# Listening

## Listening Test Instructions

1. There are 8 parts in this test.
2. For each part you will hear the audio clip only once. Answer the questions based on what you remember from the audio clip.
3. When you mouse over an option, it will change colour. You must CLICK on the answer to choose it. When you click on the answer you want, it will be bolded and underlined. To change your answer, click on the answer you want to choose.
4. The time bar will show you how much time you have to complete each part. When you are ready for the next part of the Listening Test, click on "NEXT."
5. On the official test, once you leave a page, you cannot go back to it to change your answers. However, in this practice test, you can.
6. You have 46 minutes to complete the Listening Test.

# Listening Part 1: Identifying Similar Meanings

Listen to each short statement. You will only hear each statement once.

Choose the one sentence that is closest in meaning to each statement.



# Question 1 of 8

## Choose the sentence that is closest in meaning to the statement.

Jack does a lot of his business in Winnipeg.

Jack is studying in Winnipeg.

Jack was once a student in Winnipeg.

Jack does a lot of shopping in Winnipeg.



# Question 2 of 8

## Choose the sentence that is closest in meaning to the statement.

I took the car into the repair shop.

The car is running really well.

The car cannot be repaired.

I’m fixing the car now.



# Question 3 of 8

## Choose the sentence that is closest in meaning to the statement.

Sam is arriving shortly.

Sam won’t be home for a while.

Sam will be home tomorrow.

Sam is returning tomorrow.



# Question 4 of 8

## Choose the sentence that is closest in meaning to the statement.

Phil missed the beginning of the movie.

Phil didn’t really like the movie.

Phil thought the movie was interesting.

Phil missed the end of the movie.



# Question 5 of 8

## Choose the sentence that is closest in meaning to the statement.

Wendy is unemployed.

Wendy was promoted.

Wendy moved away.

Wendy is very busy.



# Question 6 of 8

## Choose the sentence that is closest in meaning to the statement.

You decide when to pay.

There is no charge for this.

We collect fees in advance.

The price of the service went up.

# 

# Question 7 of 8

## Choose the sentence that is closest in meaning to the statement.

I’m afraid of flying.

I may be able to travel tomorrow.

I’m unhappy about flying tomorrow.

I need to postpone my trip.



# Question 8 of 8

## Choose the sentence that is closest in meaning to the statement.

Jacob works very hard.

Jacob’s job is exhausting.

Jacob is working hard.

Lately, Jacob works very little.

# Listening Part 2: Answering Short Questions

Listen to each question. You will only hear each question once.

Choose the best answer to each question.



# Question 1 of 8

## Choose the best answer.

Going straight to the hotel sounds good.

It is the best place in town by far.

You should probably get a taxi from here.

You have to pay a lot to stay there.



# Question 2 of 8

## Choose the best answer.

It was pretty dull if you ask me.

Yes, but it was a tiring game.

They seldom go to the theater.

Sure, I’d love to play with them.



# Question 3 of 8

## Choose the best answer.

I really love tropical destinations.

It’s a non-refundable ticket.

I don’t have money for vacation.

Quite a bit since it’s high season.



# Question 4 of 8

## Choose the best answer.

I’m looking for the manager.

Thank you, I appreciate it.

The staff is really helpful.

I could carry your bags.

# 

# Question 5 of 8

## Choose the best answer.

She’ll come, I guess.

She was out of town.

She is the life of the party.

I think she enjoyed it.



# Question 6 of 8

## Choose the best answer.

I think you should study business.

I had mine stolen months ago.

Computer science is very interesting.

I think your old one will do just fine.

# 

# Question 7 of 8

## Choose the best answer.

It’s about halfway done.

I’m a full-time student.

I’ll probably get there by bus.

It’s not a long commute to school.



# Question 8 of 8

## Choose the best answer.

There are many positions advertised.

The company only hires skilled people.

Sure, I’ve been thinking about changing jobs.

The company offers a great benefits package.

# Listening Part 3: Listening to Problem Solving

You will hear a conversation between two people at a hair salon. One is a customer, and the other is a hair stylist.

 Listen to the conversation. You will hear the conversation only once. It is about 1 to 1.5 minutes long.

# Question 1 of 8

## Choose the best answer to each question.

to inquire if Tim is available

to change her hair colour

to get a wash and blow dry

to change her appointment

# Question 2 of 8

## Choose the best answer to each question.

She lets only Tim do her hair.

The salon is closing shortly.

A friend is meeting her soon.

Her visit will take a full hour.

# Question 3 of 8

## Choose the best answer to each question.

9:00 a.m.

1:00 p.m.

1:30 p.m.

3:30 p.m.

Listen to the conversation. You will hear the conversation only once. It is about 1 to 1.5 minutes long.

# Question 4 of 8

## Choose the best answer to each question.

She is cautious.

She is a risk taker.

She is a professional.

She is an actress.

# Question 5 of 8

## Choose the best answer to each question.

when the next trim will be needed

whether to change the hairstyle

where to add the desired layers

which shade of hair colour to use

# Question 6 of 8

## Choose the best answer to each question.

disappointed

grateful

impressed

Overjoyed

Listen to the conversation. You will hear the conversation only once. It is about 1 to 1.5 minutes long.

# Question 7 of 8

## Choose the best answer to each question.

Come back for a touch-up in a month.

Protect the colour with a special product.

Regular shampoo will damage her hair.

Try to use only all-natural hair products.

# Question 8 of 8

## Choose the best answer to each question.

She now has more confidence in his abilities.

He will have gained experienced by then.

She now is comfortable with his personality.

He will need to do a full haircut next time.

# Listening Part 4: Conversation One

1. You will hear a conversation followed by five questions.
2. Listen to each question. You will only hear the questions once.
3. Choose the best answer to each question.

### Instructions:

### You will hear a conversation. The conversation is between two journalists. The man is telling the woman about a problem with an interview.

Listen to the conversation. You will only hear the conversation once. It is about 2 to 2.5 minutes long.

****

# Question 1 of 5

## Choose the best answer.

His magazine article was cancelled.

He will miss a music concert tomorrow.

He missed an interview opportunity.

His interview got postponed to next week.

# Question 2 of 5

## Choose the best answer.

She changed managers.

She has fallen ill unexpectedly.

She moved to New York.

She had a family emergency

# Question 3 of 5

## Choose the best answer.

She never left a contact number.

She only meets journalists face to face.

She is too sick to speak to the press.

She’s visiting her sister in New York.

# Question 4 of 5

## Choose the best answer.

Try to interview the artist while she’s in New York.

Contact another artist who is friends with her sister.

Arrange a phone interview with the artist.

Write his articles so he can go to New York.

# Question 5 of 5

## Choose the best answer.

Pay her for the article.

Fill in for her for five days.

Take her on vacation.

Cover her ticket costs.

# Listening Part 4: Conversation Two

1. You will hear a conversation followed by six questions.
2. Listen to each question. You will only hear the questions once.
3. Choose the best answer to each question.

You will hear a conversation. A woman is calling a garden store about her problems with garden pests.

Listen to the conversation. You will only hear the conversation once. It is about 2 to 2.5 minutes long.



# Question 1 of 6

## Choose the best answer.

The vegetables in her garden won’t grow from seeds.

