

CANADIAN ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY INDEX PROGRAM

Reading

Section 2 · Study booklet

INSIDE THIS BOOKLET

SECTION 2	Reading	38 questions	≈ 55–60 minutes
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NAME

DATE

SCORE

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A practice booklet to print or complete on screen. The answer key is provided at the end.

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. For each numbered blank in the reply, choose the word or phrase that fits best.

Workplace shift coverage for a farm market event

Can you swap shifts for the Harvest Tasting?

Hi Priya,

I'm writing because I need help with my shift at Spruce & Ember Farm Market on June 20. I'm supposed to work the outdoor tasting table from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., but my landlord just scheduled a plumbing repair in my apartment that afternoon, and I need to be there to let the contractor in.

Would you be able to switch with me? You mentioned last week that you prefer customer-facing tasks to stocking shelves, so I thought the tasting table might suit you better anyway. If you can take my shift, I can cover your early morning bakery restock next Tuesday from 6:30 to 10:00 a.m.

A few details: the tasting table is beside the greenhouse entrance, and the event is for the new honey-roasted pear jam. Lena Ortiz from product demos will bring the sample trays at 10:45. Customers with food allergies should be told that the jam contains almonds. Also, please wear the green market apron, not the black one, because the event photos are for our summer flyer.

Thanks for considering this.

Mason

Re: Can you swap shifts for the Harvest Tasting?

Hi Mason,

I can help you out on June 20, so your shift swap should be fine. I actually enjoy speaking with customers, (1) _____ working at the tasting table sounds like a better fit for me than doing shelf stock in the back.

I just have a couple of questions before I confirm everything. First, could you text me the best time to arrive if I want a few minutes to set up calmly? You said someone is bringing the trays, (2) _____ I don't want to be late if there are signs or napkins to arrange first.

Second, thanks for mentioning the allergy note. I'll make sure to tell shoppers that the jam (3) _____ almonds, and I'll also put that information near the samples if there's a small sign available.

I'm happy to wear the (4) _____ apron for the photos. Also, your offer to cover my bakery shift next Tuesday is (5) _____. I've been trying to avoid the early start that week.

Before I say yes officially, I want to confirm a few details: the table is by the (6) _____ entrance, Lena (7) _____ will bring the trays, the product is the new (8) _____, and I should mention that it contains (9) _____. I'll also wear the (10) _____ apron, and in return you'll cover my (11) _____ shift next Tuesday.

Priya

1 Blank 1

A unless

B so

C although

D while

2 Blank 2

A or

B because

C if

D but

3

Blank 3

A contains

B spills

C heats

D covers

4

Blank 4

A plain

B formal

C green

D spare

5

Blank 5

A unclear

B helpful

C costly

D unlikely

6

Blank 6

A loading

B front

C side

D greenhouse

7

Blank 7

A Ortiz

B Martel

C Santos

D Breen

8

Blank 8

A apple butter

B berry syrup

C honey-roasted pear jam

D peach chutney

9

Blank 9

A walnuts

B almonds

C sesame

D peanuts

10

Blank 10

A black

B striped

C cotton

D green

11

Blank 11

A early morning bakery restock

B closing cashier

C produce delivery

D greenhouse cleanup

PART 2

Reading to Apply a Diagram

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

Fitness studio membership plans

Larkspur Fitness Studio Membership Options

| Plan | Monthly Fee | Contract | Class Access | Guest Privilege | Booking Window | Extras |

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| Flex Pass | \$39 | Month-to-month | 4 group classes per month | None | 3 days | Locker rental not included |

| Daytime Plus | \$52 | 3 months | Unlimited classes before 4:00 p.m. only | 1 guest pass each month | 5 days | Free towel service |

| Full Access | \$68 | 6 months | Unlimited classes at all times | 2 guest passes each month | 7 days | Free towel service; 1 locker rental included |

| Weekend Saver | \$44 | 2 months | Unlimited classes on Saturdays and Sundays | None | 4 days | One free smoothie per month |

| Team Duo | \$110 | 6 months | Unlimited classes at all times for 2 people | No extra guest passes | 7 days | 2 locker rentals included |

| Student Start | \$35 | 4 months | 6 group classes per month | None | 3 days | Valid student ID required |

Message

Hi, I'm helping my cousin Niko choose a membership at Larkspur Fitness Studio. He works evenings, so he wants to attend daytime classes only. He does not want a contract longer than three months, and he would like at least one guest pass so he can bring a friend occasionally. He also hopes to keep the cost as low as possible. Could you look at the chart and tell me which option fits him best, and answer a few other questions I have?

