

Reading Part 3: Reading for Information**Time: 10 minutes****Read the following message:**

A. Prince Edward Island is Canada's smallest province, making up just 0.1 per cent of Canada's total land area. It is situated in the Gulf of St Lawrence and separated from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick by the Northumberland Strait. PEI was known to its earliest settlers, the Mi'kmaq as Abegweit, meaning "cradle in the waves," and was described by Jacques Cartier in 1534 as "the fairest land that may possibly be seen."

B. PEI's landmass is of relatively recent origin in geological terms. An enormous sedimentary basin underlying the present Gulf of St Lawrence was created by freshwater streams that drained ancient highlands. The ice ages left an imprint on the land, especially during the late Pleistocene period between 75,000 and 10,000 years ago. When the last glaciers receded, uncovering what is now PEI, glacial debris and the marks of glacial scouring were left on the exposed land, which began gradually to assume its present character. As ocean levels rose with the melting of the glaciers, and as the land rebounded, the crescent shape of the Island emerged about 5,000 years ago.

C. PEI extends for 224 km, with a width ranging from four to 60 km. The present land surface ranges from nearly level in the west to hilly in the central region, and to gently rolling hills in the east. The Island's predominant reddish brown sandy and clay soils are occasionally broken by outcroppings of sedimentary rock, most commonly a red-coloured sandstone or mudstone. The heavy concentrations of iron oxides in the rock and soil give the land its distinctive reddish brown hue. The coastline is deeply indented by tidal inlets. The north shore of the Island, facing the Gulf of St Lawrence, features extensive sand-dune formations.

D. Conservation is a major concern of government and public interest groups in the province. Over-cropping, extensive mechanization, reliance on chemical fertilizers and removal of hedgerows has led to considerable wind and water erosion of some of the Island's best land. It is estimated, for example, that up to five tonnes of soil per hectare can be eroded from an unprotected plowed field in one year. This soil erosion has also led to heavy siltation of the creek and river systems, turning many streams, navigable in the last century, into shallow and unusable creeks. Another major concern is the purchase of large tracts of land by non-residents for recreation or development and by vertically integrated business for farming.

E. Not given in any of the above paragraphs.

Decide which paragraph, A to D, has the information given in each statement below. Select E if the information is not given in any of the paragraphs.

1. The island has many tourist attractions and harbors.
2. Agricultural complexities ruined the featuring lands of the island.
3. The PEI was discovered after the glaciers perished.
4. Multi-shaded surfaces appeared because of the hefty concentration of the chemicals.
5. Rocky terrain surrounds the island from all directions.
6. The area occupied by the PEI was almost negligible.
7. The glacier epoch left an indentation during the quaternary time.
8. The state deals with more than one issue.
9. Jacques Carter during the 1500s formulated the meaning of Abegweit.