She can’t afford the products she needs to buy.

Slugs have attacked part of her vegetable garden.

Chemicals used for pests destroyed her vegetables.

# Question 2 of 6

## Choose the best answer.

The woman is using the wrong product.

The woman is not watering the soil enough.

The woman is planting in the wrong season.

There has been an excessive amount of rain.

# Question 3 of 6

## Choose the best answer.

They make the environment unpleasant for slugs.

They absorb toxic chemicals from the soil.

They aerate the soil for better water absorption.

They enrich the soil with calcium particles.

# Question 4 of 6

## Choose the best answer.

They provide protection against flooding.

The pests cannot cross over the coils.

They release nutrients into the earth.

They release chemicals that kill pests.

# Question 5 of 6

## Choose the best answer.

The woman can use 1 cent coins.

The woman can purchase plant food.

The woman can use steel wire.

The woman can plant more vegetables.

# Question 6 of 6

## Choose the best answer.

To purchase an item that is currently out of stock.

To pick up an eggshell soil mixture that will be on sale.

To attend a workshop on how to prepare soil.

To see another sales associate who is an expert.

# Listening Part 6: News Item

Listening to a News Item

1. You will hear a news item once, then five questions will appear. It is about 1.5 minutes long.
2. Choose the best way to complete each sentence from the drop-down menu.

You will hear a news item about a very talented bird.

Listen to the following news item. You will only hear the news item once. It is about 1.5 minutes long.



# Choose the best way to complete each statement from the drop-down menu.

## 1. When Lang found the bird

it jumped onto him.

it had been lost since yesterday.

he immediately called the animal shelter.

he said hello to it.

## 2. Lang learned that the bird

was his professor’s pet.

was part of a research project.

was of a rare parrot species.

would only eat popcorn.

## 3. Anna Grey

works at the animal shelter.

attends class with Henry Lang.

is studying animal language.

is teaching the bird to sing.

## 4. The parrot

escaped from Henry Lang’s house.

stayed at Henry Lang’s house for a couple of days.

was used by Henry Lang in an experiment.

spent the weekend in a research laboratory.

## 5. Henry Lang

has begun to study animal communication.

has found a new summer job at the shelter.

was allowed to keep the parrot at his home.

now teaches the parrot opera singing.

# Listening Part 7: Listening to a Discussion

**Listening to a Discussion**

* + You will watch a 2-minute video. Then 8 questions will appear.
  + Choose the best way to answer each question.

You will watch a discussion between three people having a meeting. They are parents who volunteer to help run their children’s elementary school.



Watch the discussion. You will watch the discussion only once. It is about 1.5 to 2 minutes long.

# 1. What is the main problem for the speakers? ▾

Birds are ruining school property.

Large dogs are running off leash.

Protected species are being harmed.

Residents are shooting city wildlife.

# 2. What must be true of the man wearing a black shirt? ▾

He has created a website.

He has a brother or sister.

He has an energetic dog.

He has tried eating goose.

# 3. What must be true of the school? ▾

It lacks sufficient operating funds.

It enjoys having annual guests.

The administration is too strict.

The cleaning staff are on strike.

# 4. Within city boundaries, which statement is true? ▾

Bylaws allow shooting turkeys but not geese.

Hunting is permitted if the landowner agrees.

Residents can hunt animals only in November.

Shooting wildlife is prohibited by local bylaws.

# 5. What does the man wearing a green shirt say about goose? ▾

It tastes a lot better than turkey.

It should be a protected species.

It is not available here in the city.

It serves as food in some regions.

# 6. What’s the problem with the paid contractors? ▾

There are too many of them.

There isn’t funding for them.

They take too long to arrive.

They won’t work weekends.

# 7. Why aren’t the parents volunteering? ▾

They are not available on call 24/7.

They can’t get the principal’s approval.

They don’t own very large dogs.

They are not aware of the program.

# 8. What does the committee decide to do? ▾

ask the parents to help out

hire a janitor to work on call

monitor the area for dogs

notify school administrators

# Listening Part 8: Viewpoints

Listening to Viewpoints

1. On the next page, you will hear a report once. It is about 3 minutes long.
2. Six questions will then appear.
3. Choose the best way to complete each statement from the drop-down menu.

Instructions:

You will hear a report about fish farming in Canada. The environmental impact of fish farming is discussed in detail.

Listen to the following report. You will only hear the report once. It is about 3 minutes long.



# Choose the best way to complete each statement from the drop-down menu.

## 1. Fish farming on the Canadian coast

is a recently founded industry.

is a local subsistence practice.

has recently been banned.

has received a lot of opposition.

## 2. EarthFirst claims that fish farms

lead to the growth of toxic organisms in the sea.

use disinfectants that kill surrounding sea plants.

can accidentally capture and kill wild fish.

have difficulty purchasing appropriate nutrients.

## 3. Native fish populations are endangered due to

fish farmers’ unethical interbreeding practices.

competition between farmed and native species.

illegal fishing in preserved areas.

a lack of government regulation.

## 4. Research findings suggest fish farming

prevents cod species from overpopulating salmon habitats.

is detrimental to preservation of native fish.

has caused the extinction of North Sea cod.

positively impacts bird and dolphin populations.

## 5. FoodAware claims that farmed fish

have been scientifically approved for consumption.

contain organisms that can be harmful for humans.

contain minerals not found in wild fish.

have discouraged consumers from consuming fish.

## 6. According to Olson, criticisms about fish farming originate from

research evidence that fish farming impacts human health.

governmental reports of the negative effects of fish farming.

marketing maneuvers to dissuade consumption of farmed fish.

growing government support for wild fish preservation.

# Practice Test 1 - End of the Listening Test

1. End of the Listening Test.
2. Click here to view the Listening Transcripts. Transcripts will not be provided on the official test.
3. Click "NEXT" to continue.

# Reading

# Reading Test Instructions

1. There are four parts in this test. Each part has short instructions and a different number of questions.
2. For each part, you will see the reading text on the left side of the screen. Instructions and questions are on the right side of the screen.
3. You may sometimes need to move the scrollbar up and down to see everything.
4. When you click on the answer, it will be bolded. To change your answer, click again on the answer that you want to choose.
5. The time bar will show you how much time you have to complete each part. When you are ready for the next part, click on "NEXT."
6. On the official test, once you leave a page, you cannot go back to it to change your answers. However, in this practice test, you can.
7. You have 48 minutes to complete the Reading Test. Watch the timer in the top right corner to make sure that you complete the Reading Test before the time is up.

