

May 2019

CONTACT US:

LITERACYSERVICES@LETHLIB.CA

MESSAGE FROM LIL

It's that time of year again— we need every student who is taking one-on-one tutoring to complete an evaluation of the Read On program. Please take time during your session to log to our website (www.letlib.ca/readon) and follow the link to the evaluation. We need them all completed by **June 30** please.

If you tutor at The Crossings branch, the Touch Screen computer to log your hours has been moved close to the newspapers and magazines. This is due to the need for it to be hardwired into the Wifi. If you can't locate it, please ask the staff at the front desk.

Along those lines, we have decided to cancel Web Assistant as it was only being used by 2 or 3 tutors each week yet doubled the cost of our subscription. This software allowed tutors to log their hours from any computer. You can still log your hours on the touch screens at Main and The Crossings, or, you can email staff to have them enter your statistics on your behalf.

For the library's 100th Birthday, we are asking each of you to write on one of the cards in Read On: how your tutor has helped you; how your student has impacted you; how the Read On program has helped you achieve your goal; a memory you have of Read On that makes you smile; or anything else you think others would be interested in. We are going to attach the cards to the "silk" palm tree we have in Read On so that we can all celebrate together. Help us to cover the palm tree cards!

Finally, we are starting to plan our Annual Holiday Party and would like each tutor and student to take a minute to fill out a survey on how you think we should plan it. Elizabeth will be sending an email with the link, or, you can go to our website (www.letlib.ca/readon) and follow the link from there. We are also looking for one or two tutors to help plan the party. We think this would be very few hours until November when we would need your help more often. If you are interested, please let me know.

- Lil



Summer Classes

You are now able to register for any of our Summer classes which will start the first week of June and end the middle of August.

If you wish to take a class, you must come into Read On, register and pay the

registration fee. Please note, classes may be cancelled if there are not at least 3 students registered in a class.

We will be closed Monday, May 20 for the May Long Weekend. As of that date, we will be closing on Fridays at 5:30 p.m. until the September long weekend.

We will also close at 3:30 p.m. on May 24 for an all staff meeting.



Free Time—M. Gao

I want to talk about free time. Many people are stuck on their daily or weekly routines, which is good. They know if they give a good effort on the job, they will get a good wage and that will make their life easier to get through. However, free time is also very important in our daily life. I want to share my feelings on free time such as the meaning, benefit and content of free time.

For me, free time is to be treasured. Free time exists under some restrictions, for example, our free time is limited. Taking advantage of the importance of free time is our responsibility for self-care. Without taking free time, my life becomes boring, seems demanding, and I end up in an unhealthy cycle.

The benefit of free time for me, is a way to get energy. This energy includes my mental and physical health. During my free time, I don't have to face other people, I don't have to take responsibility for others, and I can be myself to do whatever I want. This is a good way for me to release stress and increase my happiness and satisfaction. I can be myself. Not a mom. Not a wife. Not a daughter.

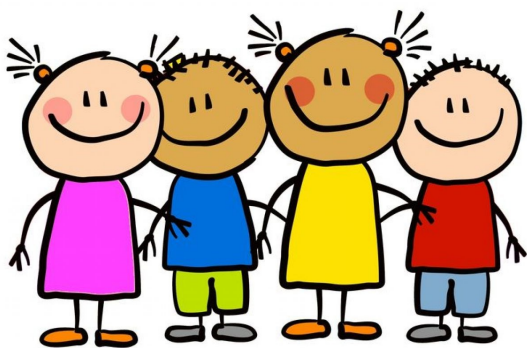
I can ask myself questions. Asking questions is a good way to understand myself. Why did I do that? What do I want to do? It is a good reflection of my experiences. What do I do right? What did I do that was stupid? This reflection helps me to face new challenges.

Free time also gives me physical health. My body is a machine. How can I make my machine run a long time? The answer is, relaxing and resting. There is a Chinese saying that a good rest is to take a longer road. I agree with that. During my free time, my posture is no longer stiff, my muscles are not tight, I don't wear make up, and I don't have to always smile at people. I am just honest and true to myself.

