

CANADIAN ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY INDEX PROGRAM

Reading

Section 2 · Study booklet

SEPTEMBER 2026

INSIDE THIS BOOKLET

SECTION 2 Reading

38 questions

≈ 55–60 minutes

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SECTION 2

Reading

38 questions **Duration** ≈ 55–60 minutes

Read each text, then choose the single best answer for each question.

PART 1

Reading Correspondence

Read the message and the reply. Answer the questions about the message, then for each numbered blank in the reply choose the word or phrase that fits best.

Reading Part 1: Reading Correspondence

Problem with the Sunpeak site visit

Hi Mei,

I meant to send you a quick note after the trade show, but this week got away from me. How did your first few days at Kestrel Supply go? Things at LumaGrid have been busy in a different way: our team is trying to finalize a contract with a greenhouse outside Bellmere, and I was asked to take the visiting engineer from Praxen Instruments on a site tour because I know the equipment layout better than anyone else.

The visit should have been simple. We were supposed to meet at 8:15 in the Sunpeak yard, sign in at the prefab office, and drive out to Array C before the maintenance crew shut down that line for inspection. I had already printed the safety forms, packed two hard hats, and emailed the engineer, Dario, a map from our guest parking lot. Then the complication started. Dario's taxi dropped him at the freight gate on the opposite side of the property, where phones barely work. By the time a guard radioed me, I was already leading the greenhouse owner toward Array C in our pickup. We turned around, found Dario waiting beside a stack of cable reels, and hurried back to the office. That delay mattered because the inspection crew had begun early, so we were barred from entering the line. Instead, I improvised: I showed them the inverter room, pulled up last month's output graphs on the wall monitor, and walked them along the fence so they could still see panel alignment and drainage. Oddly enough, the greenhouse owner said the detour answered more practical questions than the original plan would have.

Even so, I came away annoyed with myself. I had reminded Dario to use the guest entrance, yet I never asked whether his driver knew the difference between the two gates. The contract is still possible, but now Praxen wants one more remote meeting before they approve the sensor package. Since you used to coordinate vendor visits at your last job, do you think I should simply send a calm recap, or would it be smarter to suggest a second tour once the next maintenance window ends on June 20?

If you have time tonight, I'd really value your take. I need to answer Dario before noon tomorrow, and I'd rather not sound defensive when the mix-up wasn't entirely his fault.

Best,

Adrian Cho

Operations Lead, LumaGrid

Re: Problem with the Sunpeak site visit

Hi Adrian,

I don't think you need to sound apologetic from start to finish. From what you described, the day went off track because Dario was dropped at the wrong gate, not because you forgot the tour itself. I'd send a short recap first, mentioning that you still covered the inverter room and the output graphs, and that the greenhouse owner found that detour useful. In the same note, invite him to a follow-up after the maintenance window at (7) _____.

I wouldn't offer a second in-person tour immediately if Praxen mainly wants to confirm the sensor package. In that case, a remote meeting is probably (8) _____ and easier for everyone to schedule. You could also add one practical line for future visits: ask guests to tell drivers to use the (9) _____ rather than the freight gate. That keeps the tone constructive. If you want, send me your draft tonight and I'll check whether it sounds (10) _____ instead of defensive. My only other suggestion is to mention Dario by name so the message feels (11) _____.

Best,

Mei Lin

Procurement Coordinator

1 The writer's main point is

- ☐ A to describe a successful equipment inspection
- ☐ B to complain about the maintenance crew
- ☐ C to ask for advice after a disrupted site visit
- ☐ D to introduce a new engineer from Praxen

2 The writer wrote this message to

- ☐ A warn Mei about Bellmere traffic
- ☐ B confirm the June 20 shutdown
- ☐ C explain LumaGrid's contract terms
- ☐ D get Mei's opinion on how to respond

3 The site visit changed course mainly because

- ☐ A time was lost before they reached the correct area
- ☐ B the greenhouse owner arrived late
- ☐ C the safety forms were missing
- ☐ D the wall monitor stopped working

4 One fortunate outcome of the delay was that

- ☐ A the inspection crew extended the shutdown
- ☐ B the substitute tour answered practical concerns
- ☐ C the contract was approved on the spot
- ☐ D Dario learned the site layout on his own

5 The writer seems most frustrated by

- ☐ A the greenhouse owner's impatience
- ☐ B having to print extra paperwork
- ☐ C not preventing a predictable misunderstanding
- ☐ D Praxen's request for another meeting

