CELPIP Listening Practice Test 117

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/117 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/117 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 Christmas Tree That Doesn't Fit

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 1 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/117**

1. What is the woman's main problem?

A The tree went to the wrong house.
B The tree is losing its lowest branches.
C The tree is too big for her room.
D The tree was delivered a day late.

2. Why does the man not want to cut much off the tree?

A It would take too long to do at the lot.
B It would ruin the way the tree looks.
C The tree would no longer fit the stand.
D The woman would have to pay for it.

3. How does the woman feel when the man describes the cut tree?

A annoyed
B relieved
C confused
D embarrassed

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 2 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/117**

4. Why does the woman choose the shorter tree?

A It is the tallest one left.
B Her daughter asked for a Fraser fir.
C It has a much stronger smell.
D It will keep its needles long enough.

5. How much money will the man return to the woman?

A $25
B $35
C $60
D $95

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 3 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/117**

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6. What does the man give the woman for free?

A



B



C



D



7. What does the man tell the woman to do?

A cut the trunk again every morning

B buy a stronger stand for the tree

C keep the tree from running out of water

D take the lights off the tree before adding water

8. What will the woman probably do?

A measure her ceiling again

B return the wreath to the lot

C order a second, smaller tree for her living room

D recommend the lot to someone she knows

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Part 2: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation

A Surprise from a DNA Test

▶ **Recording: Part 2. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/117**

9. Why did the woman take the DNA test?

A to find a relative she had lost
B because her father asked her to
C to check what she had heard about her roots
D to learn about possible health problems

10. Why is the man surprised by the match?

A He thought her father had no brothers or sisters.
B He thought Carla must be the woman's long-lost sister.
C He doubts the website gives correct results.
D He has met all of the woman's cousins.

11. How did the woman's father react at first?

A He called Carla right away.
B He asked to see some photos.
C He was angry with his mother.
D He didn't say anything.

12. Why does the man mention his aunt?

A to show that his family also tried DNA testing
B to warn that such contacts are not always honest
C to suggest Carla might help pay for the trip
D to explain why his aunt stopped speaking to her cousins

13. What will probably happen on Sunday?

A The woman will drive her father to Thunder Bay.
B Carla will send photos of her father.
C The family will talk with Carla online.
D The father will fly to meet Carla.

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Part 3: Listening for Information

Booking a Chimney Cleaning

▶ **Recording: Part 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/117**

14. Why is the man calling?

A to complain about a cleaning the company did last year
B to book a service before using his fireplace
C to get a report his insurance company needs
D to ask about repairing a crack

15. What is true about the chimney's last cleaning?

A It was done every year by the seller.
B It was done by Northern Flue Sweeps.
C It was done last winter.
D It was done several years ago.

16. Why does the woman recommend the camera inspection?

A Hidden damage could be a fire risk.
B His insurance company requires one.
C The camera comes free.
D The seller reported a crack.

17. Why does the man want an earlier appointment?

A He works on Tuesday mornings.
B He expects the weather to turn cold soon.
C He hopes to have a fire during a family visit.
D His insurance agent wants the report as soon as possible.

18. What must the man do before the crew arrives?

A leave the fireplace unused for a day
B open the fireplace to air it out
C lay down covers by the fireplace
D move the furniture out

19. What does the woman suggest about the scratching?

A The man should remove the nest himself.
B It is normal in older chimneys.
C It is caused by the wind.
D Some other animal may be inside.

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Part 4: Listening to a News Item

A Rescue Dog Retires

▶ **Recording: Part 4. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/117**

20. Juno is retiring because

A her handler is leaving the team.
B she was hurt in an avalanche.
C a younger dog is now ready to take over her job.
D her body can no longer handle the work.

21. The snowboarder Juno found

A was rescued by Juno last winter.
B was located soon after Juno got there.
C was skiing with a group of hikers.
D was buried under the snow for most of the day.

22. Mark Ellison suggests that

A the decision affected him more than Juno.
B Juno wants to keep working.
C Pepper is already as skilled as Juno was.
D Juno should live with another family.

23. After she retires, Juno will

A help train Pepper at the hall.
B be given to a family in Squamish.
C go on living in her handler's home.
D join a search team in a nearby community.

24. We can infer that until spring, the Squamish team

A will stop searching in the mountains.
B will have no fully trained dog of its own.
C will send Juno out on only the easier searches.
D will hold a ceremony every Saturday.