Now, let's talk about the content of free time. What I can do during my free time? I really like this subtopic. Everyone is different. I think It's totally depends on your personality and hobby.

Before I had my daughter, when I was at home, I always played background music while cooking, or sometimes I just lay on the sofa reading books. After I had Olivia, my free times were short. When she goes to school and my husband goes to work, I really like the quiet. I don't want to play any music. I just want to enjoy the sunshine, lay on the sofa, and do nothing. It also depends on how much free time I have. If I just have 20 minutes, I treat that time as precious to me.

To sum up, free time adds balance, purpose and joy when planned well. Let's be grateful for it and enjoy it, which will make our life better and better.



Child Minding

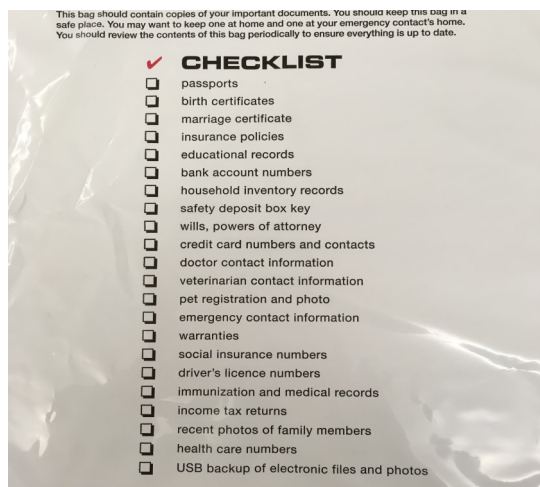
- ◇ Is available while you are in your tutor session or class.
- ◇ Is only for children aged 1—11 years old
- ◇ Is only for children who do not need special care.
- ◇ Is available when the child minders are available.

You must preregister your child if you would like them to be minded—otherwise, the Child Minder will not be here. Speak to Read On staff to see if a child minder is available when you are meeting with your tutor or student.

Preparing a 72 Hour Emergency Preparedness Kit

Emergencies and natural disasters can occur at any time, and we need to be prepared. Read On has a supply of plastic bags from the City of Lethbridge with a checklist of the important documents we need in case an emergency event happens.

Please ask Read On staff for a bag for you and/or your student next time you are here.



We also recommend the plain language **Household Emergency Action Plan**, prepared by the City of Lethbridge—Fire and Emergency Services and the Lethbridge Emergency Management Agency.

<https://www.lethbridge.ca/living-here/Emergency-Services/Emergency-Preparedness/Documents/Household%20Emergency%20Action%20Plan%20Version%204.docx.pdf>

The above document provides information on the types of disasters that can happen in Lethbridge, what to do in case of an emergency, and who to call.

<https://www.getprepared.gc.ca/cnt/kts/bsc-kt-en.aspx>

The federal government website above details what is needed to build your own 72 Hour Kit that can help you and your family during a crisis. There's also a links to The Red Cross and Salvation Army where various emergency kits can be purchased.



This year Mother's Day will be celebrated on Sunday, May 12. Mother's Day is not a statutory holiday, but generally, most families get together for a meal, or the day, to celebrate their mom.

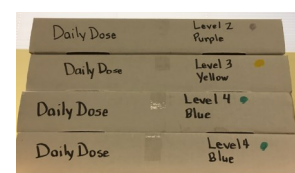
Most often, moms are given flowers, cards, and possibly a gift. Usually, mom's are taken out to a restaurant for a meal so that they do not have to do any cooking or cleaning up. This is a special day for moms to get spoiled for the day by their children.

1. In the country you came from, did you celebrate a day for mothers? If so, what did you do on that day?
2. We also celebrate Father's Day in June. Do you think there should be special days for children, grandparents, or other important people in your life? Why or why not?
3. Typically, moms are given a bouquet or pot of flowers. What do you think would be a more appropriate gift, if any?



