CELPIP Listening Practice Test 108

A free full-length CELPIP-General Listening practice test from CELPass.com: all 6 parts and 38 questions in the real test order, an answer sheet, the answer key and a score chart, and the transcripts.

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How to take this test

1. Open celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/108 to play the recordings (free, no account). Play each one once only, as in the real test.
2. Read the questions for each recording here and mark your answers on the answer sheet.
3. Check your answers with the answer key, then read the transcript for every question you missed.

Prefer to take it on screen? The same test is free online at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/108 with the recordings, marked as you go, with an estimated CLB. More free tests: celpass.com/celpip/practice-tests-pdf

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Part 1: Listening to Problem Solving

A Light for the Dining Room

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 1 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/108**

1. What is the woman's problem?

A The light she bought arrived damaged.
B Her ceiling cannot hold her new purchase.
C Her electrician failed to turn up.
D She was sold a light much heavier than advertised.

2. Why does the woman mention the plasterer?

A to complain about the quality of her electrician's work
B to ask whether the store can recommend one
C to show that the repair has already been paid for
D to explain why the job can't be finished in time

3. What is most likely true about the woman's dining room at the moment?

A It has no working ceiling light.
B Its ceiling is being repaired.
C It is too small for fourteen people.
D Its ceiling was damaged by the old light.

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 2 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/108**

4. What is wrong with the smaller light in the store?

A It will not arrive for several weeks.
B It is too heavy for her ceiling box.
C It has a slight flaw.
D It costs more than the big one.

5. How does the woman feel about the smaller light?

A She doubts it would suit the space.
B She thinks the discount is not generous enough.
C She is upset about the damaged shade.
D She is delighted with it.

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 3 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/108**

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6. What has the woman decided about the large light?

A to exchange it for the display model
B to return it for a full refund
C to keep it in her garage until spring
D to have it put up after the holidays

7. What will the woman buy for the dinner?

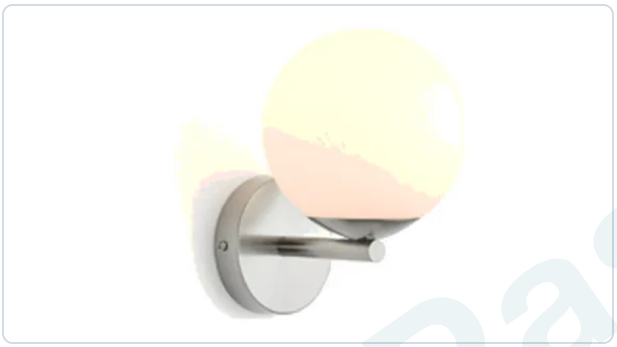
A



B



C



D



8. What will the woman probably do next?

A order a second lamp for the corner
B drive home to get the big light
C phone someone about the exposed wires
D go out and buy some candles

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Part 2: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation

A Letter from the Courthouse

▶ **Recording: Part 2. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/108**

9. What did the woman first think about the letter?

A It had gone to the wrong address.
B It was from her sister.
C It was a fraud.
D It was about her tax returns.

10. Why does the woman mention her client?

A to show that jury duty can end quickly
B to recommend a way to pass the time at the courthouse
C to explain how she heard about her court date
D to complain about conditions in the waiting room

11. What worries the woman most?

A having to speak in front of lawyers
B finding the courthouse on the ninth
C forgetting to bring her ID
D going without pay during a long trial

12. Why has the woman been looking for her tax returns?

A to prove how long she has lived in the area
B to support a request not to serve
C to prepare this year's taxes
D to show her landlord what she earns

13. How does the woman feel about asking to be excused?

A proud
B relieved
C a little ashamed
D indifferent

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Part 3: Listening for Information

A Call About a House

▶ **Recording: Part 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/108**

14. Why does the man need to act quickly?

A A deadline in his offer is close.
B The sellers are moving out at the end of the week.
C The inspector is fully booked for the next month.
D His children are starting at a new school soon.

15. What does the man wrongly believe at first?

A The sellers must be home during the visit.
B The report takes a week to arrive.
C The inspector must open up the walls.
D An inspector gives a house a final grade.

16. What does the woman say about the roof?

A She never climbs onto roofs.
B She may have to examine it from below.
C It is the most costly part of the job.
D She must wait until the snow has melted.

17. Why does the woman recommend the extra camera check?

A The regular inspection cannot be done in winter.
B The sellers have asked for one.
C Tree roots may have harmed the drain line.
D It is required before a bungalow can be sold.