# Reading Part 1: Reading Correspondence

## Read the following message.

*Dear Jenny,*

*Thank you for your lovely note! At first, I was surprised that you and Nicolas didn’t get the place close to town. Still, I’m happy to hear that you two found the ranch of your dreams. I must confess, when you and Nicolas moved to Saskatchewan, I thought you were both crazy. After all, the weather is so very different from the coast. Still, after seeing the pictures you attached, I can see I was wrong. The log cabin looks gorgeous, and the land is beautiful. Forty acres is a lot of space, and I’m sure you'll make great use of it. I can't wait to come visit you for the holidays.*

*I've also moved recently. I had to move as my landlord was putting the house on the market. It was actually a relief because I wasn’t too happy in that basement suite as there simply wasn’t enough light. The new apartment I'm in is great. It's small, but it's on the top floor and has a skylight and large windows. It's also very close to the transit line, which was a major deciding factor since I don't own a car. The rent is a bit more than I paid before, but not by much.*

*Things also changed in my work situation. As you know the art market has really taken a dive, and sales were not going as expected. I finally had enough when 10 other artists and I were invited to auction our paintings to raise money for high school art programs. We were to get 60% of each sale. At first I was happy because I ended up selling all five of my paintings. The buyers took my paintings home, and the fundraiser committee wrote down which paintings I had sold, or so I thought! After not getting my cheque in the mail for 2 weeks, I called the organizing committee. It turns out that they had lost their record book and didn't have any verification of my sales! The lady on the phone said they couldn't pay me since they couldn't confirm how much I had made. Luckily, I was able to speak to the buyers and they contacted the committee stating how much they had paid for my paintings, and in the end, they paid me, but only after many phone conversations with the head manager. I decided it was time for a more conventional job, so I got a position at the Vancouver Art Gallery, taking visitors through the exhibitions. I miss painting but I’m enjoying the stability and being surrounded by so many different artistic styles and personalities.*

*Other than that, life is good. I've just adopted a kitten and am enjoying my work and my new location.*

*All the best,*

*Sarah*

# Using the drop-down menu ( ), choose the best way to complete each statement according to the information given in the message.

## 1. Jenny and Nicolas

purchased a large property.

rented a log cabin for the holidays.

bought an apartment in the city.

are moving back to the coast.

## 2. Sarah needed to move because

the rent was too high for the space.

she didn't get along with the landlord.

the building was being sold.

her basement apartment was too dark.

## 3. Sarah appreciates her new home because

she can get around town easily.

she has a great view of the city.

the apartment is small and easy to clean.

its more affordable than her previous place.

## 4. Sarah recently

organized an art event for charity.

taught art in a high school program.

helped some artists sell their work.

sold paintings in a fundraising event.

## 5. Sarah encountered difficulties when

some paintings were taken without her knowledge.

she lost the record of her sales.

a list of art pieces that were sold went missing.

buyers only paid part of what they owed her.

## 6. After the fundraising episode, Sarah

moved to a new apartment.

moved to another city.

got a new job.

enrolled in a high school art program.

## Here is a response to the message. Complete the response by filling in the blanks. Select the best choice for each blank from the drop-down menu.

*Hi Sarah,*

*I’m glad you’ve moved. I also felt that your old place was*

## 7.

too small.

quite dark.

too expensive.

quite strange.

## *As* 8.

an art teacher,

an art student,

an art fundraiser,

an artist,

## you need a suitable space for being creative. Our new home is wonderful. The weather is actually better than our old place 9.

on the coast.

in a basement.

in Saskatchewan.

in an apartment.

## We certainly do not miss the relentless rain.

## I’m sorry to hear about the 10.

difficult customers at the art show.

misunderstanding after the art show.

loss of your paintings after the art show.

cutting of the school art program.

## I know how much time and effort you’ve dedicated to your art so I’m saddened to hear you felt you had no option but to 11.

stop looking for employment.

stop attending fundraising events.

stop painting full-time.

move to another place.

## I hope this is not a permanent decision. I think you have so much talent!!

## Remember we have lots of room for guests in our new house. Visit us soon!

## Love,

## Jenny

# Reading Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram



**2013/2014 Snow Passes**  
**Winter Pass**  
Unlimited skiing and snowboarding during the 2013/14 season!  
You can also have free access to other activities including snowshoeing, sleigh rides, ice skating, and much more.   
**Bonus!** 20% off ski equipment from our store and up to 50% off tickets at other participating ski resorts.   
  
**Night Pass**  
Skiing and snowboarding any evening ***after 4 pm***  
Includes evening access to mountaintop activities including snowshoeing, sleigh rides, ice skating and much more.   
  
**One Night per Week Pass**  
Ski and snowboard one night a week ***after 4 pm***  
you can come a different night each week as the pass resets every Saturday night.   
Bonus! With a 1-Night/Week Pass, receive a bonus night, good any time this winter season.   
  
**Limited Time Offer! 2 free ski lessons with Winter Pass!**

|  | **Winter Pass** | **Night Pass** | **One Night/Week Pass** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Adult** (19-64 years) | $825 | $515 | $350 |
| **Youth** (13-18 years) | $675 | $390 | $275 |
| **Child** (5-12 years) | $375 | $235 | $160 |
| **Tot** (4 years and younger) | $40 | -- | -- |
| **Senior** (65+ years) | $675 | $390 | $235 |
| **Family** (2 adults/2 children) | $2090 | $765 | $525 |

# Read the following email message about the diagram on the left. Complete the email by filling in the blanks. Select the best choice for each blank from the drop-down menu ( ).

## Subject: Ski Passes

## To: Jerry S <j.smithers@frimpton.bc.ca>

## From: Leslie <lrockton@sterlings.ca>

## Hi Jerry,

## I meant to talk to you before I left the office, but my meeting with management went longer than expected. You were saying that you want to get ski passes for yourself and Billy. Billy 1.

is over thirteen years old now,

is learning to night ski this year,

needs both a night and winter pass,

will be skating and skiing this year,

## so he’ll be at the youth rate this year. That’s more expensive than last year, 2.

so the two of you should

but you'll probably want to

but it still doesn’t pay to

so you will both have to

## get the family pass for just the two of you.

## The key question is how much you’ll be skiing. If youcan only get up there after work, then you might as well 3.

get the 20% discount.

get the night pass.

learn to snowboard or skate.

get the adult rate.

## This saves you money. Note, however, with my full winter pass, I 4.

can snowboard

get free access to other resorts

can bring a friend for free

get 20% off ice skating

## and, of course, I can ski in the day. If you’re planning to ski on the weekends, and if 5.

Billy wants free ski lessons

you want to night ski

you won’t be skiing in the day

you want to bring a friend

## then you might want to consider the full pass. It’s definitely more expensive, but you will have a lot more freedom to ski whenever you want.

## Best

## Leslie.

# Complete these statements by selecting the best choice.

## 6. Leslie is Jerry’s

co-worker.

longtime friend.

manager.

sister.

## 7. Leslie

has never skied before.

went skiing last weekend.

is an experienced skier.

is a skiing instructor.

## 8. Leslie suggests that Jerry

gets skiing lessons.

goes for the family pass.

avoids weekend skiing.

saves money for a full pass.