6 Before the problem began, the writer expected to

- ☐ A hold a remote meeting with Praxen
- ☐ B escort Dario directly to the freight gate
- ☐ C review sensor pricing in the office
- ☐ D show Array C before an inspection started

7 Blank 7

- ☐ A June 20
- ☐ B the next morning
- ☐ C late May
- ☐ D Array C

8

Blank 8

- ☐ A hard to explain
- ☐ B the better next step
- ☐ C already cancelled
- ☐ D too risky

9

Blank 9

- ☐ A prefab office
- ☐ B opposite side
- ☐ C guest entrance
- ☐ D maintenance road

10

Blank 10

- ☐ A formal
- ☐ B uncertain
- ☐ C hurried
- ☐ D calm

11

Blank 11

- ☐ A more personal
- ☐ B less detailed
- ☐ C less urgent
- ☐ D more technical

PART 2

Reading to Apply a Diagram

Read the information in the diagram and the message, then answer the questions.

Reading Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram

Quartz Point Glassworks — Team Mosaic Packages

Quartz Point Glassworks

114 Cinder Lane, Harrowby Market

Bookings: groups@quartzpointglass.ca | 555-0184

Package	Best for	Session length	Group size	What is included	Weeknight price	Weekend price
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Spark | first-time teams | 90 minutes | 6-12 people | guided mosaic coaster; all materials; tea station
| \$34 per person | \$39 per person

Fuse | mixed-experience teams | 2 hours | 8-18 people | mosaic wall tile; all materials; apron loan;
tea station | \$42 per person | \$48 per person

Kiln Plus | milestone celebrations | 2.5 hours | 10-24 people | wall tile; all materials; private
instructor; dessert tray | \$51 per person | \$58 per person

After-Hours Custom | departments wanting privacy | 3 hours | 12-20 people | project chosen in
advance; studio closed to public; private instructor; light snacks | \$61 per person | \$68 per person

Add-ons:

- Custom colour palette: \$25 per group
- Gift-box packaging: \$4 per finished piece
- Extra 30 minutes: \$40 per group (not available for Spark)

Notes:

- Weeknight bookings start between 5:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- Weekend bookings start between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.
- A 15% non-refundable deposit is required at booking.

*Dessert tray is nut-free but not dairy-free.

Message

To: Priya

From: Evan

Subject: Glass studio options for the design team

Hi Priya,

I looked over the Quartz Point Glassworks flyer because we still need a team outing for the product group. Since we have 14 people and several have never tried mosaic work before, Spark is out right away. It caps the group at 12. Kiln Plus would fit, of course, but I think booking that package just for a regular quarterly get-together feels (1) _____ than we need.

Fuse seems more sensible. It allows 8 to 18 people, so our head count works, and the two-hour length is probably easier on everyone than a 2.5- or 3-hour evening. Also, unlike the biggest packages, it doesn't automatically come with extras we probably wouldn't use. If we want the session to feel a bit more branded, the custom colour palette add-on looks like the (2) _____ way to personalize it.

The only issue is food. Maya can't have dairy, so Kiln Plus is actually (3) _____ for us even though the dessert tray sounds nice. If we choose Fuse on a weeknight and add the colour palette, the total would be \$613 before tax, so the deposit should be (4) _____. Assuming you agree, I'll ask whether they have a start time around 6:00 p.m., which sounds (5) _____ for people coming from the office.

Best,

Evan

Product Coordinator

12 Blank 1

- ☐ A less flexible
- ☐ B harder to reserve
- ☐ C more elaborate
- ☐ D less organized

13 Blank 2

- ☐ A slowest
- ☐ B riskiest
- ☐ C most expensive
- ☐ D simplest

14 Blank 3

- ☐ A not really suitable
- ☐ B the cheapest option
- ☐ C still ideal
- ☐ D easier to schedule

15 Blank 4

- ☐ A roughly one hundred and five dollars
- ☐ B just under ninety-two dollars
- ☐ C slightly over one hundred and twenty dollars
- ☐ D about sixty-one dollars

16 Blank 5

- ☐ A better suited to weekends
- ☐ B too late to be practical
- ☐ C the most manageable
- ☐ D hard to get approved

17 Why does Evan prefer Fuse?

- ☐ A It has the lowest deposit
- ☐ B It includes private access
- ☐ C It offers dessert for everyone
- ☐ D It fits the team without overdoing it

18 Evan seems most concerned about

- ☐ A balancing practicality and comfort
- ☐ B getting the longest session possible
- ☐ C avoiding any evening booking
- ☐ D impressing an important client

19

What will Evan most likely do next?