18. Why does the woman want the man to come at the end?

A so that she can go over the results with him
B so that the sellers can sign the inspection form
C so that he can pay her before the report is sent
D so that he can look at the furnace

19. What will the man probably do next?

A call the sellers to ask them to clean the furnace
B cancel the sewer camera to save money
C ask for a day other than Thursday
D get in touch with the person who can arrange her visit

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Part 4: Listening to a News Item

Fixing Things in Peterborough

▶ **Recording: Part 4. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/108**

20. The organizers' current difficulty is

A paying to use the church basement.
B finding enough items to repair.
C keeping up with demand.
D getting permission for a second site.

21. The project began after Okafor

A paid too much for a new vacuum cleaner.
B easily fixed something for a person nearby.
C retired from teaching at a local school.
D saw appliances being thrown out at a landfill.

22. Visitors are especially encouraged to

A bring several items each.
B pay a fixed fee at the door.
C leave their items overnight.
D see how the work is done.

23. Okafor is mainly worried that

A people are losing simple practical skills.
B new appliances cost too much to replace.
C local landfills are filling up too quickly.
D small repair shops are closing down.

24. We can infer that Okafor

A plans to hand the project to younger volunteers.
B has been asked by others to take fewer risks.
C was once injured while at the church.
D wants manufacturers to pay for the repairs.

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Part 5: Listening to a Discussion

A Meeting at the Newspaper

▶ **Recording: Part 5. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/108**

25. What is the discussion mainly about?

A how to attract more advertisers to the paper
B whether to go on producing a paper edition
C whether to raise the cover price for readers
D how to improve the design of the website

26. What led Audrey to raise the issue?

A a drop in website visits
B a demand from the town clerk
C the loss of a major advertiser
D a higher bill from a supplier

27. Why does Preston mention the website's visits?

A to question who the paper's audience really is
B to argue that the website earns enough money
C to show that the printer's price is unfair
D to suggest that they add more obituaries

28. According to Dominic, what is the trouble with those visits?

A Most of them come from outside the town.
B The number is exaggerated.
C They bring in little revenue.
D Many are the same few people.

29. What does Preston imply about Harrison's Hardware?

A It should advertise online instead.
B Its advertising can't be relied on.
C It is the paper's oldest customer.
D Its owner would like the paper to close.

30. How does Dominic react to the idea of a library class?

A He would like to teach it himself.
B He thinks the library would charge too much.
C He wants to tell Mrs. Bell about it right away.
D He doesn't believe it would help.

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31. Why does Preston mention his mother's album?

A to suggest that readers like keeping local stories

B to show how long his family has lived in town

C to argue against printing a monthly issue

D to praise the paper's photographers

32. What is the best subject line for Audrey's message to the town clerk?

A New advertising rates for local businesses

B Booking the library for a computer class

C Public notices: would another format be acceptable?

D Request for help with our printing costs

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Part 6: Listening to Viewpoints

The Ballot at Sixteen

▶ **Recording: Part 6. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/108**

33. The report mainly examines

A whether the case for extending the vote to teenagers is sound.
B how schools could prepare teenagers for a first election.
C whether sixteen-year-olds understand politics well enough to vote.
D why first-time voters so often fail to turn out.

34. Lucia Moreau's main hope is that a lower voting age would

A secure a right that teenagers have long been denied.
B bring more political debate into classrooms.
C help turn voting into a lifelong practice.
D make it easier for students to register after moving.

35. Arjun Bedi's main objection is that the change would

A lead to very low turnout among teenagers.
B give the vote to people lacking intelligence.
C leave teenagers open to pressure from adults.
D clash with how other laws treat teenagers.

36. The speaker's comment about Austria suggests that

A its schools prepare voters better than ours do.
B Moreau's comparison may be less useful than she implies.
C turnout there would fade over time.
D Moreau has misread the turnout figures.

37. Why does the speaker mention adults who vote as their spouses do?

A to suggest that families shape how people vote
B to support Bedi's fear about teachers and parents
C to point out a weakness in one of Bedi's concerns
D to explain why Bedi wants the ballot to wait

38. The speaker's attitude toward lowering the voting age is best described as

A open to the idea without being sold on it.
B careful not to favour either side.
C hopeful that it would lift turnout for good.
D doubtful that teenagers want the responsibility.

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Answer sheet

Write the letter of your answer for each question.

