.
d. it can be a challenge to know a lot about something.
3. The writer arrived from abroad
a. knowing little about the new country.

b. with no knowledge of the new country.
c. not knowing anything about the new country.
d. knowing a lot about the new country.
4. Shortly after their arrival, the family
a. issued a variety of languages.
b. started with a variety of languages.
c. had some problems.
d. issued some language problems.
5. In Grade 10, the writer wanted to
a. come across more than friendly.
b. be desperate.
c. understand what was being said.
d. meet new people.
6. The writer's classmates
a. were curious.
b. answered many questions.
c. stood up in front of the class.
d. were already friends with the writer.
7. The writer used a negative experience
a. to improve.
b. to give an incentive.
c. to feel pain.

- d. to watch TV.
- 8. In the writer's opinion, the most important thing he did was to
- a watch TV
- b. listen to the radio.
- c. try to adapt to the society.
- d. improve his spoken English.

Part 3 Directions: Read someone's comment about the above passage. Answer the questions by choosing the best word to complete the sentence, referring to the above passage when necessary.

I can totally relate to what you went through. I came here as a teenager from Eastern Europe. It was (9. pleasant / painful / precious / possible) for me to go to school every day, because I didn't know a word of English. Everyone just looked at me at first, (10. expecting / allowing / hoping / considering) me to be able to speak English. It was pretty awkward. I just smiled back at everyone...at least I was able to (11. speak / smile / solve / answer). I made friends pretty fast, and after hanging out with them for a few (12. minutes / months / years / decades), I caught on to the language pretty fast.

Reading Correspondence: "The Resignation Letter"

Part 1 Directions: Read the following letter.

Dear Mrs. Malone:

I would hereby like to inform you of my intent to cordially resign from this company. As you know, I have recently celebrated my 67th birthday, and I feel that this would be an appropriate time for me to wind up my time with McMurray Engineering Limited, and to retire from the working world. I would like to express some feelings and opinions about my time with this company.

First and foremost, it has been an incredible experience. I started as a junior engineer when I was fresh out of university. That would have been over 40 years ago now. I would say that it seems like yesterday, but frankly, it seems more like forever ago that I started working for this company. This would have been before your time, but McMurray Engineering used to be located down the street, in an old sandstone building. We had a small office on the main floor, with just enough room for three desks. I was actually the first engineer that was hired by the company. They were just getting started at the time, so it was a very small operation. I remember walking through the front door for the interview. Fred Matthews and Sam Jackson were there, with their noses to the grindstone as usual. I seem to remember that they were busy with their first project, which would have been oilsands related. They needed an engineer for that job, and that's where I came in.

I'm sure it was more good timing on my part than my actual qualifications or skills. They practically handed me the job as I walked in, and I started that very same day. I was sent to various sites throughout northern Alberta, taking core samples here, doing seismic work there. It was all valuable experience that would later stand me in good stead when I was to become QC Engineer, some

five years later. I was put in charge of a team of roughly 20 engineers, and led several big projects throughout the province and Saskatchewan, which I traveled to for work dozens of times. We continued to grow over the course of several years, thanks to the success of our projects. We moved into our current location, a much bigger, nicer office, probably close to 30 years ago.

Now, some 40 years later, I look back and I treasure every opportunity that the company has given me. I have had nothing but positive experiences working for McMurray Engineering, and you have contributed to that experience. As my direct supervisor, you have led me with patience, understanding, and professionalism. I appreciate having been treated so well as an employee, and it has been a pleasure working with you.

If possible, I would like to make my last day of employment with McMurray Engineering on Friday, April 30. Please advise if this date will work for you and for the rest of the department.

With sincere thanks, William Senopal

Part 2 Directions: Answer the questions by choosing the best option among the four answer choices, referring to the above letter.

1 . N	Mr. Senopal is .
a. c	quitting his job.
b. r	etired.
c. u	ipset.
d. g	going to celebrate his 67 th birthday.
2. \	Mrs. Malone .

a. has been with the company longer than Mr. Senopal.
b. is Mr. Senopal's superior.
c. is the sender of this letter.
d. does not need to respond to this letter.
3. McMurray Engineering
a. started as a large company.
b. has always been in the same building.
c. put Mr. Senopal on their first project.
d. hired Mr. Senopal after a long series of job interviews.
4. Mr. Senopal
a. kept the same position throughout his career.
b. worked in at least two different provinces.
c. traveled to Saskatchewan a couple of times.
d. stood in good stead.
5. The success of the projects
a. was thanks to the growth.
b. moved the office.
c. continued to grow.
d. resulted in growth.
6. Mr. Senopal expresses direct appreciation to
a. his team.
b. Fred Matthews.

- c. Sam Jackson.
- d. Judith Malone.
- **7.** Mr. Senopal needs .
- a. some advice.
- b. to rest with the department.
- c. confirmation of something.
- d. to make his last day of employment.

Part 3 Directions: Read the response to the above letter. Answer the questions by choosing the best word to complete the sentence, referring to the above letter when necessary.

To: Mr. William Senopal

From: Judith Malone, Senior Project Engineer

Dear William:

While I am sad to hear you will be leaving the company after so many years, I completely understand and (8. agree / respect / enjoy / hope) your decision to retire. It is certainly well deserved!

I never knew that the company came from such small (9. beginnings / office / place / people). How intriguing it was to read about your first meeting with Fred and Sam, and about the small office they (10. work / met / started / originally) in. Times have certainly changed.

Regarding your final (11. time / ending / retirement / date) with the company, I believe you still have some vacation days left over. Let me do some calculating here, and see if we can either (12. cancel / adjust / make / decide) your finish date, or pay out your remaining vacation days. I will get back to you on that.

Thanks William, Judy

Reading to Apply a Diagram: "School Chairs"

Part 1 Directions: Read the e-mail about the diagram. Answer the questions by choosing the best word to complete the sentence, referring to the diagram when necessary.

-Expensive	-Not expensive	-Moderately
-Very comfortable	-Not so comfortable -Difficult to clean	Expensive
-Easy to clean -Very heavy		-Reasonably comfortable
-very neavy	-Very light	
		-Easy to clean
		-Not too heavy
\$159	\$39	\$89

Subject: Chairs for Students

To: Geoff

From: Stella

Hi Geoff:

Here, finally, is some information for you regarding school chairs. Sorry it has taken so long to (1. make / compile / collection / consider) the information. Here are three possibilities for now. Feel (2. free / happy / can / suggest) to recommend something else, but this might provide us with some ideas at least.