- ☐ A Ask Maya to skip dessert
- ☐ B Contact the studio about availability
- ☐ C Switch to Kiln Plus
- ☐ D Book a weekend session immediately

PART 3

Reading for Information

Read the following passage. 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.

Reading Part 3: Reading for Information

How Bracken Hollow Stores Electricity for Peak Demand

A

Bracken Hollow, on the edge of the fictional town of Larkspur End, was once a stone quarry that had stood idle for almost two decades. Rather than fill it in, the regional utility bought the land in 2011 and studied whether the steep basin could help balance the power grid. Engineers noticed that a ridge above the pit already held a shallow reservoir built years earlier for dust control. By linking the upper pond to a new lower lake in the quarry floor, they could move water between the two. Construction began in 2016, and the station delivered its first electricity three years later, mainly to cover the sharp rise in evening demand.

B

The system works like a giant rechargeable battery, although it stores energy as moving water rather than chemicals. When wind farms and solar arrays are producing more electricity than customers need, pumps send water uphill through a tunnel nearly a kilometre long. Later, during busy periods, the water is released downhill, turning turbines before returning to the lower basin. Because the machinery can start in under two minutes, operators use the site not only to supply power but also to steady sudden swings in the network. Even so, the process is not perfectly efficient: some energy is lost to friction, heat, and evaporation during each cycle.

C

Turning an old industrial site into an energy facility solved one problem but created others. Nearby residents worried that blasting, truck traffic, and round-the-clock lighting would disturb a nesting area used by cliff swallows. In response, the builder shortened the excavation phase, banned heavy deliveries after dusk, and installed shields so floodlights pointed downward. Another concern involved water quality. Since loose rock in the quarry contained fine mineral dust, the company lined sections of the lower basin and added monitoring stations upstream and downstream. According to reports released during the first operating year, bird numbers remained stable and sediment levels stayed within the limits set by the local regulator.

D

Although Bracken Hollow is often praised as a clean-energy project, its backers are careful not to present it as a cure-all. The station does not create new electricity; it shifts available power to a time when demand is higher and prices are steeper. That means its financial success depends heavily on market timing and on having enough low-cost electricity to pump water uphill in the first place. To improve those odds, the utility signed flexible agreements with several large manufacturers that can reduce consumption at short notice. Managers are now studying whether a second tunnel would shorten maintenance shutdowns, but no decision has been announced.

E. Not given in any of the above paragraphs.

- 20** This section explains that the facility mainly moves energy from low-demand hours to busier ones rather than producing extra supply overall.

☐ A B

☐ B D

☐ C E

☐ D A

☐ E C

- 21** This section describes why the location was chosen, including an existing feature that made the conversion practical.

☐ A C

☐ B D

☐ C A

☐ D B

☐ E E

- 22** This section focuses on how excess renewable power is stored and then quickly returned to the grid when needed.

☐ A A

☐ B E

☐ C C

☐ D B

☐ E D

23 This section outlines objections from people living nearby and the measures taken to reduce harm to wildlife and water conditions.

A D

B B

C A

D E

E C

24 The passage states that the project went ahead only after local voters approved it in a public referendum.

A E

B A

C C

D B

E D

25 This section suggests that the site is valuable partly because it can respond almost immediately when the electrical system becomes unstable.

A D

B B

C E

D C

E A

- 26 The passage says that the station's future expansion has already been approved and construction on an additional passage will begin soon.

☐ A D

☐ B A

☐ C E

☐ D B

☐ E C

- 27 This section makes clear that supporters discuss the project in qualified terms, emphasizing limits as well as benefits.

☐ A C

☐ B B

☐ C E

☐ D D

☐ E A

- 28 The passage indicates that repeated pumping cycles become more efficient in winter because colder water reduces heat loss.

☐ A C

☐ B A

☐ C D

☐ D B

☐ E E

PART 4

Reading for Viewpoints

Read the article and the comment that follows it, then answer the questions.

Reading Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

A New Kind of Basement Debate

In the fast-growing district of Harlowe, several new apartment buildings are dropping private basement lockers and replacing them with shared lending rooms stocked with items residents borrow when needed: ladders, carpet cleaners, folding tables, even sewing kits. Developers say the idea saves space and discourages clutter. Critics, however, argue that it solves one problem by creating two others—less secure storage and more friction among neighbours.

