

# PLC Entrance Test

*This is the entrance test for PLC's academic programs. Students without evidence of IELTS need to pass this in order to enter these programs.*

*Should students trying to get into the program fail this, they will need to attend one of the College's academic preparation programs first.*

## Listening (Total marks for segment = 9)

Sample (available as audio and transcript below)

Personal health is an aspect of student life that, though important, tends to get overlooked. The idea of the "freshman fifteen" is a decades-old joke that refers to the fact that college students tend to put on 15lbs (7kg) during their first year. This weight gain is a result of sedentary living. Students' minds get stimulated in university; however, the body can sometimes suffer from lack of exercise. A myriad of other health problems hit students too, both physical and mental.

The key to keeping fit while in college lies in exercise. Students need to make sure that they take part in sports and fitness activities, which are usually available at their institutions or at activity centres in their towns. No big budget is needed to stay fit: activities such as flag football and ultimate Frisbee actually became famous at colleges as ways for students to be active without having to spend a lot to get into teams or money to buy equipment. Additionally, one of the best forms of exercise continues to be walking. Apart from exercise, healthy eating is important too, as well as regular physical checkups.

## Multiple Choice (1 mark)

Q. What is the key to keeping fit in college?

Studying

Being on time for class

Exercise

Using the college cafeteria

## Short Answer (2 marks)

Q. What is the "freshman fifteen?"

A.

## Sentence Completion (3 marks)

The main reason for student weight gain is \_\_\_\_\_, which results from students getting lots of \_\_\_\_\_ but very little \_\_\_\_\_.

## Matching (3 marks)

Match the activity with its benefits.

Exercise

Checking for health issues

Healthy eating

Nutrition

Physical checkups

Burning fat and building strength

## Reading

Read the following passages and then answer the questions.

### Reading 1 (Total marks for segment = 5)

#### **Disrupting Technology**

One of the main drivers of technological change today is disruption. A number of companies have made notable impact in the world by changing the conventional ways things are done. These technological disruptors have made both the general public as well as industry leaders take notice.

One of the first disrupters was Uber, a company that disrupted the taxi industry by allowing almost any person to be paid to drive anyone, with part of said fee going to Uber. The service became a hit in large cities like New York and Toronto where finding a cab is tough. Taxi company owners have had to completely change the way they operate in order to compete with this service.

For cities less inclined to let just anyone offer rides, another kind of disruptor has stepped in: ride-share companies like Car2Go. Unlike Uber that just disrupts taxi companies, Car2Go disrupts both taxi and also car rental companies by allowing anyone to quickly rent cars from a phone application. Customers can book and drive cars for just minutes to days, as long as they are registered with Car2Go and have a valid driving license.

One other big disrupter is AirBnB that allows people to rent out their homes in direct competition to hotels. Another disrupter, Spotify, has become a common name in a very short while by providing streaming music playing service; it has put the very act of buying music as singles or albums at risk. Netflix is the video equivalent of Spotify, and has directly led to the death of physical video rentals like Blockbuster.

#### Choose the Best Answer (5 marks)

1. The best title for the third paragraph is \_\_\_\_\_.
  - a. renting cars
  - b. Uber disrupts taxis
  - c. Car2Go versus taxis and car rentals
  - d. ride sharing is complicated
  
2. One main driving force behind technological change is \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. AirBnB
- b. Spotify
- 3. Uber is disrupting rental companies.
- a. Yes
- b. No
- 4. Spotify is changing the way \_\_\_\_\_.
- a. people view video
- b. people access music
- 5. \_\_\_\_\_ is directly competing with hotels.
- a. Nobody
- b. Netflix
- c. buying music
- d. technological disruptors
- c. Does not say
- c. companies do business
- d. people order food
- c. Hotels.com
- d. AirBnB

## Reading 2 (Total marks for segment = 9)

### The Technology of Confusion

I do not fear getting old; however, I am terrified of getting old as technology becomes more complicated. Just as my father did before me, I imagine being utterly perplexed in my old age by some new-fangled invention that everyone 20 years younger than me understands easily.