# Reading Part 3: Reading for Information

## Read the following passage.

*A. National parks have existed in Canada for well over a century. The Canadian National Park system is aimed at preserving and representing natural areas of all the 13 provinces and territories in the country. This system comprises over 40 national parks that protect ecological integrity, and allow the public to explore, learn about, and enjoy Canada's natural spaces. Among Canadian national parks, Kluane National Park and Reserve stands out, being declared a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Site in 1979 for its magnificent glacier and icefield landscapes and wildlife, which include grizzly bears, caribou, moose, wolves, and Dall sheep.*

*B.Kluane National Park and Reserve is situated in the southwestern Yukon territory, and is over 22,000 Km2. It includes the St. Elias Mountains where the highest peak in Canada, Mount Logan, is located. The park is also the site of one of Canada’s oldest climate research bases. Founded in 1961, The Arctic Institute’s Kluane Lake Research Station has been a major hub for researchers from scientific organizations of diverse disciplines from all over the country and the world. On any day, research groups may be conducting studies in a number of fields including geology, biology, botany, and anthropology.*

*C. Archaeological evidence suggests humans may have lived in the area following the last Ice Age, over 10,000 years ago. Evidence also suggests that the Tutchone aboriginal people have lived in the area for hundreds of years. The Tutchone settled in the area after long migration periods through the Kluane Lake area, where they would hunt, fish, and gather food. In the early 1890s, explorers, prospectors, climbers, and hunters also settled around Kluane. In the 1940s, the completion of the Alaska Highway made the area accessible. Soon after, in 1942, the area was declared a wildlife reserve, cutting off natural resources to the people who depended on it.*

*D. In 1972 the Canadian Government designated the area as a national park and reserve, which meant aboriginal peoples regained access to natural resources. Federal and provincial governments joined forces to reach a series of agreements with the Champagne and Aishihik First Nations, and Kluane First Nation. Nowadays, status aboriginals from these nations are entitled to harvest resources within Kluane National Park. Government branches and aboriginal peoples have also found ways to boost economic activity in the area, investing in sustainable forestry to promote economic stability for on-reserve aboriginals.*

*E. Not given in any of the above paragraphs.*

# Decide which paragraph, A to D, has the information given in each statement below. Select E if the information is not given in any of the paragraphs.

## 1. Park visitation is dependent upon approval from the aboriginal nations.

A

B

C

D

E

## 2. Regulated commercial activities are carried out within the park’s boundaries.

A

B

C

D

E

## 3. Designation of the area as a natural reserve negatively impacted aboriginal peoples.

A

B

C

D

E

## 4. Experts use park facilities to generate data on environmental factors.

A

B

C

D

E

## 5. Cuts in governmental funding led to the park being closed for visitation.

A

B

C

D

E

## 6. The park has received important recognition from an international institution.

A

B

C

D

E

## 7. Aboriginal people predate the arrival of modern infrastructure in the park region.

A

B

C

D

E

## 8. The government has mended their relationship with local aboriginal nations.

A

B

C

D

E

## 9. The park is site to a Canadian geographical landmark.

A

B

C

D

E

# Reading Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

# Read the following article from a website.

*Nadine Barrow, director of Entrepreneurship, a successful international business coaching company, has satisfied many clients by helping their businesses expand. For the past decade, the driving philosophy behind Barrow’s consultancy has been to strive for expanding markets, growing sales, and greater productivity.*

*Recently, however, Barrow has started to realize that increasing revenues and profit are not central ambitions for everyone. Her clientele has been shifting towards a different goal of "lifestyle augmentation". These clients have a different agenda, one that doesn't involve inexorable expansion, but instead seeks to maintain equilibrium. "People want to be committed entrepreneurs, but they have different expectations,” Barrow says. “Maximizing profits isn’t their primary goal. They want to be able to pay the bills, but also have the time to pursue other passions."*

*Jeff Larkin, a consultant working with Barrow at Entrepreneurship, is skeptical of Barrow’s new strategy. "Firms generally flourish through gaining access to broader markets and greater market share, so I would be hesitant to advise against taking a more expansionist approach," Larkin asserts. "In the volatile economy we’re in, businesses need to stay on top of profits in case of economic setbacks. When fluctuations happen, small businesses are often the first to go under."*

*Barrow agrees that this is true, but is nevertheless planning to support clients whose focus is stability. "I respect Jeff’s point of view. At the same time, growth comes with a lot of obligations and added responsibilities," Barrow explains. "For example, taking on more full-time employees means you're forced to expand to cover benefits or more equipment. Usually it also means renting more office space, which is another financial stress. Some people just don't want the additional hassle. Larkin is right that it's a competitive world, but that doesn't mean that businesses have to engage in inexorable expansion just to stay afloat. In fact, I think it might be the contrary. People need more flexibility in their lives; they want to be able to prosper but also be able to shift interests and directions when necessary. Being an entrepreneur needn’t consume your entire life."*

# Complete each statement by selecting the best option according to the information on the website.

## 1. The established focus of Entrepreneurship had been to

attract more customers to clients’ companies.

reduce clients’ operational costs by outsourcing.

focus on the lifestyle of business leaders.

develop new products for clients’ companies.

## 2. What did Nadine Barrow observe about her clientele over the last decade?

They more often rely on international market expansion.

They are less committed to daily business operations.

They favour hiring workers passionate about their jobs.

They avoid having their personal life consumed by work.

## 3. Barrow adjusted her service so she could help clients

downsize their companies and reduce costs.

develop balanced, profitable and stable companies.

expand export markets and boost profits.

access the expertise of consultants such as Jeff Larkin.

## 4. Jeff Larkin is hesitant to endorse Barrow’s new philosophy because

companies need internal stability for success.

companies often over-extend themselves and perish.

companies that don’t expand may go bust in a downturn.

entrepreneurs can become too stressed to cope with the challenges.

## 5. Barrow disagrees with Larkin that

small businesses are prone to bankruptcy in recessions.

access to more markets leads to stronger growth.

the growth leads to more pressure and responsibilities.

businesses must continually expand to survive.

# The following is a comment by a visitor to the website page. Complete the comment by choosing the best option to fill in each blank.

## Clearly Barrow doesn’t understand the issues faced bytoday’s business people. She will likely 6.

inspire all her clients

lose all her clients

benefit greatly

prevail with her strategy

## as soon as the country hits a recession, as I have no doubt that all her clients will go bankrupt. It is simply absurd to assume that a company can just tread water without attempting 7.

any form of growth whatsoever.

to control the company’s costs.

a more conservative business strategy.

to expand into overseas markets.

## Yes, of course, some business people desire 8.

a low-risk path to rapid expansion,

a low-stress lifestyle,

as much profit as possible,

a more challenging business environment,

## but they can’t have it both ways. As entrepreneurs, however, they have to 9.

consider their employees.

make business the priority.

avoid unnecessary risks.

advance personal goals.

## Being a small businessman I‘ve learned that I have to 10.

keep business manageable.

consider my lifestyle.

strive for growth.

cut my costs.

## After all, complacency almost invariably means being crushed by the competition.

# Practice Test 1 - End of the Reading Test

1. End of the Reading Test.
2. Click "NEXT" to continue.

# Practice Test 1 - Writing

## Writing Test Instructions

1. There are two tasks in the Writing Test.
2. Use the computer keyboard to write your response.
3. You can see how many words you have written by looking at the bottom of the writing area to see the word count.
4. You have 30 minutes to complete each task. Watch the timer in the top right corner to make sure that you complete each task before the time is up.
5. On the official test, if you do not finish Task 1 in 30 minutes, the screen will move to Task 2. You cannot go back to Task 1. However, in this practice test, in order to move forward in the test you must click on “NEXT.”
6. You have 60 minutes to complete the Writing Test.

