

WEBINAR



Preparing your students for the ECCE Reading

A presentation for language school owners and teachers



**HELLENIC
AMERICAN
UNION**

**CENTER FOR
EXAMINATIONS & CERTIFICATIONS**

READING

A New street signs to be installed in Oakville

In early June, many existing street signs around the city will be replaced with new, more visible signs. Lights will allow on the signs, making them easier to read at night. Note that some roads may be briefly closed while work is being completed. The work will be done early in the morning when traffic is light to minimize inconvenience.

Dates: June 3-June 14
Time: 4:30 a.m.-6:30 a.m.



B Good sign: Streets easier to navigate

Visitors and new residents have long complained about how difficult it is to find their way around Oakville. The city decided to address these complaints and make a serious effort to solve this problem. To this end, \$85,000 was invested to develop and implement an improved wayfinding system.

An extensive study was conducted to determine where new signs were needed. It also took a look at which existing signs should be modified. As a result of the study, ten brand-new road signs were installed and twenty-five existing ones replaced. According to a recent poll, the majority of Oakville residents approve of the changes. They consider the new system to be a significant improvement over the previous one.



C READER COMMENTS:

Peter H.
Tuesday, July 15: 2:43 p.m.
I completely disagree with this article. The new signs installed around town last month are NOT an improvement. Am I really the only one to think that they are awful? They're ugly, and not consistent with the look of the other downtown signs in Oakville. Plus, there's way too much information on them to be able to fully interpret them while driving.

I simply cannot understand why the city would spend so much money on a project that wasn't necessary in the first place. I, for one, found nothing wrong with the previous signs—they were simple and easy to read, unlike these. Why in the world would the city feel the need to replace them?

D Elements of Effective Interior Wayfinding Systems

By Sam Swanson

Many people have had the unfortunate experience of getting lost while trying to navigate an unfamiliar building. Finding one's way in an unknown space does not need to be so difficult, however. Building designers can plan and implement wayfinding systems to help people figure out where they are going.



There are many ways to incorporate helpful wayfinding elements in the design of a building. For example, varying colors or materials could be used to help people distinguish between different areas, floors, or paths. Also, staircases, elevators, and restrooms could be located in the same place on each floor to make them easier to find.

Signs and maps can also be used to help people navigate unfamiliar interiors. To be most effective, all text should be concise and accompanied with images whenever possible. Signs should be placed in a way that people of all heights will be able to read them. Additionally, it is a good idea to include a "you are here" symbol on all maps to help people orient themselves. Finally, text and symbols should have a consistent format and style in all signs throughout the building.

READING

Refer to pages 28 when answering the questions below.

The following question refers to section A.

- 67. What is the main purpose of section A?
A. to warn residents about driving at night
B. to share information with city residents
C. to encourage people to attend an event
D. to discuss the benefits of waking up early

The following questions refer to section B.

- 68. According to the passage, why were city signs replaced?
A. The city had extra money to spend.
B. The previous signs had been too small.
C. Some street names had changed.
D. Many people didn't like the previous signs.

- 69. In the second sentence of paragraph 2, what does R refer to?
A. a result
B. a sign
C. a study
D. a system

The following questions refer to section C.

- 90. What does the author think about the new signs?
A. There are too many of them.
B. They are not easy to find.
C. They are worse than the old signs.
D. They look the same as the old signs.

- 91. According to the passage, who replaced the signs?
A. Oakville residents
B. the city
C. Peter H.
D. local businesses

- 92. In the last sentence of paragraph 1, which word could best replace interpret?
A. believe
B. explain
C. see
D. understand

The following questions refer to section D.

- 93. What is the main purpose of section D?
A. to describe a type of building
B. to help people who are lost
C. to give directions to a building
D. to explain some helpful design ideas

- 94. In the last sentence of paragraph 1, what does they refer to?
A. building visitors
B. wayfinding systems
C. unknown spaces
D. building designers

- 95. According to the passage, what would help people notice differences between areas of a building?
A. changing the style of the text on signs
B. marking spaces with different colors
C. putting elevators in several locations
D. installing a map in each area

- 96. What is the author's opinion of building wayfinding systems?
A. They should only use maps.
B. They are difficult to use.
C. They can help many people.
D. They are easy to create.

The following questions refer to two or more sections.