12 Which membership should Niko choose?

A Flex Pass

B Daytime Plus

C Full Access

D Weekend Saver

13 Why is Full Access not the best choice for Niko?

A It has no guest pass

B It allows only morning classes

C It costs more than Team Duo

D Its contract is too long

14 A member wants unlimited classes at any time but does not need a plan for two people. Which plan fits best?

A Daytime Plus

B Weekend Saver

C Full Access

D Student Start

15 Which plan gives the earliest booking access for one person at the lowest monthly fee?

A Daytime Plus

B Full Access

C Team Duo

D Flex Pass

16 If someone only works out on weekends and wants the shortest contract among weekend-suitable plans, which plan should they pick?

A Weekend Saver

B Full Access

C Flex Pass

D Team Duo

17 Which membership is clearly intended for a pair rather than a single member?

A Weekend Saver

B Full Access

C Team Duo

D Student Start

18 A customer wants the cheapest plan that includes some classes but does not require student identification. Which option matches that need?

A Flex Pass

B Student Start

C Weekend Saver

D Daytime Plus

19 What can be inferred about Daytime Plus compared with Flex Pass?

A It is cheaper each month

B It includes fewer total classes

C It offers no extra services

D It suits regular daytime users better

PART 3

Reading for Information

Read the passage. Each paragraph is labelled with a letter. Answer the questions.

Urban wildlife management

How One City Reduced Conflicts with Urban Foxes

A

In the fictional city of Bellmare, sightings of red foxes increased as new housing spread into open fields. Residents reported tipped garbage bins, missing pet food, and dens under backyard sheds. In response, the local environmental office launched the FoxWise program. Instead of removing animals immediately, staff first studied where and when conflicts happened. They found that most complaints were linked to easy access to food rather than aggressive behaviour by the foxes.

B

FoxWise then focused on prevention. Households in the busiest reporting zones received locking bin straps and simple guides on storing pet food indoors. The city also asked builders to close gaps beneath decks and garden structures before the spring breeding season. These steps were chosen because they reduced attractive shelter and food sources at the same time. Officials stressed that feeding foxes, even out of curiosity, made the animals bolder around people.

C

After one year, the environmental office compared complaint records from before and after the program began. Calls about overturned garbage dropped sharply in areas that used the bin straps regularly. However, the total number of fox sightings stayed about the same. Staff said this was not a failure. The aim was not to make foxes disappear, but to lower the number of negative encounters while allowing the animals to remain part of the local ecosystem.

D

The program still has limits. Some residents expect a quick solution and become frustrated when they continue to see foxes near parks or laneways. In addition, renters cannot always make repairs to outdoor structures without a landlord's approval. For that reason, FoxWise recently began working with property owners and neighbourhood associations, hoping to expand prevention measures beyond single households. The office says long-term success depends on steady public cooperation, not one-time action.

20 In which paragraph is the main cause of most fox-related complaints identified as something people can control?

A B

B A

C D

D Not given in the passage

21 Which paragraph would help a reader who wants to know why the city did not judge the program only by how many foxes were seen?

A C

B A

C Not given in the passage

D D

22 In which paragraph is there information about a barrier that may stop some residents from making physical changes on their property?