First of all, let's keep in mind that we will need a (3. number / quality / total / box) of 150 chairs, and most of them will be (4. used / sat / sit / bought) by the students. The students are here for the whole day, so they should be comfortable. Also, the more durable the construction and (5. chair / fabric / leg / wheel), the better. We should also anticipate spills and other dirt on the chairs, so it might be a good idea to go for something (6. hard / easy / impossible / dirty) to clean. The only thing with that is that what I've just described is the more expensive chairs. Do we have such a budget? 150 chairs is a pretty big order. I've included a (7. cheaper / more expensive / expensive / chair) alternative, because that might be more within the budget. However, please note that those chairs are hard to clear because of the fabric. Also, they're not very comfortable to sit on for hours at a time. The casters might also cause students to (8. walk / roll / sit / sleep) around the classrooms too much. It's too bad, because the price on those is great.

Let's discuss this purchase at the budget meeting this afternoon.

Thanks Geoff, Stella

Part 2 Directions: Answer the questions by choosing the best word to complete the sentence, referring to the diagram and to the e-mail when necessary.

9.	Stella	

- a. apologizes for something.
- b. is a slow person.
- c. wants to buy the cheapest chair.
- d. does not work at a school.

10. The cheapest chair
a. is the most comfortable.
b. is not within the budget.
c. may cause students to do something.
d. is heavy.
11. Two of the options
a. are easy to clean.
b. are light.
c. are cheaper.
d. can roll.
12. Stella and Geoff .
a. have decided on a chair.
b. have an opportunity to discuss the chairs later in the day.
c. are students.
d. both know what the budget for chairs is.

Reading for Information: "Education in Canada"

Part 1 Directions: Read the following passage.

- **A.** Education is one of the most important aspects of a person's development. It gives us the knowledge and the skills we need to function successfully in society, and it provides us with the opportunity to develop our potential as human beings. Education is considered a fundamental right in most countries, including Canada. This is reflected in a literacy rate of close to 100%, and among the highest of any nation. The Canadian education system consists of various levels of schooling. As in most countries, the earlier years of education are compulsory, while the higher years are optional.
- **B.** In most provinces, the basic levels of education are, in order, kindergarten, elementary (or primary) school, secondary school, which includes junior high school and high school, and post-secondary. Post-secondary education includes technical schools, college, and university. The education system is quite similar from one province to the next. In Quebec, however, there is one more level of schooling between high school and university. CEGEP, which offers two and three year programs, can be likened to a bridge between high school and university. Students complete grade 11, and then enter CEGEP.
- **C.** In Canada, children generally start kindergarten at age 5. In kindergarten, young children learn such fundamental skills as socializing, cooperating, reading, and printing. At age 6, a child starts elementary school. In elementary school, spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic are among the basic subjects that are covered. By the time a child reaches the age of 12, he or she will have completed grade 6 of elementary school, and will then go on to junior high school. Although children generally proceed through the school system from one grade to the next, it is not unheard of for a child to

either repeat a grade, or to skip a grade. In both cases, it is usually a matter of academic ability and performance that will determine such a ruling.

D. In Canada, parents understand the importance of their children's education. They show interest in the parent-teacher meetings that occur several times a year in elementary school. During such meetings, the child's progress is discussed. While both parents can be busy with work and maintaining their households, they generally make the time to attend such meetings. At all levels of education, informal and formal testing is used to assess a student's progress. Combined with report cards, testing is a way for parents, teachers, and students themselves to track progress, and to identify any issues that a student may have.

E. (Not mentioned)

Part 2 Directions: Decide which paragraph (A, B, C, or D) contains the information in each of the following statements. If the information is not discussed in any of the paragraphs, choose "E".

cho	choose "E".							
1 . T	1. There are three levels of secondary school.							
Α	В	С	D	E				
• 5				. c				
2. P	arents	s care	abou	t finding out about their children's progress.				
Α	В	С	D	E				
3. C	ne pro	ovince	e offer	rs a pre-university program.				
Α	В	С	D	E				
4 1								
4. N	lost C	anadı	ans c	an read.				
Δ	В	C	D	F				

5 . A	ssess	ment	s prov	ide in	nportant information.	
Α	В	С	D	E		
6. C	anadi	ians b	elieve	that	schooling is a basic right.	
Α	В	С	D	Е		
7. T	here a	are six	k grad	es in	elementary school.	
Α	В	С	D	Е		
	tuden catior			ecess	arily advance uninterrupted through the	
Α	В	С	D	Ε		
9. T	9. The literacy rate is the highest of any country.					
Α	В	С	D	Ε		
10 . peo A		najorit C	-	ations E	s require some level of schooling for its	
11. A	Asses B			cur th	roughout a student's education.	
12.	Grade	e 11 co	omes	after	CEGEP in Quebec.	
Α	В	С	D	Ε		

Reading for Viewpoints: "Canada's Game"

Part 1 Directions: Read the following passage.

Most people, including myself, perceive Canada's national sport to be ice hockey. Interestingly, and perhaps surprisingly, Canada's national sport is lacrosse, not hockey. However, while lacrosse can lay claim to being the national sport of this nation, hockey is the most popular sport. I'm sure that most Canadians would agree with me when I say that, more than any other sport, hockey is enjoyed by Canadians as both a sport to watch and as a sport to play.

Hockey is known as a winter sport, but it is actually played during other seasons as well. Outdoor and indoor rinks are iced-over playing surfaces on which people of all ages and walks of life can enjoy playing the sport. These rinks welcome children, teens, and adults. They can participate in small, friendly groups, and in bigger community, municipal, and provincial leagues that are comprehensive enough to include all age and skill levels. Additionally, many companies organize hockey teams for their employees to play on recreationally. I think participating in this great sport not only keeps you fit, but provides great fun and entertainment, no matter what your level of play.

At the professional level, there are seven Canadian teams that participate in the NHL, the National Hockey League. Most of these teams have won the coveted Stanley Cup trophy. Of all NHL teams, the Montreal Canadiens have won the Stanley Cup the most. Over the years, NHL franchises have come and gone in certain Canadian cities, but the majority of teams have remained in their current cities for many decades. My favourite teams tends to change with the cities I move to. When I was living in Toronto, I used to root for the Maple Leafs. Now that I live in Winnipeg, the Jets are my team.

Hockey is also played internationally. Every year, there are international tournaments held in Europe and North America which

host teams from hockey nations. While Canada has historically done very well at such tournaments, teams from other countries have also been winning gold, giving Canada a run for its money. That's okay by me. It's more fun to watch a close game than for it to be lop-sided.