- 97. Based on the information in the passages, what can probably be said about Peter H.?
A. His opinion is different than most of his neighbors'.
B. He has not lived in Oakville very long.
C. He has experience working in graphic design.
D. He donated money to improve signs in Oakville.

- 98. How does section D differ from the other sections?
A. It is written for Oakville residents.
B. It is about signs inside buildings.
C. It mentions a specific project.
D. It discusses the cost of a system.



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Horizontal lines for writing answers to the reading questions.

READING

A New street signs to be installed in Oakville. In each town, every existing street sign around the city will be replaced with new, more visible signs. Lights will be added on the signs, making them easier to read at night. Signs that have been found to be blurry, faded or hard to read will be replaced. The work will be done early in the morning when traffic is light to minimize inconvenience.

Date: June 2-June 14 Time: 4:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m.



B Good sign: Streets easier to navigate in Toronto, Ont.

Visitors and new residents have long complained about how difficult it is to find their way around Oakville. The city decided to address these complaints and make a serious effort to solve the problem. To this end, MRCO was hired to design and implement an improved wayfinding system.

An extensive study was conducted to determine where new signs were needed. It also took a look at which existing signs should be modified. As a result of the study, the street name road signs were replaced and newly five walking cones replaced. According to a recent poll, the majority of Oakville residents approve of the changes. They consider the new system to be a significant improvement over the previous one.



C READER COMMENTS:

Thursday, July 15, 2:42 p.m. I completely disagree with this article. The new signs installed around town had much less visibility than the old signs. Plus, there's way too much information on them to be able to fully interpret them while driving.

I simply cannot understand why the city would spend so much money on a project that wasn't necessary in the first place. I, for one, found nothing wrong with the previous signs—they were simple and easy to read, unlike these. Why in the world would the city feel the need to replace them?

D Elements of Effective Interior Wayfinding Systems

By Tom Swanson

Many people have had the unfortunate experience of getting lost while trying to recognize an unfamiliar building. Finding your way in an unfamiliar space does not need to be so difficult, however. Building designers can play a role in helping you find your way by implementing anything from simple signs to complex systems.

There are many ways to incorporate helpful wayfinding elements in the design of a building. For example, using colors or patterns can help you quickly distinguish between different areas, floors, or paths. Also, identifying entrances and exits can be helpful in the same place on each floor to make them easier to find.

Signs and maps can also be used to help people navigate unfamiliar spaces. To be most effective, all text should be simple and unambiguous with images whenever possible. Signs should be placed in ways that people of all heights will be able to read them. Additionally, it's a good idea to include a "you are here" symbol on all maps to help people orient themselves. Finally, text and graphics should have a consistent format and style in all signs throughout the building.



READING

Refer to page 22 when answering the questions below.

The following question refers to section A.

- 97. What is the main purpose of section A? A. to warn residents about driving at night B. to share information with city residents C. to encourage people to attend an event D. to discuss the benefits of waking up early

The following questions refer to section B.

- 98. According to the passage, why were city signs redesigned? A. The city had extra money to spend. B. The previous signs had been too small. C. Some street names had changed. D. Many people didn't like the previous signs.

The following questions refer to section C.

- 99. What does the author think about the new signs? A. There are too many of them. B. They are not easy to find. C. They are worse than the old signs. D. They look the same as the old signs.

The following questions refer to section D.

- 99. What is the main purpose of section D? A. to describe a type of building B. to help people who are lost C. to give directions to a building D. to explain some helpful design ideas
- 94. In the last sentence of paragraph 1, what does "they refer to"? A. building visitors B. wayfinding systems C. unknown spaces D. building designers
- 95. According to the passage, what would help people notice differences between areas of a building? A. changing the style of the text on signs B. marking spaces with different colors C. putting elevators in several locations D. installing a map in each area
- 96. What is the author's opinion of building wayfinding systems? A. They should only use maps. B. They are difficult to use. C. They can help many people. D. They are easy to create.

The following questions refer to two or more sections.

- 97. Based on the information in the passages, what can probably be said about Peter H.? A. His opinion is different than most of his neighbors'. B. He has not lived in Oakville very long. C. He has experience working in graphic design. D. He donated money to improve signs in Oakville.
- 98. How does section D differ from the other sections? A. It is written for Oakville residents. B. It is about signs inside buildings. C. It mentions a specific project. D. It discusses the cost of a system.



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Blank lines for student answers.

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