

# The Canadian Academic English Language (CAEL) Assessment

## DEFORESTATION

### Sample Version

In the CAEL Assessment, you will be asked to do the things you would be expected to do in a university course. You will read two articles which will provide you with background information about a topic and answer questions about them. You will listen to part of a university lecture which will deepen your understanding of the topic. The final task will be to write a response to a question about the topic using information from the readings and the lecture.

### Summary

Time	Task	Points
30 minutes	Reading 1	15 points
30 minutes	Reading 2	27 points
15 minutes	Listening	19 points
45 minutes	Writing	Level placement

**Total time: 2 hours**

All the readings and the lecture in this sample CAEL Assessment are on the topic of deforestation. It is important to understand that at this point in the test you do not need to know anything about the topic of deforestation. All of the information you need to respond to the Writing Task is provided in the lecture and the readings.

You will be able to use information from the lecture and the readings to complete the **Writing Task**.

At the end of the test, you will write an essay agreeing or disagreeing with the following statement:

**Canada's largest natural resource, its woodlands, is in danger of being exhausted. Although part of the fault is due to natural causes, the main culprits are the forest industry itself and the government.**

**Reading 1: "Canada's Wasted Woodlands" (30 minutes/15 points)**

**READ THE QUESTIONS BEFORE YOU READ THE ARTICLE.** Now, read the article in order to answer the questions.

1. Which paragraph states the main concern of this article? \_\_\_\_\_  
(1 point)

2. What is the purpose of the first six paragraphs?  
(2 points)

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3. According to this article, what are the two main reasons for the current state of the forestry industry?  
(3 points)

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4. If the forestry industry declines, what will the economic consequences be for Canada?  
(4 points)

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5. List two solutions to Canada's forestry problems suggested in this article.  
(2 points)

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6. Match the number of the paragraph in the article to the sentence below which best summarizes the paragraph. The first one has been done for you.

(3 points)

- a. 17 Discusses the economic consequences of the industry's failure.
- b. \_\_\_\_\_ Describes the loss of productive forest area through both human and natural causes.
- c. \_\_\_\_\_ Talks about the industry response to the situation.
- d. \_\_\_\_\_ Suggests a possible solution to the political aspect of the forestry problem.

**THIS IS THE END OF READING 1**

**Reading 2: "Exhausting the Inexhaustible" (30 minutes/27 points)**

**READ THE QUESTIONS BEFORE YOU READ THE ARTICLE.** Now look for the information in the article.

1. What is the main idea of this article? Put a check mark ✓ beside the correct answer.  
(1 point)

\_\_\_\_\_ the writings of John A. MacDonald

\_\_\_\_\_ the timber trade is Canada's largest industry

\_\_\_\_\_ Canada's timber resource is inexhaustible

\_\_\_\_\_ Canada is running out of trees

2. What percentage of Canada's land is covered by trees? \_\_\_\_\_  
(1 point)

3. Fill in the chart below explaining why this percentage is deceptive.  
(6 points)

<b>Problem</b>	<b>Details</b>
quality of trees	• _____
availability of suitable trees	• _____ • _____ • _____
type of mills	• _____ • _____

4. What evidence is there to support the following statement: "**Our forests are also shrinking.**"

(1 point)

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5. What is the purpose of paragraphs 5 and 6 in the article?

(1 point)

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**GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE**

6. According to the article, in which area could the depletion of Canada's forests have devastating consequences? Put a check mark  beside the correct answer. .

(1 point)

- Environment
- Employment
- Exports

7. Fill in the chart below with information about loss of our forests due to fire and insects.

(4 points)

Year	Natural cause	Result
1980	• _____	• _____
1981	• _____	Eastern Canada _____ Quebec • _____

8. According to the article, which one of the following causes the most damage? Put a check mark  beside the correct answer.

(1 point)

- Fire
- Disease
- Insects
- Human perceptions

9. List three ways in which the forests are neglected:.

(3 points)

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

10. According to the article, who is responsible for the failure to manage the forest

resource?

(1 point)

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**GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE**

11. Which level of government is responsible for each of the following areas of neglect. Use **P** for Provincial and **F** for Federal (Explanation: Federal government is the national government of Canada which passes laws concerning issues that affect all of the provinces. Provincial government is the regional government of each province which passes laws concerning issues affecting only that province. There are ten provinces in Canada). **The first one has been done for you.**

(4 points)

**LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT AREA OF NEGLECT**

- F** lack of leadership
- has not enforced reforestation
- reduced CFS staff
- halved available research money
- hasn't developed plans for forest industry

12. What is now being done to protect the trees?

(3 points)

· \_\_\_\_\_

· \_\_\_\_\_

· \_\_\_\_\_

13. Are the forests still shrinking? Please put a check mark ✓ beside the correct answer.

(1 point)

Yes  No

**THIS IS THE END OF READING 2**

## **Listening Section (15 minutes/19 points)**

During this part of the test you will hear a taped lecture on deforestation. The tape will be played only once. You must answer the questions **while** you are listening to the tape. The questions follow the sequence of the lecture. Do not stop to re-write answers during the listening. At the end of the lecture, you will have 5 minutes to go over your answers. You have 3 minutes now to read the questions in this section before you listen to the lecture.

### **ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS WHILE LISTENING TO THE LECTURE.**

1. What is this lecture about? Check ✓ one.

(1 point)

- Logging in the Amazon rainforests
- Pollution of the earth' s atmosphere
- Destruction of the world' s forests
- The forest industry since 1950

2. According to the speaker, name 3 reasons why "an all-out war is being waged against the forests of the world"?

(3 points)

a) \_\_\_\_\_

b) \_\_\_\_\_

c) \_\_\_\_\_

3. How much of the earth's surface was covered by forests in 1950? \_\_\_\_\_

(1 point)

4. How much is covered now? \_\_\_\_\_

(1 point)

**GO ON TO THE NEXT PAGE**

5. Fill in the chart below with the missing information.

(4 points)

Location	Degree of Deforestation
Malaysia	-half the forest logged in the past 20 years
• _____	-40% forest cut in past 10 years
Amazon forest	• _____
Asia and Africa	• _____
• _____	-more than 1/3 deforested

6. Fill in the chart below with information from the lecture.

(4 points)

#### RESULTS OF DEFORESTATION

RESULTS OF DEFORESTATION	
LOCAL	GLOBAL
erosion	increased carbon dioxide
/ \	
flooding in the wet season	a) b)
\ /	
produces desert	increased temperature
	/ \
c)	affects climate d)

7. The Main Idea

(5 points)

In the space below (approximately twenty lines), summarize, in point form if you like, the **main** points of this lecture

**THIS IS THE END OF THE LISTENING SECTION**