The Olympic Winter Games also play host to ice hockey. Both men and women's teams from around the world participate in this Olympic sport. Again, while Canadian hockey teams have performed well in terms of medal count at such games, there are strong teams from other countries which also do very well. When I was at the Vancouver Games, I was lucky enough to see both the men's and the women's teams play for the gold medal. It was then that I understood just how passionate Canadians, including myself, were about hockey, Canada's game.

Part 2 Directions: Answer the questions by choosing the best word to complete the sentence, referring to the passage when necessary.

- **1.** According to the writer, lacrosse _____.
- a. is one of Canada's national sports.
- b. lays claim to a national sport.
- c. is a surprising sport.
- d. is not as popular as hockey.
- **2.** According to the writer, most Canadians agree that _____.
- a. lacrosse is the national sport.
- b. Canadians enjoy watching and playing hockey more than other sports.
- c. Canadians both enjoy hockey, and watching it.
- d. both Canadians enjoy watching hockey, and playing it.

3. Hockey is played
a. only in winter.
b. by many kinds of people.
c. in smaller groups only.
d. only on outdoor rinks in winter.
4. The writer feels that
a. hockey is fun and healthy.
b. it does not matter how much fun you have when you play hockey.
c. should get fit and have fun.
d. keeping fit provides great fun and entertainment.
5. Most of the
a. Montreal Canadiens have won the Stanley Cup.
b. Stanley Cups have been won by Canadian NHL teams.
c. NHL teams in Canada have won a Stanley Cup.
d. Stanley Cups have been won by the Montreal Canadiens.
6. At international tournaments, Canada
a. always wins gold.
b. gives a run for money.
c. does historically well.
d. does not always come in first place.
7. The writer felt fortunate to

- a. play hockey.
- b. see the Olympics.
- c. watch two games.
- d. feel passionate about hockey.
- **8.** In the writer's opinion, ...
- a. competition increases the entertainment value of a hockey game.
- b. competition is held in Europe and North America.
- c. many people like hockey.
- d. he used to root for the Toronto Maple Leafs.

Part 3 Directions: Read someone's comment about the above opinion essay. Answer the questions by choosing the best word to complete the sentence, referring to the above essay when necessary.

I would like to respond to your essay entitled "Canada's Game". Although I (9. argue / disagree / agree / share) with you that hockey is very popular in Canada, I personally prefer to take in a good game of lacrosse. There's something about lacrosse that I (10. prefer / like / rather / enjoy) to hockey. Maybe it's because it's not as violent a sport as hockey. Have you actually ever watched a lacrosse (11. games / competitions / sport / match)? I would say that it's at least as entertaining as hockey, if not more. I wish Canadians would learn about and appreciate lacrosse more. It (12. need /deserves / should / gives) much more attention than it gets.

Answer Key: Reading

Module 1: "A Concerned Listener" 1) c 2) d 3) d 4) a 5) b 6) c 7) a 8) d 9) loyal 10) comment 11) station 12) basis

Module 2: "New Office Computers" 1) attached 2) features 3) mid-priced 4) weight 5) laptops 6) issue 7) leaning 8) think 9) b 10) b 11) c 12) b

Module 3: "Quebec City" 1) E 2) D 3) B 4) D 5) E 6) C 7) D 8) E 9) B 10) C 11) B 12) B

Module 4: "Climate Change: Real or Not?" 1) b 2) d 3) d 4) c 5) a 6) c 7) a 8) c 9) Personally 10) chances 11) on foot 12) read

Module 5: "Our New Place in Costa Rica" 1) a 2) c 3) b 4) c 5) d 6) c 7) d 8) knew 9) something 10) plan 11) once 12) far from

Module 6: "A Special Birthday Present" 1) aunt 2) afford 3) three 4) bird 5) bored 6) cat 7) messing 8) sort 9) c 10) d 11) b 12) c

Module 7: "The Chinook Wind" 1) C 2) B 3) D 4) E 5) B 6) A 7) C 8) E 9) A 10) C 11) D 12) B

Module 8: "Adapting to a New Country" 1) d 2) b 3) a 4) c 5) d 6) a 7) a 8) c 9) painful 10) expecting 11) smile 12) months

Module 9: "The Resignation Letter" 1) a 2) b 3) c 4) b 5) d 6) d 7) c 8) respect 9) beginnings 10) started 11) date 12) adjust

Module 10: "School Chairs" 1) compile 2) free 3) total 4) used 5) fabric 6) easy 7) cheaper 8) roll 9) a 10) c 11) a 12) b

Module 11: "Education in Canada" 1) \to 2) D 3) B 4) A 5) D 6) A 7) C 8) C 9) E 10) A 11) D 12) E

Module 12: "Canada's Game" 1) d 2) b 3) b 4) a 5) c 6) d 7) c 8) a 9) agree 10) prefer 11) match 12) deserves

Explanatory Answers: Reading

Module 1: "A Concerned Listener"

- 1) c: In Paragraph 1, Ms. Braun says that she has been a listener for the past decade (=10 years). The closest answer choice is "many years".
- 2) d: In Paragraph 1, the words "every single day" and "extremely long workday" indicate that Ms. Braun works full time.
- 3) d: In the first sentence of Paragraph 2, Ms. Braun says that she is bringing up her concern because she enjoys the station so much.
- 4) a: In Paragraph 2, Ms. Braun says that "I was so upset to have him say that."
- 5) b: In Paragraph 2, Ms. Braun says "I won't name names."
- 6) c: The last sentence in Paragraph 2 explains that the radio host has been at the station at least as long as Ms. Braun has been a listener
- 7) a: In Paragraph 3, Ms. Braun (a listener) states that "CXRZ means so much to me."
- 8) d: In the two sentences of her closing paragraph, Ms. Braun expresses one negative and one positive feeling, which means she has "mixed feelings".
- 9) loyal: The programming director is expressing how happy he is to have loyal listeners like Ms. Braun.
- 10) comment: The programming director wanted to ask the radio host about the comment he apparently made to make Ms. Braun upset.
- 11) station: The programming director is saying that Miles (the radio host) and the station are both staying.
- 12) basis: Ms. Braun listens to the radio station at work every day, which means "on a regular basis".

Module 2: "New Office Computers"

- 1) attached: Paul has "attached" the diagram with the three computers to his e-mail.
- 2) features: The two important points that Jim wants to consider are features (e.g. hard drive size) and price.
- 3) mid-priced: The computer that Paul describes in this sentence is not too light, and not too heavy, which is the mid-priced computer.
- 4) weight: In this sentence, Paul is saying that the mid-priced computer model is too heavy to take home too often, which is a "weight" issue.
- 5) laptops: The same sentence mentions that the laptops are "the most portable".
- 6) issue: the article "an" in front of question 6 requires and answer that starts with a vowel sound ("issue" or "option"); Paul is discussing a problem in this sentence, so "issue" is the

best choice.