# Practice Test 1 - Writing Task 1: Writing an Email

## Read the following information.

**Family Trip**   
  
You have a large extended family, and every year you all get together to go on a big family trip for a week. Your brother is in charge of the plans this year, and you would like to suggest a place you’ve visited before.

In about 150-200 words, write an email to your brother. Your email should do the following things:

* Name the destination you have in mind.
* Briefly describe your previous experience in this place.
* Talk about some of this place’s features.

# Practice Test 1 - Writing Task 2: Responding to Survey Questions

## Read the following information.

**Physical Activity Survey**

Your company blames a number of work-related accidents on employees' low level of physical fitness. The Human Resources Department of your company is surveying your opinion on how to promote a healthier lifestyle amongst its employees. The major question is whether the company should build a large gym facility in the company’s premises, or pay for employees to sign up for physical activities wherever they choose.

Choose the option that you prefer. Explain the reasons for your choice. Why do you prefer your choice? What problems are there with the other choice? Write about 150-200 words.

**Option A:** Company Gym: Large gym located in the company building. Employees will have 24-hour access to a large variety of fitness equipment and personal trainers.

**Option B:** Neighbourhood Gym or Activity: Monthly cash allowance for any physical activity of their choice.

# Practice Test 1 - End of the Writing Test

1. End of the Writing Test.
2. Click here to view the Performance Standards for Writing.
3. Click "NEXT" to continue.

# Practice Test 1 - Speaking

## Speaking Test Instructions

1. There are nine tasks in the Speaking Test: one practice task and eight scored tasks. In this practice test, no score will be provided for any of the speaking tasks. However, you can refer to the Performance Standards for Speaking at the end of the Speaking Test.
2. The instructions and questions are in writing. You will not hear them.
3. For each task, there are two timed sections: Preparation Time and Recording Time. You will be able to see these times in the top right corner of the screen. For this practice test, you should use a timer to make sure that you complete each task within the given time.
4. The practice test will not record your answers. If you wish to record your own answers, record and save your responses using your computer microphone or your own recording device (cellphone, digital recorder, etc.).
5. On the official test, if you do not finish a task in the time provided, the screen will move to the next task. You cannot go back to the previous task. However, in this practice test, in order to move forward in the test you must click on “NEXT.”
6. Try to complete the Speaking Test in a maximum of 20 minutes, since this is how much time you have to do the official Speaking Test.

# Practice Test 1 - Speaking Practice Task

## Talk about one of your best friends.

## 

prepare.png Preparation: **30 seconds**

record.png Recording: **60 seconds**

# Practice Test 1 - Speaking Task 1: Giving Advice

## A friend would like to lose some weight but he doesn’t have much free time. Advise him about different things he can do to achieve his goal.

prepare.png Preparation: **30 seconds**

record.png Recording: **90 seconds**

# Practice Test 1 - Speaking Task 2: Talking about a Personal Experience

## Talk about a time when you felt very proud of yourself. Maybe you can talk about a goal you achieved, a time when you were able to make the right decision despite the odds, or something important you have said or done. What happened and why did it make you so proud?

prepare.png Preparation: **30 seconds**

record.png Recording: **60 seconds**

# Practice Test 1 - Speaking Task 3: Describing a Scene

## Describe some things that are happening in the picture below as well as you can. The person with whom you are speaking cannot see the picture.



prepare.png Preparation: **30 seconds**

record.png Recording: **60 seconds**

# Practice Test 1 - Speaking Task 4: Making Predictions

## index.jpg

## In this picture, what do you think will happen next?

prepare.png Preparation: **30 seconds**

record.png Recording: **60 seconds**

# Practice Test 1 - Speaking Task 5: Comparing and Persuading

## You are getting married in six months. There are 80 guests on your wedding list, and you must choose a place for the wedding. Using the pictures and information, compare the two places. You are choosing the place that you think is best for your wedding ceremony.

If you do not choose an option, the computer will choose one for you. You do not need to speak for this task.

  
**Beachfront**   
- $40,000  
- informal dinner served on the beach  
- live band from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.  
- photographer and videographer



**Golf Course**   
- $35,000  
- 3 meal options served at a formal sit-down dinner in the club’s   
  French restaurant  
- DJ from 8:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.  
- photographer and videographer

prepare.png Preparation: **60 seconds**

## Your partner wants the wedding ceremony to take place at the location on the left. Persuade him or her to agree with your choice by comparing the two places.



**Countryside**   
- $20,000   
- buffet-style dinner served in charming rustic barn  
- live country-style band from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.  
- photographer

prepare.png Preparation: **60 seconds**

record.png Recording: **60 seconds**

# Practice Test 1 - Speaking Task 6: Dealing with a Difficult Situation

## You and your friend, Sam, are hosting a party. You are very close friends with Richard and you would like to invite him to the party, but you know that Sam and Richard had a fight in the past and no longer talk to each other.

**Choose ONE:  
EITHER  
Explain to Sam why you think Richard should be invited to the party.**

**OR  
Explain to Richard why you can’t invite him to the party.**

prepare.png Preparation: **60 seconds**

record.png Recording: **60 seconds**

# Practice Test 1 - Speaking Task 7: Expressing Opinions

## Answer the following question and give reasons for your answer. Question: Do you think that parents have the right to decide the career path of their children?

prepare.png Preparation: **30 seconds**

record.png Recording: **90 seconds**

# Practice Test 1 - Speaking Task 8: Describing an Unusual Situation

## You see a painting at an art exhibit that you wish to buy. You are not allowed to take a photo. Call a family member. Provide a full and clear description of the painting. Ask if you can buy the painting.



