Canadian Language Benchmarks
Can Do Statements

Reading

At this Benchmark, I can:

- understand most moderately complex reading materials

When:

- the text is moderate in length
- the text is factual, descriptive or argumentative with opinions and implied meanings
- the vocabulary includes a range of concrete, abstract or specialized terms, and idiomatic language

Interacting with Others

■ Understand social messages for a variety of purposes.

For example:
- general opinions in a blog
- responses to complaints or sympathy

Getting Things Done

■ Locate, integrate, and use 3 or 4 pieces of information from formatted texts.

For example:
- an online financial table which indicates the amount that a person is eligible to receive, or needs to pay

■ Get information from business service texts containing proposals, recommendations and statements of rules, regulations, and policies.

For example:
- an organization's declaration of rights and responsibilities

Comprehending Instructions

■ Follow extended instructions with up to about 13 steps or 8-15 paragraphs for specialized tasks.

For example:
- how to program a small electronic item
- how to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR)

Comprehending Information

■ Understand extended descriptions, feature articles, reports, and narrations.

For example:
- letters to the editor expressing opinions about a controversial issue

■ Interpret and use information in charts, diagrams, tables, graphs, and flow charts.

For example:
- a patient health status chart for nurses

■ Access and use several pieces of information from different online reference sources.

For example:
- information on the Statistics Canada website

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