- 7) leaning: When we "lean away from" an option, we are losing interest in choosing that option ("lean towards" is the opposite).
- 8) think: Paul is giving the message here that he is thinking about something; "consider" is not a good answer, because we do not "consider about" something.
- 9) b: Paul is writing this e-mail because he wants Jim's opinion (=input) on which computer is best.
- 10) b: The reason Paul is asking Jim for his opinion on the computers is that they will both decide on which computer to get. Also, in the last sentence of his e-mail, Paul says to Jim "we'll make a final decision together."
- 11) c: In the sentence that starts with "on the other hand", Paul shows that he is worried that the portable computers may be taken home too often.
- 12) b: In his e-mail, Paul says that he is leaning away from the laptops, so he is losing interest in that option.

Module 3: "Quebec City"

- 1) E: Paragraph B states that "...now (Quebec City) sprawls well beyond its original borders", meaning that the original settlement was smaller than the present-day city, not bigger.
- 2) D: Paragraph D states that Quebec is a "predominantly French-speaking city".
- 3) B: Paragraph B says that the Chateau Frontenac Hotel is famous.
- 4) D: Although Paragraph C mentions "wonderful cobblestone streets and stone buildings", the question asking for <u>one</u> wonderful thing ("wonderful city")
- 5) E: Quebec City was settled by France (or the French), but not in France.
- 6) C: "Something might remind us of another place" equals "the wonderful cobblestone streets and stone buildings, reminiscent perhaps more of Old Europe..."
- 7) D: Paragraph D recommends studying some French before visiting Quebec City.
- 8) E: There is no information that the hotel sits below something (but Paragraph C mentions that Lower Town sits below the hotel).
- 9) B: The St. Lawrence River is mentioned in Paragraph B.
- 10) C: Paragraph C mentions "artists who display their art for sale".
- 11) B: Paragraph B mentions that "Chateau Frontenac...sits atop an embankment overlooking the St. Lawrence River."
- 12) B: In Paragraph B, a "distinctive green roof" represents a certain coloured item.

Module 4: "Climate Change: Real or Not?"

- 1) b: The two arguments which the writer presents are that climate change is real, and that it is not.
- 2) d: In Paragraph 1, "The rift between believers and non-believers seems to be growing, with each side adamant about their respective views" means that each side is maintaining their position.
- 3) d: In Paragraph 2, there is information that pollution is altering (=changing) ocean temperatures, which leads to rising sea levels.
- 4) c: Paragraph 2 says that "supporters...claim that...we can minimize our environmental footprint".
- 5) a: At the end of Paragraph 2, "the businesses that support green efforts" refers to the ones that care about the environment.
- 6) c: In Paragraph 3, "every several millennia" means every few thousand years.
- 7) a: "Views on the topic of climate change vary" means that there are different, or various views on the topic of climate change.
- 8) c: The last sentence of the passage shows that we should take individual responsibility for the environment instead of arguing.
- 9) Personally: "Personally" is the only adverb that fits logically in the sentence.
- 10) chances: The writer of the comment expresses the idea that he does not want to risk (=take chances) damaging the environment.
- 11) on foot: The writer of the comment is expressing how he travels around town (on foot or by bike).
- 12) read: The writer of this response is referring to anyone who has read the article ("read" is in the past tense).

Module 5: "Our New Place in Costa Rica"

- 1) a: Since answer choices "b", "c", and "d" can all be eliminated, "a" is the only choice that remains. Stephen tells Juan that he has found a realtor, that "May (Stephen's wife) and I will be buying a house", and a "real estate agency" is a business, not a person, so logically Juan must be Stephen's friend.
- 2) c: In Paragraph 1, Stephen tells Juan that "all's well in St. John's".
- 3) b: Paragraph 2 and Paragraph 3 both give information about what kind of house they originally wanted, and what they ended up getting.
- 4) c: In Paragraph 3, Stephen says that "May and I decided to put in an offer for the fifth one that we had seen. The offer was not accepted, but the owner countered, and by the end of the day we had a place to call our second home," so the fifth house was the one they bought.
- 5) d: There are 2 houses on the property: The main house has 3 bedrooms, and the guest house has 2 bedrooms, for a total of 5 bedrooms on the property.

- 6) c: Near the end of Paragraph 3, Stephen mentions that there is a kitchen (in the main house), but none in the guest house.
- 7) d: In the last paragraph of his letter, Stephen says to Juan that "The reason I keep mentioning the guest house is that May and I would love to see you and Carla there."
- 8) knew: Juan had expected Stephen to buy a house, so the past tense verb "knew" is used.
- 9) something: Here, "something" refers to a house. All the other answer choices are grammatically incorrect for Stephen's situation.
- 10) plan: The only possible answer choice for the sentence "When do you ____ on moving in there?" is "plan" because of the preposition "on"
- 11) once: In this sentence, "once" has the meaning of "when".
- 12) far from: In this sentence, Juan is telling Stephen that Mexico is not so far from Costa Rica, and that it is "only an hour or so by plane."

Module 6: "A Special Birthday Present"

- 1) aunt: Because of the article "an" in front of the question, "aunt" is the only possible answer.
- 2) afford: In this sentence, the only logical answer is afford. Choosing "care" would require the preposition "for" after it. Choosing "get" would mean that Samantha was planning on getting all three kinds of animals, which she is not. Choosing "adapt" would be a wrong vocabulary choice ("adopt" would be correct).
- 3) three: In this case, "three" is a short form of "three ideas", "three options", or "three animals".
- 4) bird: A bird is the only animal among the three choices that can swing back and forth and chirp.
- 5) bored: In this sentence, the message that Samantha is giving is that her daughter could get bored by the bird's constant staring, swinging, and maybe chirping.
- 6) cat: "Cat" is the only logical answer choice. "Dogs" could possibly be a correct choice if it were singular, although it does not appear in the diagram as a choice.
- 7) messing: Because a bird would stay in the cage, it wouldn't mess up the house like a loose cat or rabbit might.
- 8) sort: "some sort of cage" = some kind of cage
- 9) c: "Coming up" means approaching, or coming soon.
- 10) d: In Paragraph 1 of Samantha's e-mail to Marisa, Samantha establishes that Marisa is Jennifer's aunt. From this, we can figure out that Marisa is Samantha's sister.
- 11) b: At the end of her e-mail, Samantha tells Marisa that she will phone her later that night to talk more about it.