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Part 5: Listening to a Discussion

Three Neighbours and One Driveway

▶ **Recording: Part 5. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/117**

25. What problem does Elise describe?

A She has lost her footing near her home.
B Delivery trucks keep blocking her gate.
C The camper takes up too much space.
D Water gets into her garage when it rains.

26. Why does Gary think he should pay less?

A He hardly ever drives his car.
B He paid for the last patching.
C He uses only a short stretch of it.
D He disagrees with repaving the driveway at all.

27. Why does Mona mention visitors and delivery trucks?

A to complain about traffic noise on the street
B to argue that the whole driveway serves everyone
C to blame delivery trucks for damaging the driveway surface
D to show how often she uses her camper

28. Why does Gary mention his brother-in-law?

A to offer to have the work done for free
B to say he would rather patch the holes
C to suggest waiting until spring
D to find out whether the price is fair

29. What is Elise's main worry?

A the noise of the repaving work
B who would choose the paving company
C paying a large sum all at once
D the quality of the work

30. What is Mona's opinion of patching the holes?

A It would not last long enough to be worth it.
B It costs more than repaving.
C It should be done by Gary's brother-in-law's crew.
D It is a good idea for this year only.

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31. What is most likely true at the end of the discussion?

A Gary has agreed to pay an equal share.

B Elise will ask Valley Paving about paying in parts.

C Mona has accepted Gary's way of splitting it.

D They have not decided how to divide the cost.

32. What is the best subject line for a follow-up email to the three neighbours?

A Equal split agreed for repaving

B Getting a second price before we decide

C Patching the worst holes this winter

D Booking Valley Paving before the first snow falls

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Part 6: Listening to Viewpoints

Daily Gym Class for Every Student

▶ **Recording: Part 6. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/117**

33. The report is mainly about

A why rural schools lack gym space.
B how inactivity affects children's health.
C whether daily gym should be required by law.
D the benefits of taking classes outdoors.

34. Gordon Fraser would most likely support

A money to hire teachers trained in physical education.
B cutting library or art time to make room for daily gym.
C one rule that applies equally to all schools.
D keeping students indoors during the winter.

35. Why does Nadia Okafor mention hockey fees?

A to argue that team sports should be free
B to show that families care more about sports than school
C to suggest schools should start their own hockey teams
D to show some children have no other way to be active

36. According to Okafor, time spent in the gym

A takes valuable hours away from reading.
B can help students focus on other subjects.
C matters less than activity outside school.
D should replace some of the music and art classes.

37. What can we infer about Fraser's school?

A It already offers a gym class to every group daily.
B It has no gym of its own.
C It has recently hired a gym teacher.
D It already looks for ways to get kids moving.

38. The speaker's attitude toward a daily requirement is best described as

A supportive of the aim but unsure about a law.
B sure that voluntary guidelines work.
C worried exercise will lower test results.
D doubtful that inactivity is a real problem.

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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 Christmas Tree That Doesn't Fit

1 C The tree is too big for her room.

2 B It would ruin the way the tree looks.

3 A annoyed

4 D It will keep its needles long enough.

5 B $35

6 D Picture D

7 C keep the tree from running out of water

8 D recommend the lot to someone she knows

Part 2: A Surprise from a DNA Test

9 C to check what she had heard about her roots

10 A He thought her father had no brothers or sisters.

11 D He didn't say anything.

12 B to warn that such contacts are not always honest

13 C The family will talk with Carla online.

Part 3: Booking a Chimney Cleaning

14 B to book a service before using his fireplace

15 D It was done several years ago.

16 A Hidden damage could be a fire risk.

17 C He hopes to have a fire during a family visit.

18 A leave the fireplace unused for a day

19 D Some other animal may be inside.

Part 4: A Rescue Dog Retires

20 D her body can no longer handle the work.

21 B was located soon after Juno got there.

22 A the decision affected him more than Juno.

23 C go on living in her handler's home.

24 B will have no fully trained dog of its own.

Part 5: Three Neighbours and One Driveway

25 A She has lost her footing near her home.

26 C He uses only a short stretch of it.

27 B to argue that the whole driveway serves everyone

28 D to find out whether the price is fair

29 C paying a large sum all at once

30 A It would not last long enough to be worth it.

31 D They have not decided how to divide the cost.

32 B Getting a second price before we decide

Part 6: Daily Gym Class for Every Student

33 C whether daily gym should be required by law.

34 A money to hire teachers trained in physical education.

35 D to show some children have no other way to be active

36 B can help students focus on other subjects.

37 D It already looks for ways to get kids moving.

38 A supportive of the aim but unsure about a law.

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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 Christmas Tree That Doesn't Fit

Section 1

MAN: Afternoon! Looking for a tree, or maybe a wreath?