1 _____	2 _____	3 _____	4 _____
5 _____	6 _____	7 _____	8 _____
9 _____	10 _____	11 _____	12 _____
13 _____	14 _____	15 _____	16 _____
17 _____	18 _____	19 _____	20 _____
21 _____	22 _____	23 _____	24 _____
25 _____	26 _____	27 _____	28 _____
29 _____	30 _____	31 _____	32 _____
33 _____	34 _____	35 _____	36 _____
37 _____	38 _____		

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Answer key

Part 1: A Light for the Dining Room

1 B Her ceiling cannot hold her new purchase.

2 D to explain why the job can't be finished in time

3 A It has no working ceiling light.

4 C It has a slight flaw.

5 A She doubts it would suit the space.

6 D to have it put up after the holidays

7 B Picture B

8 C phone someone about the exposed wires

Part 2: A Letter from the Courthouse

9 C It was a fraud.

10 A to show that jury duty can end quickly

11 D going without pay during a long trial

12 B to support a request not to serve

13 C a little ashamed

Part 3: A Call About a House

14 A A deadline in his offer is close.

15 D An inspector gives a house a final grade.

16 B She may have to examine it from below.

17 C Tree roots may have harmed the drain line.

18 A so that she can go over the results with him

19 D get in touch with the person who can arrange her visit

Part 4: Fixing Things in Peterborough

20 C keeping up with demand.

21 B easily fixed something for a person nearby.

22 D see how the work is done.

23 A people are losing simple practical skills.

24 B has been asked by others to take fewer risks.

Part 5: A Meeting at the Newspaper

25 B whether to go on producing a paper edition

26 D a higher bill from a supplier

27 A to question who the paper's audience really is

28 C They bring in little revenue.

29 B Its advertising can't be relied on.

30 D He doesn't believe it would help.

31 A to suggest that readers like keeping local stories

32 C Public notices: would another format be acceptable?

Part 6: The Ballot at Sixteen

33 A whether the case for extending the vote to teenagers is sound.

34 C help turn voting into a lifelong practice.

35 D clash with how other laws treat teenagers.

36 B Moreau's comparison may be less useful than she implies.

37 C to point out a weakness in one of Bedi's concerns

38 A open to the idea without being sold on it.

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Your estimated CLB

Correct answers (of 38)	Estimated level
38	CLB 12
37	CLB 11
35–36	CLB 10
33–34	CLB 9
30–32	CLB 8
27–29	CLB 7
22–26	CLB 6
17–21	CLB 5
11–16	CLB 4

An estimate: CELPIP converts raw scores with a table for each test form, so the real cut-offs vary a little.

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Transcripts

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Part 1: A Light for the Dining Room

Section 1

WOMAN: Hi. I bought a dining room light here last week, the big one with all the glass arms. My electrician came this morning and, well, he won't put it up.

MAN: Won't put it up? Did he say why?

WOMAN: Something about the ceiling. There's a little metal box up there, and he says it's meant for a small light. This thing weighs, I don't know, thirty kilos.

MAN: Eighteen, I think. But yes, he's right. It can't hang from an ordinary box. He'd have to put in a stronger support, up between the beams.

WOMAN: He told me. But it means cutting into the ceiling, and it's an old house, it's all plaster. So then I need a plasterer to patch it afterwards, and he can't get one until the end of the month.

MAN: Ah. And you were hoping for…?

WOMAN: Thanksgiving. I've got fourteen people coming a week from Sunday, including my mother, and right now there's just two wires poking out of the ceiling. The old light went to my nephew on Saturday.

MAN: Okay. Let me check something in the catalogue.

Section 2

MAN: Okay, good news, sort of. The same maker does a smaller version. Same glass arms, but only six kilos, so your ceiling box could take it, no cutting at all.

WOMAN: Oh, wonderful! Do you have one?

MAN: Well, the next shipment's coming from Italy, and that's six to eight weeks away. The only one in the building is that one, up there by the window. It's been on display for a year, and one of the shades has a tiny chip. I could let it go for forty percent off, and refund the big one.

WOMAN: Forty percent. Hmm. It looks… I don't know. Won't it look kind of lost over a table for fourteen?

MAN: Honestly? It's a bit on the small side for that. But—

WOMAN: And I fell in love with the big one, that's the trouble. Let me go call my husband.

Section 3

WOMAN: We're keeping the big one. We'll have the ceiling done properly in January, once all the company's gone.

MAN: We can hold it here in the back until then, no charge. So that just leaves Thanksgiving.

WOMAN: Fourteen people eating in the dark. Candles, maybe?

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MAN: Very romantic, but your mother might like to see her dinner. What about a couple of table lamps on the sideboard?

WOMAN: The sideboard'll be covered in food. And don't say wall lights. No more holes in that plaster.

MAN: I wasn't going to— okay, I was. Then how about a floor lamp? One of these tall ones, with the arm that curves out over the table.

WOMAN: Okay. Yes, I'll take one. But somebody has to do something about those wires.

