STAGE II

Reading – Benchmark 7

Profile of Ability

The reader can:

Understand an expanding range of moderately complex texts in less predictable but relevant social, educational and work-related situations.

When the text is:

- Factual, descriptive or argumentative; with opinions, explicit and implied meanings
- With concrete, abstract or specialized vocabulary, and some idioms
- Moderate in length
- In moderately demanding contexts

Demonstrating these strengths and limitations:

- Identifies purpose, main ideas, specific details and many implied meanings
- Finds, integrates, compares and contrasts information
- Often guesses the meaning of unknown terms, phrases and idioms from the context
- Comprehension is based on a developing understanding of an increasing range of complex sentences and structures
- Identifies a range of different styles and registers
- Uses a unilingual dictionary to confirm and refine interpretation of unknown terms

I. Interacting with Others

- Understand moderately complex personal and public social messages (such as those conveying appreciation, complaints, hopes, satisfaction and dissatisfaction).
- Identifies specific factual details and implied meanings.
- Identifies the purpose of the message.
- Identifies the reader/writer relationship.
- Identifies the mood and attitude of the writer.
- Identifies context, register and style.
- Demonstrates strengths and limitations typical of Reading Benchmark 7, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

Sample Tasks

Read a letter or email from a co-worker conveying feelings about some bad news or expressing disappointment about not getting a promotion.

Read a letter from a family physician announcing that she has accepted an offer for a new position and requesting acceptance and support for the recent medical school graduate who will be taking over the practice.

Read an email from a friend conveying opinions about a current event or social issue to decide whether to agree or disagree.

II. Comprehending Instructions

 Understand moderately complex instructions and instructional texts for multistep procedures related to familiar tasks, which may be specialized or technical.

[Instructions are about 10 to 13 steps in a clear and explicit text of about 5 to 10 paragraphs, not always presented step by step.]

- 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 7, as listed in the Profile of Ability.

Sample Tasks

Read and follow instructions, including diagrams on how to assemble a piece of furniture or equipment.

Read and follow instructions on how to remove a computer virus and prevent further virus infection.

Read and follow instructions on how to conduct a moderately complex science experiment.