WOMAN: Neither, actually. You delivered a Fraser fir to my house yesterday? The name's Lacroix.

MAN: Oh, right, the big one. Beautiful tree.

WOMAN: It is beautiful. That's the problem. It's bent over against my living room ceiling. My ceiling is eight feet, and the tag says nine and a half.

MAN: Oh. Hmm. Did you pick it out yourself, or…

WOMAN: No, I ordered by height. I told the young fellow seven feet.

MAN: Let me find your slip. Here. Huh. It does say seven, but someone's circled the price for the nine-and-a-half. So you paid $95 for the big one.

WOMAN: Can't you just cut a piece off the bottom?

MAN: We could take a few inches. But the lowest branches are the fullest ones. Cut a foot and a half off, and you'd have a bare stick poking out of the stand.

WOMAN: Lovely. Just what I wanted in my living room.

MAN: Honestly, the simplest thing is to swap it. I'll check what we've got and call you tonight.

Section 2

MAN: Mrs. Lacroix? It's Dev, from the tree lot. I've got good news and not-so-good news.

WOMAN: Go on…

MAN: We're out of seven-foot Fraser firs. What I do have is a seven-foot balsam fir, or a six-foot Fraser.

WOMAN: Six feet sounds a bit short. What's different about the balsam?

MAN: It smells amazing, like walking in the woods. But it drops its needles sooner. You'd be vacuuming by New Year's.

WOMAN: Hmm. We never take ours down until after the sixth of January. It's my daughter's birthday.

MAN: Then I'd go with the Fraser. Once it's in the stand, it's more like six and a half.

WOMAN: All right, the Fraser. And what about the money?

MAN: It's a $60 tree, so I'll bring the difference when we drop it off tomorrow, around ten.

WOMAN: Ten's fine.

Section 3

MAN: Morning! One six-foot Fraser, as promised. Where's the giant?

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WOMAN: Still in the corner. I got all the lights off last night, but I couldn't lift it out of the stand on my own.

MAN: That's what I'm here for. Okay… there. Your stand looks solid, so I'll put the new one straight in. I just need to take a thin slice off the bottom first so it can drink.

WOMAN: Drink? I thought it was already cut.

MAN: It was, but the cut seals up after a day or so. Fill the stand today and check it every morning. If it goes dry, the needles start falling.

WOMAN: Every morning. Got it. Oh, it looks perfect. There's even room for the star.

MAN: Good. Here's your refund. And this is for your front door, no charge. A wreath, for all the trouble.

WOMAN: Oh, you didn't have to… Thank you. My neighbour asked where I got my tree. I'll send her your way.

MAN: Ha, sure. Just make sure she measures her ceiling first.

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Part 2: A Surprise from a DNA Test

MAN: So, did you ever do that DNA kit your kids gave you? You were talking about it at Thanksgiving.

WOMAN: I did, finally. Mostly I wanted to see if Grandma's stories were true, you know, that her family came from a little village near Porto. And they were, more or less. But that's not the interesting part.

MAN: Uh-oh. You're not secretly royalty, are you?

WOMAN: Ha, no. I got a message through the website from a woman in Thunder Bay. Her name's Carla, and the site says we're first cousins.

MAN: Wait, first cousins? But your dad's an only child, isn't he? And your mom has just the one sister, and you know all her kids.

WOMAN: That's what I said. Well, it turns out my dad isn't an only child. His mother had a baby boy before she married my grandfather. She was seventeen, and the baby was adopted. Carla is that boy's daughter.

MAN: Wow. Did your dad know?

WOMAN: Not a thing. I was so nervous telling him. He went really quiet, just sat there. Then the next morning he called me at seven and asked if Carla had any photos of her father.

MAN: That's kind of sweet. But, I don't know, be a little careful? My aunt got one of these messages, and it turned out the person mostly wanted money. They kept asking her—

WOMAN: —to help with some bill, I know, I've heard those stories. But Carla hasn't asked for anything. She sent me old photos of her dad before I'd told her a single thing about us.

MAN: Okay, that's different. So are you going to meet her?

WOMAN: Eventually. Thunder Bay's a long drive from here, though, and Dad won't fly. So for now we're setting up a video call for Sunday, the three of us. Dad's already practising what he'll say.

MAN: I bet. Just don't let him practise too much. The first few minutes are always awkward anyway.

