STAGE II

Reading – Benchmark 6

Profile of Ability

The reader can:

Understand an adequate range of moderately complex texts in predictable, practical and relevant social, educational and work-related situations.

When the text is:

- Mostly concrete, factual and descriptive
- With mostly common and some abstract or specialized vocabulary and occasional idioms
- Occasionally supported by visuals
- Relatively short
- In moderately demanding contexts

Demonstrating these strengths and limitations:

- Identifies purpose, main ideas, specific factual details and some implied meanings
- Finds specific, detailed information for comparing and contrasting
- Sometimes guesses the meaning of unknown terms, phrases or idioms from the context without a dictionary
- May reread and ask for clarification
- Comprehension is based on a developing understanding of complex sentences and structures
- Identifies an expanding range of different styles and registers
- Uses a concise unilingual ESL dictionary regularly

I. Interacting with Others

- Understand moderately complex social messages (such as those conveying announcements, cancellations of arrangements and apologies) related to a personal experience or a familiar context.
- Identifies specific factual details and implied meanings.
- Identifies the purpose.
- Identifies reader/writer relationship.
- Identifies mood and attitude of the writer.
- Identifies the context.
- Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Reading Benchmark 6, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

Sample Tasks

Read an invitation to a fundraising event to decide whether or not to attend by reviewing purpose, formality, details about the occasion and expectations of participants.

Read an email message in which a friend or family member apologizes for a remark or incident that may have been hurtful and explains the reasons for the inappropriate behaviour.

II. Comprehending Instructions

• Understand moderately complex instructions and instructional texts for multistep procedures related to everyday situations, where the sequence must be inferred.

[Instructions are up to 10 steps, presented partially in point form or in a text of about 3 to 5 paragraphs; not always step by step; some visual clues may support comprehension.]

- Interprets sequence and location signals and implied meanings to infer the correct sequence.
- Follows instructions as required to complete the task.
- Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Reading Benchmark 6, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

Sample Tasks

Read and follow instructions and warnings on a label for a common chemical product (such as cleaning products, paint thinner) used at home or at work.

Follow security instructions and safety regulations at work.

Read instructions on submitting an application for post-secondary study and follow the steps in the correct order. (Before submitting your application, ensure that you have your academic transcript and 3 reference letters. Within 3 weeks of an offer of acceptance, submit payment for the first installment.)