12) c: In Paragraph 3, Samantha says that a bird may be boring (a disadvantage), but that it would not mess up the house (an advantage).

Module 7: "The Chinook Wind"

- 1) C: Paragraph C mentions that the wind "rolls down the east side of the Rockies (and) picks up speed".
- 2) B: Paragraph B describes a Chinook as a "wind that blows from west to east".
- 3) D: "Drastic" or extreme increases in temperature are provided in the first sentence of Paragraph D.
- 4) E: There is no information about people going to the doctor during a Chinook.
- 5) B: Paragraph B says that "a Chinook wind originates over the Pacific Ocean."
- 6) A: Paragraph A mentions Europe and Japan.
- 7) C: Paragraph C mentions that the wind "warms up".
- 8) E: It is not headaches that can cause a change in air pressure, but a change in air pressure (mentioned in Paragraph D)
- 9) A: Paragraph A mentions that Chinooks occur mostly in winter.
- 10) C: The first two sentences in Paragraph C explain that the wind behind pushes the wind in front.
- 11) D: A "downside" is a disadvantage, which is that people sometimes get headaches during a Chinook.
- 12) B: The reading passage mentions two provinces: Paragraph B says that the wind goes across BC, and Paragraph C says that the wind then goes across Alberta.

Module 8: "Adapting to a New Country"

- 1) d: In Paragraph 1, and throughout the reading passage, the writer talks about the challenges (=difficulties) of moving to a new country.
- 2) b: In Paragraph 1, the writer mentions how challenging it can be to move to an unfamiliar place.
- 3) a: In Paragraph 1, the writer mentions that he did not know much "about the people, the language, the weather, and the way things work."
- 4) c: In Paragraph 2, the writer mentions that his family "had a variety of language issues right from the start."
- 5) d: In Paragraph 2, the writer says that he was "desperate to make friends".
- 6) a: In Paragraph 2, the classmates show that they are curious by asking many questions.
- 7) a: The first sentence in Paragraph 3 shows that the writer used a difficult experience to improve himself.

- 8) c: In Paragraph 3, the writer says that the most significant thing he did was to embrace his opportunity to immerse himself in the culture.
- 9) painful: The writer of this comment did not know a word of English, so it would have been a painful experience.
- 10) expecting: People were looking at this person, expecting her to say something.
- 11) smile: This person could not speak or answer, only smile. "solve" does not make sense in this sentence, and grammatically it requires and object after it.
- 12) months: Among the answer choices, "months" is the most logical period of time for learning a language "pretty fast".

Module 9: "The Resignation Letter"

- 1) a: At the time of this letter, Mr. Senopal is (in the process of) quitting his job.
- 2) b: In Paragraph 4, Mr. Senopal says that Ms. Malone is his supervisor, or superior.
- 3) c: In Paragraph 2, the last two sentences explain that Mr. Senopal was put on the company's first project.
- 4) b: Paragraph 3 explains that Mr. Senopal worked in Alberta and Saskatchewan.
- 5) d: Paragraph 3 mentions that "We continued to grow over the course of several years, thanks to the success of our projects." = The success of the projects resulted in growth.
- 6) d: In Paragraph 4, Mr. Senopal shows direct appreciation for Ms. Malone.
- 7) c: In the last paragraph of his letter, Mr. Senopal is requesting for Ms. Malone to confirm if April 30 will be his last day with the company.
- 8) respect: "respect" is the only logical choice for this sentence ("agree" would require the preposition "with" or "to").
- 9) beginnings: "small beginnings" refers to the small size that the company started at.
- 10) started: Fred and Sam started the company in a small office.
- 11) date: "final date" refers to Mr. Senopal's request to finish working on April 30.
- 12) adjust: Ms. Malone may have to adjust (=move or change) the finish date.

Module 10: "School Chairs"

- 1) compile: "compile" = collect/gather
- 2) free: "Feel free" means to do something without hesitation.
- 3) total: The school will need a total of 150 chairs, or 150 chairs in total.
- 4) used: The students will use most of the chairs on a daily basis.
- 5) fabric: Stella is explaining that the construction and the fabric of the chairs should be strong.

- 6) easy: Stella expresses that chairs that are easy to clean would be better, since they will get quite dirty.
- 7) cheaper: a cheaper alternative (=choice) would be more within budget (=affordable).
- 8) roll: "Casters" are wheels or rollers (shown in the diagram on the middle chair).
- 9) a: In the second sentence of her e-mail, Stella apologizes.
- 10) c: Near the end of her e-mail, Stella says that the cheaper chairs may cause students to roll.
- 11) a: The diagram shows that two of the chairs are easy to clean.
- 12) b: In the last sentence of her e-mail to Geoff, Stella says "Let's discuss this purchase at the budget meeting this afternoon."

Module 11: "Education in Canada"

- 1) E: The passage only mentions two levels of secondary school (mentioned in Paragraph B)
- 2) D: Paragraph D mentions that parents make time to attend the parent-teacher meetings.
- 3) B: Paragraph B mentions that Quebec offers CEGEP between high school and university.
- 4) A: In Paragraph A, "literacy" refers to the ability to read and write.
- 5) D: Paragraph D mentions the important information that assessments provide.
- 6) A: Paragraph A says that "Education is considered a fundamental right in most countries, including Canada."
- 7) C: Paragraph C mentions that children start elementary school at 6 years old, and finish grade 6 when they are 12, after which they go on to junior high; this tells us that there are 6 grades in high school.
- 8) C: In Paragraph C, the sentence "Although children generally proceed through the school system from one grade to the next, it is not unheard of for a child to either repeat a grade, or to skip a grade" shows that not all children advance non-stop through the school system.
- 9) E: Paragraph A says that Canada's literacy rate is "among the highest of any nation", which means that it is not the highest.
- 10) A: Paragraph A says "As in most countries, the earlier years of education are compulsory."
- 11) D: Paragraph D mentions that "At all levels of education, informal and formal testing is used".
- 12) E: CEGEP comes after grade 11, not before (mentioned in Paragraph B)

Module 12: "Canada's Game"

1) d: Paragraph 1 says that hockey is the most popular sport.