prepare.png Preparation: **30 seconds**

record.png Recording: **60 seconds**

# Practice Test 1 - End of the Speaking Test

1. End of the Speaking Test.
2. Click here to view the Performance Standards for Speaking.

# APPENDIX 1 Listening Result Page

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Question** | **Answer Key** |  |
| Listening Part 1: Identifying Similar Meanings - Q1 | Jack was once a student in Winnipeg. |  |
| Listening Part 1: Identifying Similar Meanings - Q2 | I’m fixing the car now. |  |
| Listening Part 1: Identifying Similar Meanings - Q3 | Sam won’t be home for a while. |  |
| Listening Part 1: Identifying Similar Meanings - Q4 | Phil missed the end of the movie. |  |
| Listening Part 1: Identifying Similar Meanings - Q5 | Wendy was promoted. |  |
| Listening Part 1: Identifying Similar Meanings - Q6 | You decide when to pay. |  |
| Listening Part 1: Identifying Similar Meanings - Q7 | I need to postpone my trip. |  |
| Listening Part 1: Identifying Similar Meanings - Q8 | Lately, Jacob works very little. |  |
|  |  |  |
| Listening Part 2: Answering Short Questions - Q1 | You should probably get a taxi from here. |  |
| Listening Part 2: Answering Short Questions - Q2 | It was pretty dull if you ask me. |  |
| Listening Part 2: Answering Short Questions - Q3 | Quite a bit since it’s high season. |  |
| Listening Part 2: Answering Short Questions - Q4 | I’m looking for the manager. |  |
| Listening Part 2: Answering Short Questions - Q5 | She was out of town. |  |
| Listening Part 2: Answering Short Questions - Q6 | I think your old one will do just fine. |  |
| Listening Part 2: Answering Short Questions - Q7 | It’s about halfway done. |  |
| Listening Part 2: Answering Short Questions - Q8 | There are many positions advertised. |  |
|  |  |  |
| Listening Part 3: Listening to Problem Solving - Q1 | to change her hair colour |  |
| Listening Part 3: Listening to Problem Solving - Q2 | Her visit will take a full hour. |  |
| Listening Part 3: Listening to Problem Solving - Q3 | 1:30 p.m. |  |
| Listening Part 3: Listening to Problem Solving - Q4 | She is cautious. |  |
| Listening Part 3: Listening to Problem Solving - Q5 | whether to change the hairstyle |  |
| Listening Part 3: Listening to Problem Solving - Q6 | impressed |  |
| Listening Part 3: Listening to Problem Solving - Q7 | Protect the colour with a special product. |  |
| Listening Part 3: Listening to Problem Solving - Q8 | She now has more confidence in his abilities. |  |
|  |  |  |
| Listening Part 4: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation - Q1 | He missed an interview opportunity. |  |
| Listening Part 4: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation - Q2 | She had a family emergency. |  |
| Listening Part 4: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation - Q3 | She only meets journalists face to face. |  |
| Listening Part 4: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation - Q4 | try to interview the artist while she’s in New York |  |
| Listening Part 4: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation - Q5 | fill in for her for five days |  |
|  |  |  |
| Listening Part 5: Listening for Information - Q1 | Slugs have attacked part of her vegetable garden. |  |
| Listening Part 5: Listening for Information - Q2 | There has been an excessive amount of rain. |  |
| Listening Part 5: Listening for Information - Q3 | They make the environment unpleasant for slugs. |  |
| Listening Part 5: Listening for Information - Q4 | The pests cannot cross over the coils. |  |
| Listening Part 5: Listening for Information - Q5 | The woman can use 1 cent coins. |  |
| Listening Part 5: Listening for Information - Q6 | to purchase an item that is currently out of stock |  |
|  |  |  |
| Listening Part 6: Listening to a News Item - Q1 | it jumped onto him. |  |
| Listening Part 6: Listening to a News Item - Q2 | was part of a research project. |  |
| Listening Part 6: Listening to a News Item - Q3 | is studying animal language. |  |
| Listening Part 6: Listening to a News Item - Q4 | stayed at Henry Lang’s house for a couple of days. |  |
| Listening Part 6: Listening to a News Item - Q5 | now teaches the parrot opera singing. |  |
| [Return to the beginning of Part 6](https://secure.paragontesting.ca/InstructionalProducts/PracticeTest/PT/View/1b9aeae1-9871-49a3-9300-6ee9b8e9ca85) |  |  |
| Listening Part 7: Listening to a Discussion - Q1 | Birds are ruining school property. |  |
| Listening Part 7: Listening to a Discussion - Q2 | He has a brother or sister. |  |
| Listening Part 7: Listening to a Discussion - Q3 | It lacks sufficient operating funds. |  |
| Listening Part 7: Listening to a Discussion - Q4 | Shooting wildlife is prohibited by local bylaws. |  |
| Listening Part 7: Listening to a Discussion - Q5 | It serves as food in some regions. |  |
| Listening Part 7: Listening to a Discussion - Q6 | They take too long to arrive. |  |
| Listening Part 7: Listening to a Discussion - Q7 | They are not aware of the program. |  |
| Listening Part 7: Listening to a Discussion - Q8 | ask the parents to help out |  |
|  |  |  |
| Listening Part 8: Listening to Viewpoints - Q1 | has received a lot of opposition. |  |
| Listening Part 8: Listening to Viewpoints - Q2 | lead to the growth of toxic organisms in the sea. |  |
| Listening Part 8: Listening to Viewpoints - Q3 | competition between farmed and native species. |  |
| Listening Part 8: Listening to Viewpoints - Q4 | positively impacts bird and dolphin populations. |  |
| Listening Part 8: Listening to Viewpoints - Q5 | contain organisms that can be harmful for humans. |  |
| Listening Part 8: Listening to Viewpoints - Q6 | marketing maneuvers to dissuade consumption of farmed fish. |  |

# APPENDIX 2 Practice Test 1 - Listening Transcripts

Top of Form

Bottom of Form

**Part 1: Identifying Similar Meanings**   
  
1. Jack used to study business in Winnipeg.   
2. The car is being fixed.  
3. I don’t think Sam will be home early tonight.  
4. Phil had to leave halfway through the movie.  
5. Wendy moved up in the company.  
6. It’s up to you whether you pay now or later.  
7. I’m afraid I can no longer take tomorrow’s flight.  
8. Jacob hardly works these days.

**Part 2: Answering Short Questions**   
  
1. What’s the best way to get to the Sunset Hotel?  
2. Was the play as good as they said?  
3. How expensive was your ticket to Hawaii?  
4. How can I help you today?  
5. How come Patricia missed the company party?  
6. Do you think I should get a new computer for college?  
7. How is your school project going?  
8. If you’re interested, my company is hiring.

**Part 3: Listening to Problem Solving**   
  
*You will hear a conversation between two people at a hair salon. One is a customer, and the other is a hair stylist.*   
  
**Section 1:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| MAN: | Hello, how are you today? |
| WOMAN: | Fine, thanks. I’m wondering if you take walk-in customers. Do you have any hair stylists available right now without an appointment? |
| MAN: | Hey, you’re talking to a stylist right now! My name’s Tim. I’m just filling in at the front desk while the receptionist is on her break. What are you looking for? Just a quick wash and blow dry? |
| WOMAN: | No, I was thinking about putting in some colour to cover the grey. But I need to talk it over with a stylist first. |
| MAN: | Sounds like you’ll need a longer appointment. I don’t have one available right now, but I can fit you in tomorrow morning at 9:00 a.m. |
| WOMAN: | Sorry, I can’t make it then. Do you have anything in the afternoon? Maybe around one o’clock? |
| MAN: | I’m available at 1:30 p.m. Does that work? |
| WOMAN: | Yes, that’s great. Will we be done by 3:30 p.m.? I have to meet a friend. |
| MAN: | Yes, it’ll only take about an hour. Okay, so you’re booked in with me, Tim, for 1:30 p.m. tomorrow afternoon. See you then! |

**Now answer questions 1-3.**

1. Why did the woman go to the salon?
2. Why does the woman have to return tomorrow?
3. What time is the woman’s appointment?

