CELPIP Listening Practice Test 114

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.

Part	Topic	Questions
Part 1: Listening to Problem Solving	Fixing an Old Sewing Machine	1–8
Part 2: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation	Thinking About a Hot Tub	9–13
Part 3: Listening for Information	Asking About Sailing Lessons	14–19
Part 4: Listening to a News Item	A Black Belt at Eighty-Two	20–24
Part 5: Listening to a Discussion	A New Program for Residents	25–32
Part 6: Listening to Viewpoints	Lights Out for the Night Sky?	33–38

How to take this test

1. Open celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/114 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/114 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

Fixing an Old Sewing Machine

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 1 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/114**

1. What did the man find inside the machine?

A



B



C



D



2. What had the woman done before coming to the shop?

A tried to oil the machine
B taken off the plate underneath
C plugged the machine in to test it
D replaced the belt

3. What is the man most worried about?

A the crack in the belt
B the old wiring
C the grinding noise
D the oil

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 2 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/114**

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4. Why does the man mention a new machine?

A to be open about the repair cost
B to sell her one of the shop's machines
C to warn her that the motor is failing
D to suggest a gift for her son

5. What does the woman decide to do?

A have the machine cleaned first
B pay for the work in two parts
C buy a basic new machine
D take the machine home as it is

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 3 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/114**

6. What is likely true about the woman?

A She sews her own clothes often.
B She has owned a similar model.
C She has trouble following instructions.
D She learned to sew as a young child.

7. What does the man give the woman?

A a free cleaning
B a spool of thread
C an old user's guide
D a discount on the belt

8. What will probably happen next?

A The man will clean the machine.
B The man will help carry the machine out.
C The woman's sister will pick up the machine.
D The man will show her how to thread it.

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Part 2: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation

Thinking About a Hot Tub

▶ **Recording: Part 2. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/114**

9. What is the man's first concern about the hot tub?

A finding room for it
B what it costs to buy
C the snow in winter
D the monthly power bill

10. Why does the woman mention Linda?

A to explain where she saw the sale
B to point out that Linda has a heated garage
C to ask Linda to help set it up
D to show that someone else enjoys one

11. What does the man correct the woman about?

A how much electricity would cost
B how often she goes to the gym
C who is still paying for a gym
D when the sale ends

12. How does the man feel about renting a hot tub?

A He thinks the rent is too high.
B He sees it as a sensible test run.
C He thinks it would cost more than the gym.
D He would rather buy one right away.

13. What will the couple most likely do?

A buy the tub before the sale ends
B keep the woman's gym membership
C put the tub on the deck
D rent a tub to try it first

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Part 3: Listening for Information

Asking About Sailing Lessons

▶ **Recording: Part 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/114**

14. Why does the man mention his friend's cottage?

A to explain where he plans to practise
B to show how little he has sailed
C to ask about renting a cottage
D to describe a boat he wants to buy

15. What is the man's first worry about the course?

A the class size
B his swimming
C the cost of the course
D the cold on the lake

16. What is the purpose of the swim test?

A to decide who is allowed to join the course
B to decide who must wear a life jacket
C to put students in boats by skill
D to check students' comfort in water

17. What does the man misunderstand?

A how long the course runs
B when the course takes place
C what the price covers
D the number of spots

18. Why does the woman mention the wind?

A so he will bring warm clothes
B to explain why lessons may be cancelled
C to warn him that sailing is risky
D to explain the best season

19. What will the man probably do next?

A sign up for the July course
B ask the woman to hold a spot
C check dates with his wife
D go to the club this afternoon

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Part 4: Listening to a News Item

A Black Belt at Eighty-Two

▶ **Recording: Part 4. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/114**

20. Monique Paquette started judo because

A her granddaughter needed a training partner.
B she had fallen on an icy sidewalk.
C a friend invited her.
D she was advised to work on her steadiness.

21. Daniel Roy praises Paquette's

A strength.
B commitment.
C technique.
D sense of humour.

22. The story about the icy sidewalk shows that

A her training has paid off.
B seniors should stay indoors in winter.
C she sometimes misses classes in winter.
D she learned to fall only recently.