We're missing three important items from our collection:

Both copies of our *Bananagram* game and the *Daily Dose - Level One*. If you happen to have these items, please return them to us.



Immigrating to Canada—C. DeCorte

Why emigrate to Canada? Why would you choose Canada? Well, I can give an answer to that: her natural beauty, ideal living environment and a good economy that offers you so many opportunities.

Canada is the second largest country in the world, yet has little air pollution. It is one of the most prosperous countries in the world yet has low income and corporate taxes. Emigrants have always been very welcome here, and are welcomed with open arms as many Canadians are also emigrants or have family members who were. Canada has pleasant living and social climates. It's wonderful long beaches and mountain landscapes offer swimming in the summer and skiing in the winter on the most beautiful ski slopes that have meters high snow. Did I convince you that Canada is a wonderful place to live?

It is useful to know what it takes to emigrate to Canada. I have listed a few things for you:

First, if you want to come as a Permanent Resident you need to meet criteria applicable to one of six categories: Skilled Worker (for skilled professionals), Skilled Trades Worker, Canadian experience class, Investors/Entrepreneurs/Self-Employed (meant for people who want to set up their own company), and Sponsorship. While Canada considers keeping family together very important, if you have family in Canada that does not automatically mean they can sponsor you to also come to Canada. To sponsor family, you must be a Permanent Resident or Canadian Citizen and be able to guarantee that you can afford to look after additional family. You can also come to Canada on a VISA and then have your employer apply through the Provincial Nominee program to keep you here. Each province has its own categories and conditions for this last category.

Second, you will need a Social Insurance Number if you want to live and/or work in Canada. They also call this a SIN card. Once you have arrived in Canada, you must apply for a SIN card as soon as possible. You can go to Service Canada to do this. If you want to get a job you need a SIN; and to file your taxes you will need a SIN. To apply for a SIN you need your passport, VISA, an international statement from the birth register of your native country, and proof of your address. You receive your SIN card fairly quickly. It is also important to request a health card from the province you are living in so that you have access to medical care.

Okay, now you know what you need to emigrate, but where do you want to live in Canada? You've become a bit wiser about some great cities in Canada, but, how does such a move work? How do you get all your stuff into Canada? You can choose to transport by cargo ship or by cargo plane. When you are really in a hurry, the fastest way is by plane. If you are not in a hurry, a cargo ship takes a little longer but is the cheapest. Should you buy or rent a house in Canada? I advise that first you rent. There are many affordable rental properties that often include appliances. One thing to think about, the closer you live to a big city, the higher the rent.

What about a Canadian driving license? Experience learned from emigrants that preceded you, it is advised to get your Canadian driving license as soon as possible. I am happy to be Belgian, as I didn't have to do a theory or practical test here. I just exchanged my Belgian driving license for a Canadian one.

Other changes you need to keep in mind. Time Zones. Canada has several time zones. Canadian Mountain time is 8 hours later than time in Belgium (where I am from). Electricity. Canada has a different standard voltage than some other countries. We can't use Belgian electrical appliances in Canada because Belgian electrical appliances operate at 230 volts and Canadian appliances operate at 110 volts.

A final piece of advice that I have is, if you want to emigrate to Canada start early. The younger you start with this process, the better it is. It took us about 2 years before we got an answer from the Canadian government. That is a long time, and a big part of your life that you are living!

Culture Shock—E. Rahmani

Following on from my immigration story “My Homeland”, where I wrote about being from Persia and then moving to Germany in 2008, I want to write about my first experience of culture shock abroad.

We had been living in Cologne for two months and we heard that on June 21st there would be a big parade coming to the city called “Gay Pride”. This city festival is three days long from Friday to Sunday. The big parade is on Sunday afternoon, or, Christopher Street Day (CSD). It is the biggest European LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender) celebration with demonstrations for their rights against discrimination and exclusion. The most outstanding CSD events in Europe are in Berlin, Hamburg and Cologne in Germany; and Zürich in Switzerland.