MAN: You'll want them capped before anyone sits under them. It's ten minutes' work.

WOMAN: Then my electrician owes me ten minutes. Is there anywhere in here I can get a signal? This place is like a cave.

Part 2: A Letter from the Courthouse

MAN: You look like somebody cancelled your birthday. What's with the envelope?

WOMAN: Oh, this. It's a jury summons. It came on Tuesday, and I honestly took it for one of those scams, you know, pay up or else, so I very nearly put it through the shredder. Then my sister looked it up online, and it's completely real. I have to be at the courthouse on the ninth, with ID.

MAN: Jury duty? Lucky you. I've always wanted to do that, like on TV, with the lawyers shouting and—

WOMAN: Everybody says that, and apparently it's nothing like TV. One of my clients went last year. She sat in a big room with two hundred other people, did a crossword, and got sent home before lunch. That's how it goes for most people, they only need a few.

MAN: So what's the problem? You lose one morning.

WOMAN: The problem is if they pick me. The woman at the court office said this trial could last three weeks. No, sorry, six. Three was the last one. And you know how I work: I rent that one chair at the salon, and if I'm not cutting hair, I'm not making a cent. Six weeks of that and I can't cover my rent, never mind the chair.

MAN: Can't you just tell them you're too busy?

WOMAN: Apparently busy doesn't count. You can ask to be excused for financial hardship, but you have to show them something. So I've been up half the night digging out my old tax returns. Which, honestly, makes me feel kind of awful. My dad came here from a country where a fair trial was basically a joke, and he'd tell you this is an honour. I can just hear him.

MAN: Well, you're not refusing, you're only asking. They can always say no.

WOMAN: That's exactly what worries me. If I get stuck on a six-week trial, I'm sending all my clients to your place with their scissors.

MAN: Perfect. I've always wanted to learn. Like on TV.

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Part 3: A Call About a House

WOMAN: Good morning, Eastside Home Inspections, this is Carla.

MAN: Hi, Carla. My name's Tim Bouchard. My wife and I just had an offer accepted on a house, our first one, and the agent says we've got until Friday at five to get an inspection done, or the condition runs out. So I'm sort of hoping you can fit us in.

WOMAN: Congratulations. Friday's tight, but I've got Thursday at nine. It's about a three-hour job, and you'd have the report that evening, with photos. How old's the house?

MAN: It's a bungalow from 1962, with a big old willow out front. And, I mean, it looks fine to me, so I'm hoping it passes, because we've already told the kids—

WOMAN: Well, just so you know, nobody passes or fails. That's a common idea, but what you're getting is a description. I'll tell you what's worn out, what's dangerous and what's only cosmetic. Whether it's still worth buying is a decision for you and your agent.

MAN: Oh. Okay. And you go up on the roof and everything?

WOMAN: If I can. It's February, so if there's snow up there I won't walk on it. I've got a camera on a long pole, so I'd look from the ground and say so in the report. Same with the walls: I don't open anything up, I can only go by what's visible and what my moisture meter picks up.

MAN: Right. How much is all this?

WOMAN: It's $550, plus tax. And with that willow, I'd seriously consider adding the sewer camera. It's another $200, but those roots love old clay pipes, and replacing that line can cost more than everything else in the report put together.

MAN: Two hundred. Okay, if it saves us that, add it. Do we need to be there?

WOMAN: Come for the last half-hour. I'll walk you through what I found, which is honestly far more useful than just reading about it. One more thing, are the sellers still living there?

MAN: Yeah, till the end of March.

WOMAN: Then someone has to clear my visit with them, and make sure I can get to the furnace and the electrical panel. And I can only hold Thursday until noon today.

MAN: Noon. Okay. My agent's showing a house this morning, but she usually picks up if I text first. Let me try her now.

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Part 4: Fixing Things in Peterborough

NARRATOR: A monthly gathering in a Peterborough church basement is giving broken toasters, torn jackets and silent radios an unexpected second life. Organizers of the volunteer-run repair café say more than eleven hundred household items have crossed their folding tables since the project began three years ago, and roughly seven in ten have gone home working. The service is free, although visitors are invited to leave a donation and, more importantly, to stay and watch. Retired electrician Gerald Okafor launched the project after replacing a burnt-out switch on a neighbour's vacuum cleaner, a ten-minute job that had nearly sent the machine to the landfill. He insists the goal isn't really about saving money. What worries him, he says, is that many young people have never been shown how to open anything up. Manufacturers don't make it easier, he adds: more and more appliances are sealed shut, and those usually can't be accepted. Organizers now face a happier sort of problem. Lineups often stretch up the stairs, and volunteers have been forced to limit visitors to two items apiece. A second location is under consideration, if enough volunteers with repair skills can be found. Okafor, who turns seventy-six next month, claims he has no intention of slowing down, though he has reluctantly agreed to stop climbing ladders to fix the church's lights.