23. For her black belt test, Paquette did NOT have to

A perform throws.
B show holds.
C appear before judges.
D face an opponent.

24. What is suggested about the seniors' class?

A Roy will teach it.
B It will replace the beginners' group.
C Many locals are keen to join.
D It is only for people over sixty-five.

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Part 5: Listening to a Discussion

A New Program for Residents

▶ **Recording: Part 5. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/114**

25. What is the main purpose of the meeting?

A to plan the summer barbecue
B to change the exercise class schedule
C to decide how to use new funding
D to prepare for a family council visit

26. Why does Hamid mention Mr. Kowalski?

A to show music can reach quiet residents
B to complain that residents seldom talk
C to suggest hiring the barbecue pianist again
D to praise the man's fine singing voice

27. What does Phoebe suggest about the current activities?

A They cost too much to run.
B They are held at the wrong times.
C They need more staff to run them.
D Not many residents take part.

28. According to Phoebe, what is one advantage of gardening?

A It would be cheaper.
B Residents can join in any time.
C It would free up the kitchen staff.
D It would replace the exercise class.

29. What is Jillian's main concern about the choir?

A The teacher may lose interest.
B It would use most of the budget.
C Few residents can sing well.
D It would need the sunroom.

30. What can we tell about Hamid?

A He used to sing in a church choir.
B He knows Mr. Kowalski's daughter well.
C He has wanted a choir for a while.
D He organized the summer barbecue.

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31. Why does Jillian have doubts about doing both programs?

A The sunroom is too small for both.

B There is not enough sun in spring.

C The teacher cannot come in spring.

D The council asked for just one.

32. What is the best subject line for a message Jillian will probably send to residents?

A Choir practice starts next week

B Choir or garden? You decide

C Garden club sign-up

D Help us ask the council for funding

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Part 6: Listening to Viewpoints

Lights Out for the Night Sky?

▶ **Recording: Part 6. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/114**

33. According to Rebecca Lindqvist, lit buildings harm birds by

A keeping them from finding food.
B making them visible to predators.
C causing them to lose their way.
D waking them during the day.

34. What does Lindqvist's proposal suggest about her?

A She is asking for limited changes.
B She wants streets dark.
C She cares more about insects than birds.
D She mainly wants to cut city spending.

35. Marcus Doyle would most likely support

A dimming the streets after midnight.
B switching off lights in unused buildings.
C city rules on how shops light their property.
D replacing entrance lights with cameras.

36. Lindqvist answers the safety concern by arguing that

A most thefts happen during the day.
B cameras work better than lights.
C shift workers should not walk home.
D harsh lighting can hide people.

37. Why are lower electricity bills mentioned?

A to argue that lighting costs cities too much
B to explain why Doyle opposes the plan
C to show the idea can appeal to more people
D to show that towns waste money on bulbs

38. The speaker's view of limiting outdoor lighting is that it is

A a risk to people's safety at night.
B worth trying step by step.
C mainly a way to cut energy bills.
D unfair to private businesses.

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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: Fixing an Old Sewing Machine

1 B Picture B

2 A tried to oil the machine

3 B the old wiring

4 A to be open about the repair cost

5 B pay for the work in two parts

6 D She learned to sew as a young child.

7 C an old user's guide

8 B The man will help carry the machine out.

Part 2: Thinking About a Hot Tub

9 A finding room for it

10 D to show that someone else enjoys one

11 C who is still paying for a gym

12 B He sees it as a sensible test run.

13 D rent a tub to try it first

Part 3: Asking About Sailing Lessons

14 B to show how little he has sailed

15 A the class size

16 D to check students' comfort in water

17 C what the price covers

18 A so he will bring warm clothes

19 C check dates with his wife

Part 4: A Black Belt at Eighty-Two

20 D she was advised to work on her steadiness.

21 B commitment.

22 A her training has paid off.

23 D face an opponent.

24 C Many locals are keen to join.

Part 5: A New Program for Residents

25 C to decide how to use new funding

26 A to show music can reach quiet residents

27 D Not many residents take part.

28 B Residents can join in any time.

29 A The teacher may lose interest.

30 C He has wanted a choir for a while.

31 D The council asked for just one.

32 B Choir or garden? You decide

Part 6: Lights Out for the Night Sky?