The history behind CSD dates back to June 28, 1969. On that day there were the Stonewall Riots in a bar in Manhattan, New York City. It was the first big uprising of LGBT people against police attacks that took place at the Stonewall Inn, on Christopher Street in the district of Greenwich Village.

Afterward, the first anniversary of the Christopher Street Liberation Day was held on June 28, 1970 in New York and Los Angeles as the first Gay Pride parades in United States history. Nine years later, in 1979, the CSD celebration spread to Berlin. Little by little it spread to many other cities in Europe. Thus, Cologne hosted Europride in 2002 together with the Cologne Carnival, with about 1.2 million participants and spectators attending.

The most surprising part for us, which I call our 1st cultural shock in Germany, was pure freedom without any boundaries and taboo concepts. To see LGBT people demonstrating for their rights was not an unusual concept for us, but, the way they celebrated the event to reach their goals and the unbelievable support from government and non-government organizations, people of the city, and spectators all applauding with big respect, in my opinion was outstanding.

Of course, the way they dressed - as unusual and sexy as possible to better represent their sexuality differences - for us, was a huge shock. Coming from a country without any democracy and freedom even for the very primary rights of human beings, and seeing this high level of freedom just made us speechless. As an example, in my home land, to my great regret, Iranian women are deprived from being able to decide for themselves as to whether they want to wear headscarves or not.

This was the highlight for us, to feel great satisfaction in being in a democratic land and tasting the sweetness of freedom in our life.



New Year in My Homeland—E. Rahmani

We have many traditions for our Iranian New Year's Day or Persian New Year. It is also called *Nowruz*, a name given by the Iranian scientist Nasir al-Din Tusi. *Nowruz* means New Day and is the beginning of spring in the Northern Hemisphere.

Many countries and regions, such as the Black Sea Basin, Balkans, Caucasus, Western, Central and Southern Asians, celebrate the festival of *Nowruz* with Iranians. The celebration lasts two weeks with the first four days being public holidays, and schools being closed the whole time.

We have many traditions for *Nowruz*. For example, people clean their house and do all their shopping before the arrival of the New Year. On the last Wednesday before *Nowruz* we have *Charshanbe Suri* when we light bonfires and jump over them while singing "my yellow is yours, your red is mine". This song means you give the fire all your yellow (sickness and sadness), and you receive red (health and happiness).



Close to the end of the old year, family members gather

around the *Haft-Sin* table and count down the exact moment of the March equinox to celebrate the Persian New Year. A *Haft-Sin*, table holds seven foods that begin with the letter "S". These foods are: Sabze (wheat, barley, or lentils grown in a dish), Samanu (sweet pudding made from wheat germ), Senjed (Persian olive), Serke (vinegar), Sib (apple), Sir (garlic), Sumac (dried row grape). It will also have: Sonbol (Hyacinth flower), Saat (clock), and Sekke (coin). The table may also include a mirror, candles, painted eggs, a bowl of water, goldfish, and a poem book of Hafez. Each of these are symbolic of a happy life.

During the *Nowruz* holidays, people also visit their family, friends and neighbors. By tradition, the young people will visit their elders

first, and the elders return their visit later.

Another tradition of *Nowruz* is two men, called Amu Nowruz and Haji Firuz, who appear in the streets celebrating. Amu Nowruz brings children gifts, much like Santa Claus and shares a traditional love story in which he and his wife can only meet each other once a year. Haji Firuz has his face and hands covered in black soot and wears red clothes. He makes people happy by playing music, singing, and dancing.



Victoria Day—May 20, 2019

Queen Victoria was the Queen of England and Canada from 1837 to 1901, and was in power when Canada became a country in 1867. For that reason she is called the “Mother of Confederation.”

She is also known as the “grandmother of Europe” since she oversaw the growth of the Empire of Great Britain.