The loudest promoter is Celia Voss, manager of the newly opened Juniper Gate complex, where residents reserve household tools through an app and pick them up from a staffed room. "Most people don't need to own a drill, a stroller scale, and a party cooler all year," she said during a building tour. By shrinking storage areas, her company made room for wider bike parking and a second parcel room. Voss insists the model reflects urban life as it is actually lived: smaller homes, occasional needs, and rising costs.

Not everyone sees it that way. Tenant advocate Marcus Iles says the plan quietly transfers inconvenience from builders to renters. "A locker isn't glamorous, but it is yours," he said. Families use them for winter tires, outgrown clothing, keepsakes, and mobility equipment that cannot simply be checked out for a weekend. He also questions whether the sharing room will remain as well stocked once the opening-year publicity fades. In his view, developers are branding a cost-cutting measure as community-minded design.

A more measured view comes from Professor Nadiya Sethi, who studies housing design at Brantwell Polytechnic. Shared rooms, she said, can work surprisingly well when buildings invest in rules, maintenance, and staff time; without those supports, they become a source of petty resentment. Sethi doubts the idea will reduce consumption as much as promoters hope, because people still buy backups when they fear an item will be unavailable before a holiday or move. Even so, she argues that some residents genuinely prefer access over ownership—especially those who move often.

Disappointingly for enthusiasts, the messiest questions are practical rather than philosophical. Building insurer Owen Cray warned that damaged or missing items can trigger disputes over liability, particularly when a borrowed tool causes harm in a unit. "People imagine a friendly shelf with labels," he said, "but once money and injury enter the picture, the paperwork multiplies fast." His concern does not amount to outright opposition, yet it undercuts the claim that shared rooms are a simple win.

Meanwhile, renter Alina Paredes, who uses a walker after knee surgery, said both sides miss something. She would happily borrow a steam cleaner twice a year, but she needs guaranteed space for medical supplies and seasonal gear. A survey at her building found broad support for a lending room—until residents were told it might replace, rather than supplement, personal lockers.

Useful idea, wrong replacement

I've been a building maintenance supervisor for twelve years, and I think this debate gets distorted when people talk as if every object belongs in the same category. Celia Voss is right that many residents do not need to own rarely used equipment, so (6) _____. In one tower I manage, a shared wet vacuum sits idle for days and then gets borrowed by three households after a storm. Still, that success depends on regular inspection, clear booking rules, and someone who notices when parts vanish.

That is why (7) _____. Marcus Iles may sound defensive, but he understands that residents store more than random clutter. I also think Professor Sethi is realistic: people often buy duplicates when they do not trust the system, and (8) _____. Last winter, one resident kept a second space heater in her unit for exactly that reason. As for liability, (9) _____. After a borrowed dolly damaged a hallway door, our insurer wanted a written record of who signed it out. For me, the sensible compromise is simple: (10) _____.

29 This article is mainly about

- ☐ A a dispute over replacing private storage lockers with shared borrowing rooms in apartments
- ☐ B why apartment insurers are resisting digital booking systems for shared tools
- ☐ C whether bike parking should take priority over parcel rooms in new buildings
- ☐ D how renters in Harlowe are reducing waste by giving away unused household items

30 According to Marcus Iles, developers are likely to

- ☐ A face opposition mainly because people dislike new technology
- ☐ B present a money-saving decision as if it benefits the community
- ☐ C discover that residents prefer borrowing mobility equipment
- ☐ D keep lending rooms fully supplied in order to attract families

31 Which situation would Professor Nadiya Sethi most likely see as support for her view?

- ☐ A Managers discover that shared rooms are cheaper to operate than expected
- ☐ B Families store winter tires and keepsakes in private basement units
- ☐ C Residents continue buying their own tools because they doubt they will be available when needed
- ☐ D A building removes lockers and uses the extra space for bike storage

32 The first paragraph mainly provides

- ☐ A evidence that residents already prefer access over ownership
- ☐ B proof that shared lending rooms reduce conflict among neighbours
- ☐ C a history of how basement lockers became standard in apartments
- ☐ D an introduction to the issue and the main lines of disagreement