- 2) b: The last sentence of Paragraph 1 says that "most Canadians would agree...that, more than any other sport, hockey is enjoyed by Canadians as both a sport to watch and as a sport to play."
- 3) b: Paragraph 2 explains that hockey is played by many kinds of people.
- 4) a: In Paragraph 2, the writer says that "I think participating in this great sport not only keeps you fit, but provides great fun".
- 5) c: In Paragraph 3, the sentence "Most of these teams have won the coveted Stanley Cup trophy" has the same meaning as "Most of the NHL teams in Canada have won a Stanley Cup."
- 6) d: In Paragraph 4, teams from other countries have also been winning gold" tells us that Canada does not always win gold.
- 7) c: In the last paragraph, the writer says "I was lucky enough to see both the men's and the women's teams play for the gold medal."
- 8) a: In Paragraph 4, the writer says "It's more fun to watch a close game than for it to be lop-sided", which has the same basic meaning as "competition increases the entertainment value of a hockey game."
- 9) agree: the writer of the comment agrees with the writer of the essay that hockey is very popular in Canada.
- 10) prefer: In the grammar structure "There's something about lacrosse that I ____ to hockey", the only possible option is "prefer".
- 11) match: If "games" and "competitions" had been in the singular, they would have also been correct answers.
- 12) deserves: "Deserves" means "should get", which makes sense in the sentence "It should get much more attention than it gets."

There are two tasks in the Writing Test. You have 53 minutes to complete both.

Task 1: Writing an E-mail (27 minutes/150-200 words)

You have bought a product from a company, but you are not satisfied with it. Your e-mail must include the following points:

- The kind of product that you bought
- Where you bought it/How much it cost
- The problem with the product
- What you would like the company to do about the problem

Task 2: Responding to Survey Questions (26 minutes/150-200 words)

Your post office wants to improve its postal services to its customers. They are considering two options. They want to know your opinion. Which choice do you prefer? Explain why you prefer that choice. Also explain the problems with the other choice.

Option 1: Install "superboxes" in each neighbourhood: People would walk or drive to the superbox in their neighbourhood in order to pick up their mail every day. This would save a lot of money in costs every year, which would keep the price of postal service down year after year. Home delivery would stop, so it would be less convenient for people, especially during winter.

Option 2: Continue door-to-door mail delivery: People would continue to have mail delivered to their homes every day. However, postal rates would increase steadily year after year.

There are two tasks in the Writing Test. You have 53 minutes to complete both.

Task 1: Writing an E-mail (27 minutes/150-200 words)

You want to stay at a hotel. Your e-mail must include the following points:

- The purpose of your visit
- Why you want to stay at that specific hotel
- What kind of room you want
- When you are arriving/how long you are staying

Task 2: Responding to Survey Questions (26 minutes/150-200 words)

Your company is considering giving the employees one additional benefit. They would like to know which benefit the employees would prefer. Which choice do you prefer? Explain why you prefer that choice. Also explain the problems with the other choice.

Option 1: Provide an education benefit: The company would pay for an employee's tuition fees if the employee takes a college or university course.

Option 2: Provide a fitness benefit: The company would pay for an employee's membership fees if the employee joins an gym or health club.

There are two tasks in the Writing Test. You have 53 minutes to complete both.

Task 1: Writing an E-mail (27 minutes/150-200 words)

You ordered something online last month, and you have still not received it. Write an e-mail to the company. Your e-mail must include the following points:

- The kind of product that you ordered
- The date that you ordered it/How much you paid for it/How you paid for it
- Your disappointment in the company
- What you would like the company to do about this situation

Task 2: Responding to Survey Questions (26 minutes/150-200 words)

Your community association would like to build a new community hall. They are thinking about what kind of community hall to build. They want to know your opinion. Which choice do you prefer? Explain why you prefer that choice. Also explain the problems with the other choice.

Option 1: Build a community hall with one big room: The capacity of the room will be 200 people.

Option 2: Build a community hall with three rooms: One room will be big, with a 100-person capacity; the other two rooms will be smaller, each with a 50-person capacity.

There are two tasks in the Writing Test. You have 53 minutes to complete both.

Task 1: Writing an E-mail (27 minutes/150-200 words)

Your friend would like to go on a trip with you. Unfortunately, you cannot go. Write an e-mail to your friend. Your e-mail must include the following points:

- A thank you for the invitation
- An apology that you cannot go on the trip
- The reason that you cannot go on the trip
- A suggestion about what you can do together next time

Task 2: Responding to Survey Questions (26 minutes/150-200 words)

Your city would like to build a bridge over the river that flows through the city. The city is thinking about what kind of bridge to build. They want to know your opinion. Which choice do you prefer? Explain why you prefer that choice. Also explain the problems with the other choice.

Option 1: Build a narrow, cheaper bridge: The bridge would have one vehicle lane each way, and sidewalks for pedestrians.

Option 2: Build a wider, more expensive bridge: The bridge would have two vehicle lanes each way, but no sidewalks for pedestrians.

There are two tasks in the Writing Test. You have 53 minutes to complete both.

Task 1: Writing an E-mail (27 minutes/150-200 words)

Your boss would like you to organize this month's staff party. Write an e-mail to your boss. Your e-mail must include the following points:

- A thank you for the task
- Questions regarding the date, time, and duration of the party
- Suggestions from as to a possible party theme and location
- Information about giving your boss an update

Task 2: Responding to Survey Questions (26 minutes/150-200 words)

Your provincial government wants to provide more public services. They are considering adding more hospitals or more universities to the province. They want to know your opinion. Which choice do you prefer? Explain why you prefer that choice. Also explain the problems with the other choice.

Option 1: Build more hospitals: A growing, aging population would benefit from an increased number of hospital beds.

Option 2: Build more universities: The annual number of university applicants is higher than the number of seats available.

There are two tasks in the Writing Test. You have 53 minutes to complete both.

Task 1: Writing an E-mail (27 minutes/150-200 words)

Your friend borrowed your new music CD last week. Now you see that it is broken. Write an e-mail to your friend. Your e-mail must include the following points:

- A description of the music CD
- Information about when you discovered the damage, and what kind of damage there is
- Information about how you think the CD broke
- A suggestion as to what to do about the broken CD

Task 2: Responding to Survey Questions (26 minutes/150-200 words)

Your local library wants to provide more services to its members. They are considering two options. They want to know your opinion. Which choice do you prefer? Explain why you prefer that choice. Also explain the problems with the other choice.

Option 1: Install TV sets: This would allow library users to follow news and other important events while they are in the library; however, it would add some noise to the library environment.

Option 2: Install a play area for children: This would allow parents with young children to focus on looking for books, and reading, instead of focusing on their children. It would also create some noise in the library.

There are two tasks in the Writing Test. You have 53 minutes to complete both.