33 C causing them to lose their way.

34 A She is asking for limited changes.

35 B switching off lights in unused buildings.

36 D harsh lighting can hide people.

37 C to show the idea can appeal to more people

38 B worth trying step by step.

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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: Fixing an Old Sewing Machine

Section 1

MAN: Morning. Oh, that's a heavy one.

WOMAN: Thanks. It was my grandmother's. She bought it back in the sixties, and nobody's touched it since she passed.

MAN: They don't make them like this anymore. So what's it doing, or not doing?

WOMAN: Well, the wheel on the side won't turn at all. I thought it just needed oil, so I put a few drops in last night, but…

MAN: But nothing changed. Where did you put the oil?

WOMAN: In the little holes on top?

MAN: That's fine, that's where it goes. Let me take the plate off underneath… Hmm. There's something in here.

WOMAN: Please don't tell me it's a mouse.

MAN: No. Ha. It's… a dime. From 1962. It must have slipped through the slot by the needle and jammed everything.

WOMAN: A dime! She kept a tin of buttons and safety pins right beside it, and her old thimble, so I'd have bet on one of those.

MAN: Well, the wheel turns now. But listen to that grinding. The belt's cracked, and the wiring looks original, which worries me a lot more.

WOMAN: So it's not safe to plug in?

MAN: I wouldn't, not until I've replaced the cord. Give me a day, and I'll call you with a price.

Section 2

MAN: Hi, it's Ray from the repair shop.

WOMAN: Oh, hi. Good news or bad news?

MAN: A bit of both. The motor's in great shape. But with a new cord, a new belt and a full cleaning, you're looking at about $140.

WOMAN: Oh. A hundred and forty. I was thinking more like forty.

MAN: I understand. And to be fair, a basic new machine costs not much more than that.

WOMAN: No, no, I'm not getting a new one. I want to make my son's graduation quilt on it, the way she made one for me. Could you leave the cleaning for now? I'll pay for the cord and belt today, and the rest next month.

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MAN: Sure, we can split it like that. Just don't expect it to run quietly until it's cleaned.

Section 3

WOMAN: Hi, I got your message. Is it ready?

MAN: All set. New cord, new belt. Here, try the pedal… gently.

WOMAN: Oh, listen to it! It still rattles a bit, but it's sewing. My grandmother would be thrilled.

MAN: The rattle will go once it's cleaned. Now, do you know how to thread it? The thread goes around here, down, and back up through—

WOMAN: Through this little hook, yes. She taught me when I was nine. I just haven't done it in about twenty years.

MAN: Then you'll want this. I found an old instruction booklet for this model in my back room. No charge.

WOMAN: Really? That's so kind. And my sister has our mom's old machine in her basement. It hasn't worked in years either. Do you…

MAN: Bring it in. I'll have a look before I quote anything.

WOMAN: Great. I'll ask her to drop it off on Saturday. Now, could you help me get this out to the car? It hasn't gotten any lighter.

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Part 2: Thinking About a Hot Tub

WOMAN: So I stopped at that pool and spa store on my way home. They've got a hot tub on sale, the four-seat one, for $6,000. That's down from almost eight.

MAN: Six thousand. Huh, that's less than I thought. My back would love it after a long shift, no question. But where would it even go? The deck's barely big enough for the barbecue.

WOMAN: The salesman said it has to sit on a concrete pad, so it would go on the grass past the deck. Near the fence, where the kids' old swing set used to be.

MAN: Right, that spot. Hmm. Isn't that where the snow piles up all winter? I'd be shovelling a path out there every morning just to sit in it.

WOMAN: Well, not every morning. We'd use it on weekends, mostly. And January is when I'd want it most, sitting in hot water while it's minus twenty. Linda says it's the best thing they ever bought.

MAN: Linda also has a heated garage and a husband who loves fixing things. And what about the power bill? Those things run all year, don't they?