In my father's case, it was the personal computer that did him in. I remember him sitting at the computer, typing with just his index fingers, one key at a time. He would ask every so often how to move the page down, completely forgetting the mouse existed. Explaining the existence of the mouse to him always led to some frustration on his part since he then had to use something other than the familiar keyboard. He could never use the computer for more than 30 minutes without taking off his bifocals with a sigh.

For years the idea of me being befuddled by anything technological never crossed my mind. This changed when my daughter showed me SnapChat. I sat there trying for many minutes to understand the difference between a direct chat and a "story." Ultimately I realized that I just would not be able to comprehend what even the basics of this communication medium meant.

It was not the end of the world. However, I knew that this was the beginning of my own alienation from new technology. It would not be long before the day came when I too took off my bifocals with a sigh.

### Multiple Choice (1 mark)

Q. What does the narrator fear?

SnapChat

Computers

Old age

Not being able to understand new technology with age

### Short Answer (2 marks)

Q. How did the narrator's father try using the computer?

A.

### Sentence Completion (3 marks)

When being introduced by her daughter to \_\_\_\_\_, the narrator could not understand the difference between a \_\_\_\_\_ and a \_\_\_\_\_.

### Matching (3 marks)

Match the person with the technology with which they are familiar.

Narrator

Technology before PCs

Narrator's father

SnapChat

Narrator's daughter

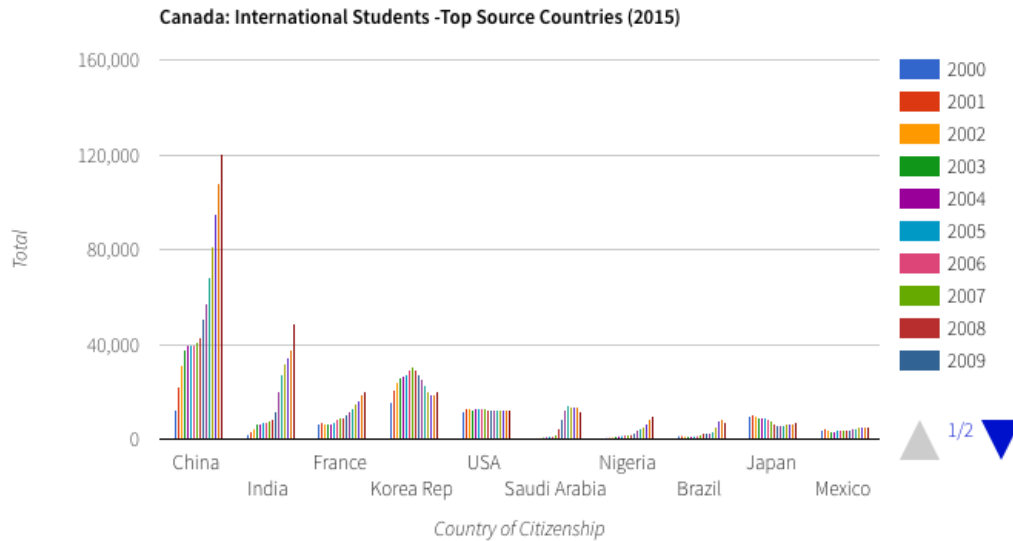
Computer

## Writing

Academic Writing Prompt (5 marks)

# Canada International Students by Country (2015)

BY THE CANADIAN MAGAZINE OF IMMIGRATION · APRIL 15, 2016



The graph above shows international student numbers in Canada from 2000-2009.

Summarize the information by selecting and reporting the main features, and make comparisons where relevant (maximum 150 words).

## Speaking (5 marks)

This part is an interview. The examiner will ask the following questions after introducing themselves.

Describe your one of your favourite dishes with regard to food:

- What is it?
- Why do you like it so much?
- When and where did you first have it?
- How were you introduced to it?

*Or*

Describe one of your hobbies:

- What is it?
- Why did you become interested in it?
- How has your relationship to this hobby changed over time?
- What are your plans for the future in terms of this hobby?

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Segment marks

Listening – 9

Reading 1 – 5

Reading 2 – 9

Writing – 5

Speaking – 5

Total marks = 33

For IELTS 6.0, student needs to get 63%, or 21 marks out of 33. Each segment mark should not be below 60%.

For IELTS 5.5, student needs to get 55% or 18 marks out of 33. Each segment mark should not be below 51%.