33 The author's tone indicates the strongest support for

- ☐ A keeping lending rooms only if residents still have reliable private storage
- ☐ B letting insurers decide how apartment amenities should be designed
- ☐ C treating community-sharing models as mostly a passing trend
- ☐ D eliminating storage lockers in all new apartment projects

34 Blank 6

- ☐ A developers have finally solved the problem completely
- ☐ B a lending room can be genuinely practical for some items
- ☐ C most residents misuse storage space anyway
- ☐ D private lockers should disappear from every new building

35 Blank 7

- ☐ A Marcus Iles is mistaken to mention winter tires and keepsakes
- ☐ B I wish insurers had more power over building layouts
- ☐ C I would object if a lending room took the place of tenants' own storage
- ☐ D shared rooms work best when they replace every personal locker

36 Blank 8

- ☐ A that habit proves shared systems are always poorly managed
- ☐ B the extra purchases usually build stronger neighbourly trust
- ☐ C Voss's model therefore cuts consumption more than expected
- ☐ D that weakens the promise that sharing will reduce buying

37

Blank 9

- ☐ A my experience backs up Owen Cray's warning about disputes
- ☐ B Owen Cray is probably overstating a minor paperwork issue
- ☐ C shared tools rarely create questions about responsibility
- ☐ D liability concerns should not affect borrowing policies at all

38

Blank 10

- ☐ A keep only personal lockers and forget the lending idea
- ☐ B add the shared room, but do not eliminate private lockers
- ☐ C let residents vote each month on every item in storage
- ☐ D make borrowing mandatory before anyone can buy equipment

Answer keys

Check your answers against the grids below. Only the listening and reading components have an answer key; writing and speaking are assessed by a teacher.

Reading

01	C	02	D	03	A	04	B	05	C	06	D	07	A	08	B
09	C	10	D	11	A	12	C	13	D	14	A	15	B	16	C
17	D	18	A	19	B	20	B	21	C	22	D	23	E	24	A
25	B	26	C	27	D	28	E	29	A	30	B	31	C	32	D
33	A	34	B	35	C	36	D	37	A	38	B				

No.	Ans.	Part	Correct answer
1	C	Reading Correspondence	to ask for advice after a disrupted site visit
2	D	Reading Correspondence	get Mei's opinion on how to respond
3	A	Reading Correspondence	time was lost before they reached the correct area
4	B	Reading Correspondence	the substitute tour answered practical concerns
5	C	Reading Correspondence	not preventing a predictable misunderstanding
6	D	Reading Correspondence	show Array C before an inspection started
7	A	Reading Correspondence	June 20
8	B	Reading Correspondence	the better next step
9	C	Reading Correspondence	guest entrance
10	D	Reading Correspondence	calm
11	A	Reading Correspondence	more personal
12	C	Reading to Apply a Diagram	more elaborate
13	D	Reading to Apply a Diagram	simplest
14	A	Reading to Apply a Diagram	not really suitable
15	B	Reading to Apply a Diagram	just under ninety-two dollars
16	C	Reading to Apply a Diagram	the most manageable

No.	Ans.	Part	Correct answer
17	D	Reading to Apply a Diagram	It fits the team without overdoing it
18	A	Reading to Apply a Diagram	balancing practicality and comfort
19	B	Reading to Apply a Diagram	Contact the studio about availability
20	B	Reading for Information	D
21	C	Reading for Information	A
22	D	Reading for Information	B
23	E	Reading for Information	C
24	A	Reading for Information	E
25	B	Reading for Information	B
26	C	Reading for Information	E
27	D	Reading for Information	D
28	E	Reading for Information	E
29	A	Reading for Viewpoints	a dispute over replacing private storage lockers with shared borrowing rooms in apartments
30	B	Reading for Viewpoints	present a money-saving decision as if it benefits the community
31	C	Reading for Viewpoints	Residents continue buying their own tools because they doubt they will be available when needed
32	D	Reading for Viewpoints	an introduction to the issue and the main lines of disagreement
33	A	Reading for Viewpoints	keeping lending rooms only if residents still have reliable private storage
34	B	Reading for Viewpoints	a lending room can be genuinely practical for some items
35	C	Reading for Viewpoints	I would object if a lending room took the place of tenants' own storage
36	D	Reading for Viewpoints	that weakens the promise that sharing will reduce buying
37	A	Reading for Viewpoints	my experience backs up Owen Cray's warning about disputes
38	B	Reading for Viewpoints	add the shared room, but do not eliminate private lockers



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