WOMAN: He said about forty dollars a month. But we'd cancel our gym memberships, so it would almost pay for itself.

MAN: Our memberships? I cancelled mine back in March. It's only yours now.

WOMAN: Oh, right. Well, mine's sixty a month, and I've been twice since summer. So it's still a saving. Anyway, he also said they rent them out by the month, for $250. We could try one first and—

MAN: —and see if we actually use it. Now that I like. If we're still going out there in February, we buy one. If it turns into a very expensive place to collect leaves, we send it back.

WOMAN: But if we rent, we miss the sale. It ends on Sunday.

MAN: Then we miss it. There'll be other sales. I'd rather lose a bit on the price than pay six thousand for something we stop using.

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Part 3: Asking About Sailing Lessons

WOMAN: Good morning, Harbourview Sailing Club, this is Nadia.

MAN: Hi, good morning. I'm looking into lessons for adults. Beginners, I mean real beginners. I've been on a sailboat exactly once, at a friend's cottage, and mostly I just tried to stay out of the way.

WOMAN: Ha, that's more than a lot of our students. Our adult beginner course runs over four Saturdays in June, from nine until three. The first morning is on land, learning the basics, and after that you're out on the water with an instructor.

MAN: Four Saturdays. Okay. And how many people are in a boat? I'm picturing twenty strangers and one instructor shouting at all of us.

WOMAN: Not at all. It's three students to a boat, plus the instructor, so everyone gets a turn steering. The whole class is twelve people at most.

MAN: Good. Um, there's one thing I should mention. I'm not a strong swimmer. I can float, and I can get across a pool slowly, but that's about it. Is that going to be a problem?

WOMAN: People ask that all the time. You'll wear a life jacket the whole time, and we provide those. We do ask everyone to do a short swim test the first morning, but it's just to see how comfortable you are, not to pass or fail.

MAN: Oh, that's a relief. And what does the course cost?

WOMAN: It's $425. That includes the boats, the life jackets and a club membership until the end of the season, so afterward you can take a boat out with a partner on any weekend.

MAN: So $425 for the course, and then the membership's extra?

WOMAN: No, the membership's included. That's the part people usually miss, and it's really the best value. Most of our students sail more after the course than during it.

MAN: Okay, that changes things. What should I bring?

WOMAN: Shoes with soft soles that you don't mind getting wet, a hat and sunscreen. And a warm sweater. Even in June, it gets chilly out on the lake once the wind picks up. People always think I'm joking about that.

MAN: Noted. Is there still space in June?

WOMAN: There are two spots left. If you'd rather wait, there's a July course, but that one's on weekday evenings.

MAN: Evenings won't work, I coach my son's baseball team. Let me just check the Saturdays with my wife, and I'll call you back this afternoon.

WOMAN: Sure. I can't hold a spot for you, though, so the sooner the better.

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Part 4: A Black Belt at Eighty-Two

NARRATOR: An eighty-two-year-old grandmother from Trois-Rivières, Quebec, has earned her black belt in judo, and she says she has no intention of slowing down. Monique Paquette first stepped onto a judo mat at seventy-four, after her doctor suggested she find an activity to improve her balance. Her granddaughter, who was already taking classes at a local club, persuaded her to join a beginners' group. At first, Paquette says, she mostly learned how to fall correctly, which she now considers the most valuable lesson of all. Last winter she slipped on an icy sidewalk and got up without a scratch. Her instructor, Daniel Roy, says she has not missed a single class in eight years, even during a snowstorm. For the black belt examination, she had to demonstrate a series of throws and holds in front of three judges. She was not required to compete against younger opponents, a rule that applies to every student over sixty-five. Paquette's next goal is to help organize a weekly class for seniors at the club, and several of her neighbours have already registered. She jokes that the most difficult part of judo is still tying the belt.

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Part 5: A New Program for Residents

Jillian: So the family council has finally given us money for one new program, and they want our choice by the end of the month. I'm hoping we can at least narrow it down today.

Hamid: Well, I'll go first, since I've been going on about it for a year. A choir. There's a retired music teacher in town who'd come in twice a week, and she'd only charge for her gas.