**Section 2:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| WOMAN: | Okay, Tim. You have an hour to make me look like a movie star! |
| MAN: | [Laughs.] So tell me again, what are we doing today? |
| WOMAN: | Well I need to get a haircut—just a trim—but at the same time, I think it’d be good to cover my grey. What do you think? |
| MAN: | You don’t have much grey, but we can add a little dark brown that matches your natural colour. |
| WOMAN: | That sounds great. And I’ll just keep the same style I have now. |
| MAN: | Are you sure? If you like, I could cut some layers into the top to give it more volume. |
| WOMAN: | No, I’m not looking for a change, thanks. This style has worked for me for years. |
| MAN: | Okay then, that’s great. Let’s get right to it, then. |

**Now answer questions 4-5.**

1. What does the woman’s hairstyle suggest about her?
2. What do the speakers disagree on?

**Section 3:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| MAN: | So, let me show you with a mirror. What do you think? |
| WOMAN: | Wow, you did a good job. The colour looks totally natural. And . . . yeah, it feels very comfortable. Next time I’ll give you free rein to choose a new hairstyle! |
| MAN: | Excellent! Well, in the meantime, can I recommend this shampoo? It's made of all natural ingredients, and it’ll help you keep the colour for a couple of months. Use it about once a week instead of your regular shampoo. |
| WOMAN: | Oh, thanks. That looks good, but I think I’ll stick with my regular shampoo. |
| MAN: | Okay. It’s here if you want it. There you go; we’re all done. I’ll meet you at the front desk in a few minutes, okay? |
| WOMAN: | Thank you. |

**Now answer questions 6-8.**

1. How does the woman feel about the final result?
2. What advice does the man give the woman?
3. Why will the woman give the stylist more control next time?

**Part 4: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation**   
  
*You will hear a conversation. The conversation is between two journalists. The man is telling the woman about a problem with an interview.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| WOMAN: | Hey Stan, how's it going? |
| MAN: | Oh hi, Emily. Ah . . . I’m okay. Not great. You know how I was supposed to interview that young violinist, Michelle Reid, for the music article? |
| WOMAN: | Yeah, she's amazing! I actually saw her in concert last year. I can't believe she's only ten years old. |
| MAN: | She's really talented. Anyways, I was supposed to interview her tomorrow, but it just got canceled. Apparently there's been a sudden illness in her family, so she flew back to New York today. Now I don't have an article for next week's magazine! |
| WOMAN: | Oh no! That’s unfortunate. Can you interview Michelle over the phone? |
| MAN: | I asked her manager about that, but apparently Michelle won't do phone interviews. I have no idea why. |
| WOMAN: | Maybe she’s a bit young for that. Well, I have an idea. I'm actually heading to New York on Thursday. My sister Carol just had a baby girl, and I’m taking time off to go visit! While I’m there, how about I contact Michelle Reid’s manager and see if I can get a short interview with her? I could write the article over the weekend and get it to you by Monday morning. |
| MAN: | That would be wonderful! But you really don't have to do that! Isn't that going to take time away from seeing your sister and your new niece? |
| WOMAN: | Don’t worry. I'll be there for the whole week, and besides, an interview doesn't take that long. |
| MAN: | Well, thank you. I'll repay the favour sometime! |
| WOMAN: | No problem. In fact, I know just how you can repay me! My best friend is getting married in Mexico in the spring. Could you cover my workload when I go? It would just be for five days. |
| MAN: | Absolutely. That sounds like a fair deal. I'm glad this worked out. Thanks. |

**Now answer questions 1-5.**  
  
1. Why is the man disappointed?  
2. What happened to the young artist?  
3. Why can’t the man get a hold of Michelle?  
4. What does the woman offer to do?   
5. What is the man going to do in return?

**Part 5: Listening for Information**

*You will hear a conversation. A woman is calling a garden store about her problems with garden pests.*

|  |
| --- |
|  |
| MAN: | Hello, welcome to the Garden Centre. You look like you're looking for something. Can I help you? |
| WOMAN: | Yes! Could you show me where the pest control section is? |
| MAN: | Right this way. What exactly do you have in mind? |
| WOMAN: | I have a terrible slug problem. This is my first year vegetable gardening and I didn't expect it to be this bad! The slugs have already eaten through almost my entire row of lettuce, and half of my peas have holes in them. |
| MAN: | Yes, slugs can be really awful, especially because we get so much rain here. I used to live in Saskatchewan and they weren't nearly as prominent there, even when the season was wet. However, I have some bad news for you. We're all sold out of slug bait and repellent products at the moment. |
| WOMAN: | Oh no! That's too bad. When will you be getting more in? |
| MAN: | Should be next week. But you know what, there's plenty of homemade solutions to get rid of those pests. As a salesman I should be encouraging you to wait for our products, but hey, I don't want you to lose your whole vegetable garden in the meantime! |
| WOMAN: | That's really kind of you. What can I do, then? |
| MAN: | You can crush up eggshells into small pieces and sprinkle them around the plants you want to protect. Slugs don't like the texture of gritty eggshells. Another thing they don't like is copper. You can put a line of pennies around your plants and they won't cross it. It gives their skin an unpleasant shock. |
| WOMAN: | Really! That is neat. Just ordinary coins, you mean? |
| MAN: | Yes, just ordinary penny coins. We also sell rolls of copper coil that work a lot better, but, like I mentioned, we're all out of stock right now. I'd try the coins and eggshells first. Then come back next week for the copper coil. I could put some rolls on hold for you, and you could pick them up when you come in. |
| WOMAN: | That is great! I'll give you my contact details. Thanks for all your helpful advice! |

**Now answer questions 1-6.**  
  
1. What kind of problem is the woman having?  
2. According to the man, why is the problem so bad?   
3. Why are eggshells used to tackle this problem?   
4. Why does the man suggest copper coils?   
5. What is an alternative to copper coil?  
6. Why is the woman coming back next week?

**Part 6: Listening to a News Item**   
  
*You will hear a news item about a very talented bird.*   
  
A parrot that went missing a week ago was found at an outdoor swimming pool yesterday. Henry Lang, an opera student, said he was enjoying an afternoon swim in the campus pool when he saw a bright flash of colour in a nearby tree. "Next thing I knew, a large parrot flew down right next to me at the edge of the pool," Lang said. "I was pretty surprised. It didn't seem afraid of me at all. It actually said ‘hello’ to me. I think it was thirsty and wanted a drink of water."   
  
Lang said the bird hopped onto his arm and happily came home with him, where he called the local animal shelter. He was surprised to learn from the shelter that the friendly animal was not someone’s pet, but was actually a research parrot named Popcorn from the same university he attends. Lang kept the bird for a weekend before he was picked up by his owner, Professor Anna Grey. Grey studies language cognition in birds and said that Popcorn is her most mischievous research subject. Popcorn had escaped four times. The gifted parrot, who is named for his favorite food, knows over 200 words and can count to 10.   
  
After being reunited with Popcorn, his owner, Grey, was astonished to hear the parrot doing something he’d never done before - sing. When she learned Lang was an opera student, she realized Popcorn had picked up a new skill on his adventure. “I guess he heard me practicing at my house,” Lang said, laughing. In an interesting turn of events, Lang now has a new part-time summer job - coaching Popcorn in opera singing twice a week.

