



ESL Self-Guided Central Library Tour

📍 Introduction

Want to practice your English language comprehension skills and get to know Vancouver Public Library's Central Library? Enjoy this interactive self-guided tour! This tour is intended for use by English language learners and instructors.

📍 Part 1 - Using the Library

Welcome to the Central Library. Follow the instructions and answer the questions below by yourself or with your group. If you need help...

- Ask at the Level 2 Information Desk
- Call us from the phone located by the "NEED HELP?" sign on floors 3 to 6
- Look for a VPL staff member

LEVEL 2: MAIN ENTRANCE

Walk into the library past the security gates. Look to your right. This is the Service Desk. You can get a library card here, and borrow books.

In the middle of the floor is a white sign. One side of the sign is a directory. It tells you on which level you can find information on different topics.

❓ On what level will you find:

- ESL?
- The rooftop garden?
- Photography?

❓ Name three things you will find on Level 2.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

LEVEL 3

Take the escalator to level 3. Look for a sign with a large question mark that says, "Need Help?" This is where you can call for help.

? What is the number to ask library information staff for help?

? Name two subjects that you will find on this floor

1.

2.

LEVEL 4

Take the escalator to level 4. Can you see the **ESL** sign? This is the ESL collection. Find the white sign, **Looking for ESL Books?** Books and other ESL materials have the call number 428.34, and are organized by language level and skill. (The call number help you find a book and other materials in the library.)

? Find a book in the **READING** area:

1. What is the call number on the side of the book?

2. Is this book for Beginners, Intermediate or Advanced students?

In this area you will also find ESL learning sets in zipper cases which include a book for reading and a CD for listening.

? Find the ESL sets: write down any title from this collection:

Walk to the escalators. Continue walking on the left hand side of the escalator until you see the "Dictionaries" sign. English dictionaries have the location number 423. In this area you will also find dictionaries in other languages. Look for the list, **Guide to Dictionaries and Language Learning Materials** on the shelf.

? What is the call number for dictionaries in your first language?

LEVEL 5

Take the escalator to level 5 and stop at the white sign. On this floor you will find magazines and newspapers, including Canadian, American and International newspapers. Turn left and keep going until you reach the sign that says **International Newspapers**.

? Is there a newspaper from your birth country? What is the title?

LEVEL 6

Take the escalator to level 6.

? Look at the white sign. Write down the call numbers you will find on this floor.

? Find a computer with a blue sign. Here you can find the online library catalogue.

? Find a computer station without a blue sign that is not being used. This is an Internet station. With a library card or Internet card, how long can a person use this station?

Congratulations! You have now completed this part of the tour!

Part 2 - Using the Library Catalogue

On Level 6, locate a computer station with a blue sign that says Catalogue and Research. If a computer station with a blue sign is not available, locate one on another floor in the library. Find the icon on the computer screen that says Library Catalogue and double click.

SEARCH FOR A BOOK TITLE

At the top of the page you'll see the words "SEARCH THE" followed by a box that says Catalogue and a box that says Keyword. Click on keyword and select Title.

Type in this book title: Contemporary Topics. Click SEARCH. You will see a list of titles. The book "Contemporary Topics: Academic Listening and Note-taking Skills 1" will be near the top of the list.

? Who is the author of this title?

Click on the title for more information on this book. On the right hand side there will be a box with the availability details of this title. To check whether a book is in the library, click on "Availability by location". If the book is here, under Status you will see IN. Also check to see which floor and collection it is in. You will find this information under the word Collection.

? In what collection will you find this title?

You will also see a call number. The call number is important in the library. You need it to find the book on the shelves.

? What is the call number for this title?

SEARCH FOR AN AUTHOR

At the top of the page in the search box, use the drop down box and select Author. In the search box, type in the name of this author: Betty Azar. Click SEARCH.

? What is the title of one of her books?

? In which collection will you find her books? (Click on the title for more information)

SEARCH FOR A SUBJECT

At the top of the page in the search box, use the drop down box and select Subject. In the search box, type Job Hunting Canada. Click SEARCH.

? Find a book on job hunting in Canada. Write down the title and call number.

Now do a subject search for books on British Columbia Climate.

? In which collection will you find these books?

SEARCH FOR LIBRARY HOURS AND LIBRARY CARD INFORMATION

Now, look at the top of the page. Click “Hours & Locations” and scroll down the page.

? On which days is the Central Library open until late?

Now click on the back arrow to go back to the library catalogue. Under “Borrowing”, click on “Limits, Holds and Charges”. This will take you to a page that gives information about loan periods, renewals, etc. The ESL sets, which include a book and CD or DVD, are called “Language Learning Sets”.

? What is the loan period for these sets?

? How many of these sets can you borrow at one time with a library card?

Congratulations! You have completed the ESL Self-Guided Central Library Tour! We look forward to seeing you at the library again in the future!