The world changed during her time on the throne and it is known as the Victorian era.

Many Canadians think of Victoria Day weekend as the beginning of the summer season. Traditionally, in Alberta, we get active with outdoor recreational activities and start planting gardens, camping, and barbecuing. Other activities may include going to sports tournaments and visiting parks and attractions that were closed in the winter.

Some people call this holiday the “May Long” or “May Two-Four.”

Activities

If you'd like to learn more about Queen Victoria, the library has books and movies you can borrow. Ask us for help!

Write a story, or even a sentence or two, about your plans for the month of May. How will you be celebrating the warmer weather and longer days? Remember to hand in your story and then enter your name in the draw for a Chapters gift card.

Annual Christmas Party

We are planning ahead to our Annual Holiday Party and want your input first. We have sent you a link to a short Survey Monkey (if we have your email) or, you can access the link on our website: www.lethlib.ca/readon

We would like as many responses as possible so that we can make informed decisions

We are also looking for at least one volunteer (tutor or student) to help us plan the party. If you are interested, please let one of us know. Thanks!

Homebound Volunteers Needed

Would you like to deliver books, DVDs and audio items to patrons who are unable to visit the Library? Patrons who live in Lethbridge and find it difficult to visit the Library can request a volunteer to select library materials and deliver them to their home. The Library will connect you with a homebound patron and help you determine what materials they would like. Then, it's simply a matter of setting up a delivery time that is convenient for you and the homebound person. This commitment requires approximately one to two hours of your time each month on an ongoing basis (a one year commitment required).

We currently need two volunteers: one for a lady at the Alberta Rose Lodge (by Rona), and, one for a lady at Pemmican Lodge (beside the Galt museum) who requires a very soft spoken and gentle mannered volunteer.

If you are interested in either of these opportunities please speak to Andrea or Shanell in our Information Services Department, or you can call them at 403-320-4703.

To Kahoot and Beyond!

Lil Radley (Coordinator)
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Elizabeth Entz
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Ryan Qiu
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Generally, staff are not here Friday evenings, Sundays or on Saturdays when classes are not running. On these days, leave a message with Children's Staff at 403-380-7320 if you need to cancel your class or session last minute and cannot reach your student(s). Thank you.

Idiom of the Month

FROM RAGS TO RICHES

IDIOMLAND.COM

Meaning

FROM BEING POOR
TO BEING WEALTHY

MY FATHER WAS BORN IN
A POOR FAMILY, BUT NOW HE'S
A SUCCESSFUL LAWYER. HE REALLY
WENT FROM RAGS TO RICHES.

If you would like to take your tutoring lessons to the next level (i.e. add in technology) come to this class to learn about really great apps/websites you can use to do so.

We will look at 3-4 of them during this class—and if requested, we will look at another 3-4 on another date. Please bring your laptop with you, or, let staff know if you would like to borrow one of Read On's.

When: Tuesday, June 11
Time: 6:00—8:00
Where: Staff Meeting Room
Limit: limited to 8 tutors

Young and Free: Prerequisite for Success (continued from last month)

They also were lucky. They founded a startup and got into the whole social networking business in 2002. In other words, they were the early birds who caught the worm. They also had the mentality that it was a sink or swim situation and they were going to take the bull by the horns and swim.

Probably the most important ingredient to their success was that they were willing to play things by ear. They kept their ears to the ground, moved full steam ahead and drove hard bargains. They provided what their customer wanted and what their customer didn't know they needed.

Soon, their business was growing by leaps and bounds. Of course, they had some stumbling blocks along the way. Who doesn't?

Still, they got the jump on the competition and by 2008, they had hit a homerun and were multi-millionaires. What people had told them would be a money pit ended up to be a rags to riches success story.

1. Find all the idioms in this story and highlight them.
2. Define each idiom you found.
3. Use each of the idioms in a sentence (a different sentence than above).
4. Try to use each sentence in conversation this week.

Parts of story taken from www.thoughtco.com