**Part 7: Listening to a Discussion**   
  
*You will watch a discussion between three people having a meeting. They are parents who volunteer to help run their children’s elementary school.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| WOMAN: | Okay, next item. It’s November. Our annual guests have arrived. Snow Geese have taken up residence on our sports field again. Looks like a few thousand of them. |
| MAN 1: | Not again! Last year they stayed ‘till April. I guess that’s when they migrate back to Siberia? |
| MAN 2: | Yeah. My four-year-old nephew said that he saw them grazing on the school grounds. He said it wasn’t a bad thing though. They’re actually eating the grass . . . and the maintenance workers don’t have to cut it! |
| WOMAN: | Huh. Those birds are not helping the janitors, I can tell you. They pull out huge chunks of grass, dirt and all. Now, with all the rain, our sports field is mostly mud . . . and then the mud gets on the classroom carpets. |
| MAN 2: | But what about carpet cleaning? Aren’t the carpets the janitor’s responsibility? |
| WOMAN: | Ugh. That’ll be the day. There’s no money in the budget for carpet cleaning. Even if there were, the carpets would get muddy again the next day. |
| MAN 1: | Apparently in some provinces you can hunt snow geese. Here it’s against city bylaws. You can hunt wildlife only outside city limits. Even then, you need the . . . you need the permission of a landowner. But up north, they’re considered food—it’s like wild turkey, only free. |
| MAN 2: | Yeah, I heard that, too. I also heard they taste terrible. Anyway, didn’t the city have a . . . what do you call it? . . . a hazing program where they were hiring contractors to take dogs to chase the geese off. What happened to that? |
| MAN 1: | From what I gather, the response time was too slow. It takes a couple of hours for the contractors to show up with the dogs. Sounds to me like a labour shortage. I mean, I doubt there’s a large population of dog owners out there who want to be available to work 24/7 as . . . professional goose chasers. |
| MAN 2: | Maybe not, but wasn’t there an ad in the paper asking for volunteers? They were hoping people would let their dogs off leash in trouble areas after school and on weekends. Half the families in our school have dogs. How come no one’s volunteering? |
| WOMAN: | Probably because they haven’t heard of the program. It’s news to me. I have two Siberian huskies that would love a chance to run around chasing geese. |
| MAN 1: | So let’s get a commitment from the parents. You know, get a schedule together, and make sure that there’s a canine patrol from 4:00 p.m. until dusk every day. |
| MAN 2: | First, let’s get the word out, shall we? I’ll draft a memo to send home with the students for the parents, and maybe get a little blog post together. We’ll get everything approved by administration. And, Rachel, are you okay with being the primary contact? |
| WOMAN: | Woof, woof. |

**Part 8: Listening to Viewpoints**   
  
*You will hear a report about fish farming in Canada. The environmental impact of fish farming is discussed in detail.*   
  
Quite possibly, when hiking or sailing on the Canadian coast, you have seen small rectangular enclosures in the sea. These enclosures are fish farms, where tens of thousands of salmon are raised and sold on domestic and international markets. Many of these farms are run by James Olson, the owner of a successful Canadian fish farming business that has been active since the 1960's. Recently, however, he has been criticized by several groups that oppose ocean fish farming, arguing that the practice should be banned or severely restricted.   
  
One of these groups, EarthFirst, contends that ocean fish farming is harmful to wild fish. A farm of 100,000 fish produces the same amount of waste as 31,000 humans. This waste leads to toxic algae blooms, which kill wild fish. Additionally, fish often escape from fish farms, competing with wild fish for food and thereby reducing native fish populations. In the northern Pacific, it is estimated that over 1 million farmed Atlantic salmon have escaped. The Atlantic salmon have interbred with Pacific salmon, and this has weakened the wild Pacific salmon population. Another major issue is the spread of diseases from fish farmed in ocean cages to wild fish. EarthFirst is pushing for governmental regulations on fish farming, either banning them entirely or subjecting them to stricter environmental controls.   
  
Should fish farming be banned? Olson thinks such a move would be a disaster. Research has shown that fish farms actually do more to protect wild fish than to harm them. Fish farming greatly reduces the need to hunt wild fish, thereby preventing overfishing. This helps to prevent the depletion of natural stocks, such as the North Sea cod, a species that almost faced extinction within the last decade. Also, fishing with large nets often results in the killing of unwanted species, such as dolphins or seabirds. Fish farms are an excellent way to prevent such unnecessary deaths from occurring.   
  
Another group, FoodAware, is concerned that farmed fish cause human health problems. Farmed fish are fed antibiotics to fend off disease. There is evidence that feeding fish antibiotics leads to the growth of antibiotic-resistant bacteria, which live in the fish and are eventually consumed by humans. The long-term effects of these substances on humans have not been fully researched.   
  
However, as fish farmer Olson points out, there is no conclusive research or governmental data proving that farmed fish are bad for human health. He believes this is simply a marketing scare tactic to get people to support wild fishing.   
  
The world demand for fishing is increasing and wild fish stocks are decreasing. And yet, it is still not clear whether fish farming is a solution or an additional environmental problem. It would appear that the jury is still out.

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# APPENDIX3 Reading Result Page

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| **Question** | **Answer Key** |  |
| Reading Part 1: Reading Correspondence - Q1 | purchased a large property. |  |
| Reading Part 1: Reading Correspondence - Q2 | the building was being sold. |  |
| Reading Part 1: Reading Correspondence - Q3 | she can get around town easily. |  |
| Reading Part 1: Reading Correspondence - Q4 | sold paintings in a fundraising event. |  |
| Reading Part 1: Reading Correspondence - Q5 | a list of art pieces that were sold went missing. |  |
| Reading Part 1: Reading Correspondence - Q6 | got a new job. |  |
| Reading Part 1: Reading Correspondence - Q7 | quite dark. |  |
| Reading Part 1: Reading Correspondence - Q8 | an artist, |  |
| Reading Part 1: Reading Correspondence - Q9 | on the coast. |  |
| Reading Part 1: Reading Correspondence - Q10 | misunderstanding after the art show. |  |
| Reading Part 1: Reading Correspondence - Q11 | stop painting full-time. |  |
| Reading Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram - Q1 | is over thirteen years old now, |  |
| Reading Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram - Q2 | but it still doesn’t pay to |  |
| Reading Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram - Q3 | get the night pass. |  |
| Reading Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram - Q4 | can snowboard |  |
| Reading Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram - Q5 | Billy wants free ski lessons |  |
| Reading Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram - Q6 | co-worker. |  |
| Reading Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram - Q7 | is an experienced skier. |  |
| Reading Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram - Q8 | saves money for a full pass. |  |
| Reading Part 3: Reading for Information - Q1 | E |  |
| Reading Part 3: Reading for Information - Q2 | D |  |
| Reading Part 3: Reading for Information - Q3 | C |  |
| Reading Part 3: Reading for Information - Q4 | B |  |
| Reading Part 3: Reading for Information - Q5 | E |  |
| Reading Part 3: Reading for Information - Q6 | A |  |
| Reading Part 3: Reading for Information - Q7 | C |  |
| Reading Part 3: Reading for Information - Q8 | D |  |
| Reading Part 3: Reading for Information - Q9 | B |  |
| Reading Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints - Q1 | attract more customers to clients’ companies. |  |
| Reading Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints - Q2 | They avoid having their personal life consumed by work. |  |
| Reading Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints - Q3 | develop balanced, profitable and stable companies. |  |
| Reading Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints - Q4 | companies that don’t expand may go bust in a downturn. |  |
| Reading Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints - Q5 | businesses must continually expand to survive. |  |
| Reading Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints - Q6 | lose all her clients |  |
| Reading Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints - Q7 | any form of growth whatsoever. |  |
| Reading Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints - Q8 | a low-stress lifestyle, |  |
| Reading Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints - Q9 | make business the priority. |  |
| Reading Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints - Q10 | strive for growth. |  |