A A

B Not given in the passage

C C

D D

23 Which paragraph explains measures that were selected because they addressed two related problems at once?

A D

B A

C B

D Not given in the passage

24 In which paragraph is it suggested that some people misunderstood what a successful result would look like?

A B

B C

C Not given in the passage

D A

25 Which paragraph mentions that the city first gathered evidence before deciding how to respond?

A A

B C

C Not given in the passage

D D

26 In which paragraph is a warning given that human behaviour can unintentionally make foxes less cautious?

A C

B Not given in the passage

C B

D D

27 Which paragraph states that veterinary clinics were asked to report fox injuries caused by traffic?

A B

B Not given in the passage

C C

D D

28 What is the main purpose of the passage?

A To argue that urban foxes should be removed from residential areas

B To compare several wild animal control methods used by different cities

C To teach homeowners how to build shelters that keep foxes away

D To explain how one local program tried to reduce conflict between people and foxes

PART 4

Reading for Viewpoints

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

Workplace culture and remote work

Why Offices Should Earn the Commute

At many companies in Alderwick, the debate over remote work has hardened into a slogan contest. Managers say employees belong back at their desks. Workers reply that productivity did not collapse when kitchens became offices. Both sides are partly right, but the wrong question is driving the argument. Instead of asking how many days people must be in the office, employers should ask what the office is actually for.

For routine tasks, the answer is often: not much. Writing reports, processing invoices, coding, and answering straightforward messages can usually be done anywhere with a reliable connection. Requiring people to spend an hour commuting merely to sit in video calls with colleagues in the next room is not discipline; it is waste dressed up as tradition.

Yet the case for keeping offices does not disappear. New employees learn faster when they can overhear how experienced staff solve problems. Sensitive discussions are often better in person, where tone is easier to read and misunderstandings can be corrected quickly. Teams also build trust through small, unscheduled exchanges that rarely happen in a calendar invite.

That is why blanket policies fail. A rigid return-to-office rule ignores the fact that some work demands concentration, while some demands collaboration. But a fully remote model can quietly create another problem: it tends to favour people who already know the system. Veterans cope; newcomers drift. Over time, a company may look efficient on paper while becoming weaker at mentoring, creativity, and shared standards.

The practical solution is not to count chairs but to design purpose. If a team is coming in, there should be a reason: training, planning, problem-solving, or difficult conversations. If there is no clear collective benefit, people should be trusted to work elsewhere. In other words, offices should stop being symbols of control and become tools used with intention. Employers who can explain why a meeting or workday must happen in person will get more cooperation than those who simply demand attendance.

Comment: Flexibility Sounds Fair, but It Is Not Always Equal

I agree that forcing everyone back to the office just to prove they are working is hard to defend. Still, the article assumes employees have enough control over their schedules to benefit equally from flexibility. In many workplaces, that is not true. People with seniority often get the best hybrid arrangements, while newer staff are told to be "team players." So flexibility can become a reward for status rather than a sensible way to organize work.

I also think the writer is too optimistic about offices becoming purposeful overnight. Unless managers are trained to run better in-person days, staff may still commute for meetings that could have been emails. In that case, the office remains a habit, not a tool. A fairer approach would start with clear rules: which tasks require presence, who decides, and how exceptions are handled.

Most of all, companies should judge workers by results, not by how visible they are. Otherwise, hybrid work will simply (1) _____ old office politics in a new form. Purpose matters, but so does accountability. If leaders cannot explain why one person must come in while another stays home, employees will (2) _____ the policy. And if junior staff are expected to learn by being present, then managers should also be present often enough to (3) _____. Without that consistency, "mentoring" becomes an excuse. In the end, a good hybrid system needs not only flexibility but also (4) _____ so people know the rules apply to everyone.

29 What is the author's main argument in the article?

- A Companies should require most employees to return because in-person work is usually more productive.
- B Remote work works best when offices are gradually closed to reduce unnecessary costs.
- C Employers should decide office attendance based on the purpose of the work, not on fixed attendance rules.
- D Workers and managers disagree mainly because they define productivity in completely different ways.

30 Why does the author describe some commuting as "waste dressed up as tradition"?

- A Because some employees travel to the office even when their tasks could be done just as effectively elsewhere.
- B Because companies spend too much money maintaining office buildings that are already outdated.
- C Because staff members often waste time chatting in person instead of completing urgent assignments.
- D Because workers are expected to use video calls rather than meet face to face when problems arise.