Phoebe: I know, and I love the idea, but think about who actually comes to things. Bingo gets maybe fifteen people, and half of them are there for the cookies.

Hamid: That's exactly my point. People don't come because nothing grabs them. When we had that pianist at the summer barbecue, Mr. Kowalski sang every word of every song. He hadn't said a thing to anyone in a week.

Jillian: That's true, his daughter talked about it for days. Phoebe, what was yours? Something about plants?

Phoebe: Indoor gardening. Raised planters in the sunroom, at wheelchair height, so nobody has to bend. Herbs, tomatoes, flowers. The kitchen even said they'd cook with whatever we grow.

Hamid: In the sunroom? Isn't that where the exercise class meets?

Phoebe: Mornings only. The planters go along the windows, so there's plenty of room. And the nice thing is, it isn't twice a week. People can water their own pot whenever they like, with nobody running it.

Jillian: That part I really like. A lot of our residents don't want a scheduled activity, they just want something to look after. What does it cost to set up?

Phoebe: Most of the budget, honestly. The planters, the soil, grow lights for winter. Maybe twenty-five hundred.

Hamid: And the choir costs next to nothing. Which leaves money for, I don't know, song sheets in large print, a few drums and tambourines…

Jillian: Hmm. But a choir needs someone who'll keep showing up. What happens if your music teacher gets tired of it by February?

Hamid: She won't. Well, I can't promise that, obviously. But she led a church choir for twenty years.

Phoebe: Could we do both, smaller? Start the choir now and add a few planters in the spring, when there's actually some sun?

Jillian: Maybe. Although the council said one program, and they were pretty clear they want something that lasts, not two half-finished ideas.

Hamid: Then let's ask the residents. It's their program, after all.

Phoebe: A vote? Half of them will pick whatever their friends pick.

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Jillian: Well, it beats the three of us guessing. Let me think about how we'd even word it.

Part 6: Lights Out for the Night Sky?

NARRATOR: Step outside in most Canadian cities on a clear night and you'll be lucky to count a dozen stars. The culprit is artificial light: streetlights, parking lots, glowing billboards and office towers that stay illuminated long after the last employee has gone home. A small but growing movement argues that municipalities should restrict outdoor lighting after dark, and the idea is getting a surprisingly sympathetic hearing. Supporters call it overdue; critics call it naive.

NARRATOR: Rebecca Lindqvist, a biologist who studies songbirds, is among its most persistent advocates. Every spring and fall, she explains, millions of birds migrate at night, steering by the stars, and brightly lit buildings pull them off course, sometimes fatally. Insects, frogs and even trees, whose seasonal rhythms depend on darkness, suffer as well. Yet Lindqvist is careful not to demand total darkness. What she proposes is fairly modest: shielded fixtures that point light downward, warmer bulbs, and switching off decorative lighting after midnight. Towns that have tried these measures, she notes, have also trimmed their electricity bills considerably, which tends to win over even taxpayers who care little about birds.

NARRATOR: Not everyone is persuaded. Marcus Doyle, who manages security for a chain of downtown parking garages, worries that dimmer streets will feel less safe, particularly for shift workers walking home at two in the morning. In his experience, he says, a well-lit entrance discourages theft more reliably than any camera. Doyle also bristles at the notion that city hall should dictate how private businesses light their property. Still, he has no quarrel with turning off empty office towers, which he calls a waste nobody can defend.

NARRATOR: Lindqvist's reply is that brighter does not necessarily mean safer. Glare from poorly aimed lights, she argues, creates deep shadows and can actually make it harder to notice someone approaching. Well-designed lighting, by contrast, puts the light where people walk, rather than into the sky and into bedroom windows.

NARRATOR: Doyle's concerns about safety deserve a fair hearing, and any restrictions would need to be introduced gradually, with input from those who work at night. But the evidence suggests that a great deal of urban lighting serves no one at all. Cities could begin with the easy changes, the empty towers and the unshielded fixtures, and judge the results before going further. The stars, after all, have been waiting a long time.

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