Task 1: Writing an E-mail (27 minutes/150-200 words)

Your travel agent made a mistake with your airplane ticket. Write an e-mail to your travel agent. Your e-mail must include the following points:

- Some general information about the ticket
- A description of the problem
- What you would like the travel agent to do
- A thank you to the travel agent for solving the problem

Task 2: Responding to Survey Questions (26 minutes/150-200 words)

Your company is considering keeping the current vacation policy, or changing it. They want to know your opinion. Which choice do you prefer? Explain why you prefer that choice. Also explain the problems with the other choice.

Option 1: Current Vacation Policy: All employees get two weeks off in summer, and one week off in winter.

Option 2: Proposed Vacation Policy: All employees get one week off in summer, and three weeks off in winter.

There are two tasks in the Writing Test. You have 53 minutes to complete both.

Task 1: Writing an E-mail (27 minutes/150-200 words)

Your friend wants to renovate her old kitchen. Write an e-mail to your friend. Your e-mail must include the following points:

- Some comments on her decision to renovate
- Some advice on what she should consider when renovating
- An offer to go with her to visit some home renovation stores
- A good luck wish on the renovation

Task 2: Responding to Survey Questions (26 minutes/150-200 words)

Your community association is organizing a spring celebration for their 25th anniversary, to be held in April of the coming year. They want to know your opinion. Which choice do you prefer? Explain why you prefer that choice. Also explain the problems with the other choice.

Option 1: Plan a celebration inside the community association hall. This would accommodate a maximum of 50 people. The celebration would not be affected by bad weather.

Option 2: Plan a celebration outside the community association hall. This would accommodate a maximum of 200 people. The celebration would be affected if the weather were bad.

There are two tasks in the Writing Test. You have 53 minutes to complete both.

Task 1: Writing an E-mail (27 minutes/150-200 words)

Your neighbour wants to build a fence between your two properties. Write an e-mail to your neighbour. Your e-mail must include the following points:

- Some positive comments on the idea of building a fence
- Some concerns that you have regarding the building of the fence
- Some suggestions you have regarding the planning and payment of the fence
- A wish that the final result will be acceptable to your neighbour and yourself

Task 2: Responding to Survey Questions (26 minutes/150-200 words)

Your city council wants to revitalize the downtown area. They want to know your opinion. Which choice do you prefer? Explain why you prefer that choice. Also explain the problems with the other choice.

Option 1: Make some major changes over a short period of two years. This would mean that the "new" downtown would be ready sooner. It would also mean a lot of construction in many parts of the city at one time.

Option 2: Make changes gradually over the next five years. It would take longer for the downtown area to be revitalized. It would also

mean fewer construction projects happening at any one time.

There are two tasks in the Writing Test. You have 53 minutes to complete both.

Task 1: Writing an E-mail (27 minutes/150-200 words)

You have bought a dining set from a furniture store. Unfortunately, after one month, you have discovered a problem. Write an e-mail to the furniture store. Your e-mail must include the following points:

- Some positive comments on the dining set
- A description of the problem
- What you would like the furniture store to do about the problem

Task 2: Responding to Survey Questions (26 minutes/150-200 words)

The office where you work has an idea for a new dress code. They want to know your opinion. Which choice do you prefer? Explain why you prefer that choice. Also explain the problems with the other choice.

Option 1: Introduce the idea of "casual Fridays". This would allow all employees to start wearing jeans, T-shirts, and other informal clothes every Friday. Employees would still be expected to wear more formal clothes from Monday to Thursday.

Option 2: Do not introduce the idea of "casual Fridays". Employees would continue having to wear formal office clothing every day of the week, from Monday to Friday.

There are two tasks in the Writing Test. You have 53 minutes to complete both.

Task 1: Writing an E-mail (27 minutes/150-200 words)

Your friend is looking for a job. Write an e-mail to your friend. Your e-mail must include the following points:

- Some positive comments on your friend's decision to look for a job
- Some advice on how he can improve his chances of getting a job
- Some ideas about where he can apply for a job
- A positive wish to your friend about finding a job

Task 2: Responding to Survey Questions (26 minutes/150-200 words)

A restaurant in your neighbourhood is planning some renovations. They want to know the opinions of the neighbourhood residents. Which choice do you prefer? Explain why you prefer that choice. Also explain the problems with the other choice.

Option 1: Build an outdoor patio. That would allow people to enjoy their meals outside in the summer. It would not be used during winter, and could possibly be used in spring and fall.

Option 2: Build a larger bar. That would allow more people to sit down at the bar for an alcoholic drink. It would also mean more people drinking more alcohol.

There are two tasks in the Writing Test. You have 53 minutes to complete both.

Task 1: Writing an E-mail (27 minutes/150-200 words)

You want to study at a language school. Write an e-mail to the school. Your e-mail must include the following points:

- Some information about yourself, and why you would like to study there
- Some questions about the courses they have, and the tuition fees
- Appreciation in advance for answering your e-mail with your requested information

Task 2: Responding to Survey Questions (26 minutes/150-200 words)

A supermarket in your neighbourhood is planning to change their business hours. They want to know the opinions of the neighbourhood residents. Which choice do you prefer? Explain why you prefer that choice. Also explain the problems with the other choice.

Option 1: Keep the current business hours: The supermarket opens at 9:00 a.m., and closes at 9:00 p.m. The hours are good for the workers, but inconvenient for some customers.

Option 2: Change the business hours: The supermarket would remain open 24 hours a day, every day of the year except Christmas Day and New Year's Day. The hours would be convenient for all the customers. There could also be traffic in the area at all hours.

Sample Writing Responses

Module 1 Task 1: Writing an E-mail (27 minutes/150-200 words)

You have bought a product from a company, but you are not satisfied with it. Your e-mail must include the following points:

- The kind of product that you bought
- Where you bought it/How much it cost
- The problem with the product
- What you would like the company to do about the problem

Basic Response (154 words):

Dear Sir or Madam:

I bought a product from you last month. It was a 100% cotton shirt, with short sleeves and two pockets. I was very happy when I got it in the mail.

I bought it online from your website (www.shirtworld.ca). It cost \$20.99, plus HST and shipping and handling. I paid for it with my credit card.

I like the shirt, but there is a problem. I washed it just once, and the colour is gone. When I got it in the mail, the shirt was a beautiful blue. But when I washed it, the blue was almost gone. Now the shirt is almost white.

I am not happy. I would like a new shirt from you if possible. Or I would like my money back. Please tell me what you can do about this problem.

Thank you for helping me. I look forward to your answer.