31 According to the article, what is one risk of a fully remote workplace?

- A Employees may become less interested in staying with the company for many years.
- B Routine administrative work may become harder to complete on time.
- C Managers may lose the ability to measure productivity accurately.
- D Newer employees may have a harder time learning informal practices and getting guidance.

32 What is the purpose of the paragraph beginning "Yet the case for keeping offices does not disappear"?

- A To admit that the earlier criticism of commuting was too harsh and should be withdrawn.
- B To show that the author supports offices for specific benefits, even while rejecting blanket attendance demands.
- C To argue that sensitive conversations should always happen in person rather than online.
- D To prove that experienced staff are more productive when they supervise newer workers directly.

33 Which situation would the author most likely support?

- A A company requires everyone to attend three fixed office days each week, regardless of role.
- B A team comes in for training and planning sessions, but completes solo tasks remotely when appropriate.
- C A department eliminates office space because most employees prefer working from home.
- D A manager lets each employee choose any schedule without explaining team expectations.

34 Blank 1

- A ignore
- B reduce
- C clarify
- D recreate

35 Blank 2

A question

B celebrate

C expand

D finalize

36 Blank 3

A save commuting costs

B approve exceptions quickly

C support that learning

D observe employee attendance

37 Blank 4

A patience

B consistency

C privacy

D speed

38 How does the commenter differ from the article writer?

A The commenter is more concerned that hybrid policies can be applied unfairly, especially between senior and junior staff.

B The commenter believes offices no longer serve any useful purpose in modern workplaces.

C The commenter thinks remote work mainly fails because employees do not trust managers.

D The commenter rejects the idea that results should matter more than visibility at work.

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

No.	Ans.	Part	Correct answer
1	B	Reading Correspondence	so
2	D	Reading Correspondence	but
3	A	Reading Correspondence	contains
4	C	Reading Correspondence	green
5	B	Reading Correspondence	helpful
6	D	Reading Correspondence	greenhouse
7	A	Reading Correspondence	Ortiz
8	C	Reading Correspondence	honey-roasted pear jam
9	B	Reading Correspondence	almonds
10	D	Reading Correspondence	green
11	A	Reading Correspondence	early morning bakery restock
12	B	Reading to Apply a Diagram	Daytime Plus
13	D	Reading to Apply a Diagram	Its contract is too long
14	C	Reading to Apply a Diagram	Full Access
15	B	Reading to Apply a Diagram	Full Access
16	A	Reading to Apply a Diagram	Weekend Saver

No.	Ans.	Part	Correct answer
17	C	Reading to Apply a Diagram	Team Duo
18	A	Reading to Apply a Diagram	Flex Pass
19	D	Reading to Apply a Diagram	It suits regular daytime users better
20	B	Reading for Information	A
21	A	Reading for Information	C
22	D	Reading for Information	D
23	C	Reading for Information	B
24	B	Reading for Information	C
25	A	Reading for Information	A
26	C	Reading for Information	B
27	B	Reading for Information	Not given in the passage
28	D	Reading for Information	To explain how one local program tried to reduce conflict between people and foxes
29	C	Reading for Viewpoints	Employers should decide office attendance based on the purpose of the work, not on fixed attendance rules.
30	A	Reading for Viewpoints	Because some employees travel to the office even when their tasks could be done just as effectively elsewhere.
31	D	Reading for Viewpoints	Newer employees may have a harder time learning informal practices and getting guidance.
32	B	Reading for Viewpoints	To show that the author supports offices for specific benefits, even while rejecting blanket attendance demands.
33	B	Reading for Viewpoints	A team comes in for training and planning sessions, but completes solo tasks remotely when appropriate.
34	D	Reading for Viewpoints	recreate
35	A	Reading for Viewpoints	question
36	C	Reading for Viewpoints	support that learning
37	B	Reading for Viewpoints	consistency
38	A	Reading for Viewpoints	The commenter is more concerned that hybrid policies can be applied unfairly, especially between senior and junior staff.

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