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Part 5: A Meeting at the Newspaper

Audrey: Okay, you've both seen the letter from the printer. Twenty-two percent more, starting in March. I've been through the budget three times, and I can't make it work. So I'm just going to ask it. Do we stop?

Dominic: Stop the paper? Audrey, half our readers are retired farmers. They want something on the kitchen table, you can't just—

Audrey: Not the paper. The printing. We'd go online only.

Preston: And it's not only retired farmers anymore, Dominic. I pulled the numbers. The website had eleven thousand visits last month. That's about four times what we print.

Dominic: Visits. Half of them look up one obituary and leave. They don't pay a cent. You know who pays? Harrison's Hardware, with a full page every week, and they're not doing that for a little box on a website. Eighty percent of our ad money comes from print.

Preston: Harrison's has been threatening to pull that ad for two years, every time the owner's in a bad mood.

Dominic: Threatening. They haven't.

Audrey: Okay. That's why I'm asking you two and not just deciding. What about something in the middle? Print once a month, a big thick issue, and keep the daily stuff online?

Preston: Once a month? By the time it hits the porch, the council vote's four weeks old. Although… hmm. If it wasn't really news. If it was long features, the hockey team, the school concert. My mother's still got an album full of clippings from when I was in grade six. People don't cut things out of a website.

Dominic: That's the first sensible thing you've said. Except a lot of the people getting that issue aren't online the rest of the month. What about them? Mrs. Bell doesn't even own a—

Preston: The library could run a class. Basic stuff, how to find the site, how to read it on a tablet.

Dominic: A class. Mrs. Bell is ninety-one. I'm sure she'll be thrilled.

Audrey: There's also the town. They pay us every week to run their public notices, and that's a decent chunk of money. I don't actually know if they'd accept a monthly paper, or a website, or if there's some rule about it.

Preston: Nobody's ever asked?

Audrey: Nobody's ever had to. I'll write to the town clerk today. Neither of you has convinced me, by the way.

Dominic: And if the clerk says it has to be weekly, on paper?

Audrey: Then I suppose we find the money somewhere, or—

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Preston: Or Dominic writes one last obituary. Ours.

Dominic: Front page, I hope.

Part 6: The Ballot at Sixteen

NARRATOR: Every few years, the proposal resurfaces in Canadian politics: lower the federal voting age from eighteen to sixteen. Supporters treat it as an overdue correction, opponents as a gimmick dressed up as a principle, and the argument has a way of revealing more about what we believe citizenship requires than about teenagers themselves.

NARRATOR: Political scientist Lucia Moreau contends that the strongest argument concerns habit rather than rights. Voting, she maintains, is learned behaviour, and the first election matters enormously. At eighteen, many young people have just left home, moved to an unfamiliar city and lost track of where they are even registered. At sixteen, most still live with their families and sit in classrooms where elections can be discussed, so a first ballot could be cast with support close at hand. She points to Austria, where younger first-time voters have tended to turn out in greater numbers than those just a few years older. She concedes that not every teenager would vote wisely, adding drily that the same is true of their elders. It is an appealing argument, though Austrian teenagers move through classrooms quite unlike ours, a difficulty Moreau passes over rather quickly.

NARRATOR: Constitutional lawyer Arjun Bedi accepts that a first vote can shape later ones, but he doubts that this settles anything. He doesn't suggest that sixteen-year-olds are unintelligent, and he grants that some follow politics more closely than their parents do. Still, society has decided, he observes, that sixteen is too young to sign a binding contract, buy alcohol or serve on a jury, precisely because adolescents are thought to need protection from adult consequences. Either that protection is warranted, in which case the ballot should wait, or it isn't, in which case a great many other laws deserve reconsideration. Teenagers, he adds, may be unduly influenced by parents and teachers, an anxiety that has somehow never been applied to adults who simply vote as their spouses do.

NARRATOR: What neither camp can offer is a reliable forecast. Turnout among sixteen-year-olds might well be impressive at first and fade once the novelty wears off, and no one can say how many young people actually want this responsibility. Still, the burden of proof seems to fall on those who would keep people out rather than on those who would let them in. Sixteen-year-olds pay sales tax, hold jobs and will live longest with the decisions made today. Whether that entitles them to a ballot remains debatable, but it ought, at the very least, to earn the question a more respectful hearing than it usually receives.

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