Yours truly,

Yuki Tanaka

Advanced Response (200 words):

Dear Sir or Madam:

I bought a product from you approximately one month ago. It was a 100% cotton shirt, with short sleeves and two breast pockets. I was very happy when I received it in the mail.

I purchased it online from your website (www.shirtworld.ca). It cost \$20.99, plus HST and shipping and handling, for a total of \$36. I purchased it with my credit card.

I like the shirt, but there is one major problem with it. After washing it just once, I noticed that the colour had faded almost completely. When I received it in the mail, the shirt was a beautiful navy blue.

However, after going through just one wash, the shirt had lost its beautiful colour, to the point of being almost completely white.

I am really unhappy about this. I would like a new shirt from your company, if you could arrange that. Alternatively, I would like a refund, for the shirt itself and for the shipping and handling. Please advise me as to what you plan on doing to rectify this problem.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter. I look forward to your earliest reply.

Yours truly,

Yuki Tanaka

Module 1 Task 2: Responding to Survey Questions (26 minutes/150-200 words)

Your post office wants to improve its postal services to its customers. They are considering two options. They want to know your opinion. Which choice do you prefer? Explain why you prefer that choice. Also explain the problems with the other choice.

Option 1: Install "superboxes" in each neighbourhood: People would walk or drive to the superbox in their neighbourhood in order to pick up their mail every day. This would save a lot of money in costs every year, which would keep the price of postal service down year after year. Home delivery would stop, so it would be less convenient for people, especially during winter.

Option 2: Continue door-to-door mail delivery: People would continue to have mail delivered to their homes every day. However, postal rates would increase steadily year after year.

Basic Response (158 words):

My name is Abdul Aziz. I have lived in this neighbourhood for two years. I want to give my opinion on the postal service.

I like idea 1. It is cheap. If we have superboxes, the post office can save money. They don't have to pay so much for their workers. The post office workers can just drive to the superboxes. They can put all the mail in the superbox. That will be very fast. Maybe it will only take a few minutes. They do not need to go to each house. That will save money. It means that the price of postal service will stay low.

I do not really like idea 2. It is too expensive. The post office has to pay for the post office workers to go to every house. That means the postal rates will keep going up every year. That is not a good idea.

Thank you for listening to my opinion.

Advanced Response (200 words):

My name is Abdul Aziz. I have lived in this neighbourhood for the past two years. I would like to give my opinion on the post office's idea of improving its postal service.

In my opinion, the post office should go with the first idea. The main reason is that it is a cheaper alternative. By installing superboxes, the post office can save on costs. In particular, they will not have to spend so much on the postal carriers' wages. The postal carriers will simply be able to drive to the superboxes. They can drop all the mail off in the superboxes, which is extremely time efficient. It will typically take only a few minutes to fill each superbox. The carriers will not have to visit each house, thereby saving on time and wages. As a result, postal rates will stay low.

On the other hand, it is too expensive to go with the second idea. The postal carriers will have to be paid more in order to deliver mail to every home. That would result in an increase in postal rates every year. It would be a bad idea.

Thank you for listening to my opinion on this matter.

Module 2 Task 1: Writing an E-mail (27 minutes/150-200 words)

You want to stay at a hotel. Your e-mail must include the following points:

- The purpose of your visit
- Why you want to stay at that specific hotel
- What kind of room you want
- When you are arriving/how long you are staying

Basic Response (157 words):

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am going to visit Montreal for a vacation. I would like to stay at your hotel.

I would like to stay at your hotel because it is so beautiful. I saw pictures of your hotel on the Internet. It looks very nice. Also, your hotel is in downtown Montreal. That means I can walk. I do not need to take the bus or a taxi.

I would like a double room. If possible, I would like a room with a nice view. And I would like a quiet room. Also, I would like a room on the first or the second floor. If you have a room like that, I would like to reserve it.

I am going to Montreal on October 5. I am going to stay for two nights. So I will check in on October 5, and I will check out on October 7.

Thank you for your assistance.

Mohinder Singh

Advanced Response (200 words):

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am sending you this e-mail for a possible booking request. I will be visiting Montreal for a brief vacation, and I would like to stay at your hotel during my visit.

I am interested in staying at your hotel, partly because it looks so beautiful. I saw some amazing pictures of your hotel on the Internet. It looks incredible. I would also like to stay at your hotel as it is located in downtown Montreal. That convenient location means that I should be able to get around on foot. I would not need to take public transit if I stayed at your hotel.

I would like to book a double room, and if possible, one with a nice view. I would also like to request a quiet room. Finally, a room on the first or the second floor would be great. If you have any such room like that, I would like to book it.

I am arriving in Montreal on October 5, and I will be staying for two nights; basically, I will check in on October 5, and check out on October 7.

Thank you in advance for arranging this for me.

Regards,

Mohinder Singh

Module 2 Task 2: Responding to Survey Questions (26 minutes/150-200 words)

Your company is considering giving the employees one additional benefit. They would like to know which benefit the employees would prefer. Which choice do you prefer? Explain why you prefer that choice. Also explain the problems with the other choice.

Option 1: Provide an education benefit: The company would pay for an employee's tuition fees if the employee takes a college or university course.

Option 2: Provide a fitness benefit: The company would pay for an employee's membership fees if the employee joins an gym or health club.

Basic Response (156 words):

I am a worker in this company. Thank you for asking me for my opinion. I think we should choose option 1.

Option 1 is a very good choice. That is because many workers want to learn something. If we learn something, we can be a better worker. For example, if I learn how to use some computer software, I can be a better secretary. We need to go to school for that. I really want to go to school to be a better secretary. So I think option 1 is a very good idea.

Option 2 is not a good idea. That is because I can exercise at home. I do not need to go to a gym. It is better if the company pays for the workers to go to school. We can exercise at home, but we cannot go to school at home.

I hope you will make a good decision. Thank you.

Advanced Response (200 words):

I have been employed with this company since 2014. Thank you for asking me for my opinion regarding an additional benefit. Option 1 would probably be a better alternative.

One reason has to do with upgrading. So many of us employees want to learn something that will help us to do our jobs better. For instance, learning some of the latest computer software programs would make me a better secretary. In order to learn properly, we would need to go to school for that. It is actually a dream of mine to be able to go back to school in order to become a better secretary. Therefore, I think option 1 would be a very good idea.

Conversely, option 2 would probably not be the best idea. We are able to work out at home, so going to the gym would not really be necessary. It would be better for the company to pay for the workers to go to school. In a nutshell, we can exercise at home, but we cannot go to school at home.

I hope you will make a decision that will be in the best interests of all employees. Thank you for considering my opinion.