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Part 3: Booking a Chimney Cleaning

WOMAN: Good morning, Northern Flue Sweeps, this is Tanya.

MAN: Hi, yes. I just bought a house in Sudbury, an older one, and it has a wood fireplace. I've never had one before, so I figured I should get the chimney looked at before I actually light anything this winter.

WOMAN: Good thinking. You'd be surprised how many people light the first fire and call us afterwards. Do you know when it was last cleaned?

MAN: The seller said every year. Actually, wait, no. She said it was cleaned the year they moved in, and that was, um, 2019, I think.

WOMAN: Okay, so it's overdue either way. For a first visit we always do a sweep plus a camera inspection. We send a small camera up and check the inside for cracks. It's $189 for both.

MAN: Is the camera part really needed? I mean, if it's just getting cleaned…

WOMAN: Well, with a house that's new to you, you don't know its history. A crack inside can let heat reach the wood in your walls, and you'd never see it from the living room. And if everything looks fine, you've got peace of mind, plus a report for your insurance.

MAN: Insurance, right, my agent did ask about the fireplace. Okay, let's do both. When's your first opening?

WOMAN: Let me look. October's full, I'm afraid. This is our busiest time of year. The first opening is Tuesday, November 12th, in the morning.

MAN: Hmm. My parents are driving up from Toronto on the 9th, and my dad's been talking about sitting by the fire ever since I bought the place.

WOMAN: I can put you on our cancellation list. People cancel all the time, especially while the weather's still mild. We'd call you the day before.

MAN: Yes, please. And book the 12th anyway, just in case.

WOMAN: Will do. A couple of things before we come. Don't use the fireplace for at least a day before, because the crew can't work in a warm chimney. And clear about two metres in front of it. We put covers down, but people like to move their rugs and photos.

MAN: No fires, two metres. Got it. Oh, and one more thing. I think there's a bird's nest at the top? I hear scratching sometimes in the evening.

WOMAN: Scratching? That may not be a bird. We'll check, but don't open up the fireplace until we've been out, okay?

MAN: Uh… okay. Now I'm a little nervous.

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Part 4: A Rescue Dog Retires

NARRATOR: After ten years of searching the mountains and forests around Squamish, a German shepherd named Juno is hanging up her harness. The eleven-year-old dog joined the local search and rescue team as a puppy and has since taken part in more than two hundred callouts, from lost hikers to skiers caught in avalanches. Her handler, volunteer Mark Ellison, says Juno's most memorable find came four winters ago, when she located a snowboarder buried under nearly two metres of snow just twenty minutes after arriving on the scene. A veterinarian recently noticed stiffness in her back legs, and the team agreed that steep, icy terrain was no longer fair to ask of her. Ellison says the decision was harder on him than on Juno, who seems perfectly content with longer naps. She will stay with the Ellison family, where she has always lived between missions. Her replacement, a two-year-old Labrador called Pepper, is still in training and is not expected to be certified until spring. Until then, the team will rely on dogs borrowed from neighbouring communities. Volunteers will honour Juno at a small ceremony at the rescue hall next Saturday, and residents are welcome to attend.

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Part 5: Three Neighbours and One Driveway

Mona: Thanks for coming over. So, you've both seen the quote from Valley Paving. Nine thousand dollars to tear up the whole driveway and repave it.

Gary: Nine thousand. I nearly dropped my coffee.

Elise: Me too. But honestly, after last winter, I'm not surprised. That hole by my gate fills with water and freezes every night. I've slipped there twice now.

Mona: Right, so I figured, three houses, we split it three ways. Three thousand each, and it's done before the snow.

Gary: Well, hold on. I'm not saying no, but my garage is right at the front. I drive maybe ten metres of it. You're at the very back, so you use the whole thing, every day. With the camper.

Mona: The camper goes out twice a summer, Gary.

Gary: Okay, okay, but you see my point. Maybe it should depend on how much of it each of us actually uses.

Elise: So I'm in the middle, and I'd pay a middle amount? I'm not sure I like the idea of measuring the driveway with a tape.

Gary: It doesn't have to be exact. Say the front pays a quarter, the middle a third, and the back the rest.

Mona: So I'd pay over four thousand. For a driveway that, by the way, all our visitors and delivery trucks drive up. Including yours.

Elise: Can I suggest something different? What if we just fill the worst holes this year? The same company said about twelve hundred for patching. I'm on a pension now, and three thousand right before Christmas would be…

Mona: We patched it four years ago, though, remember? It lasted one winter. It's like pouring money down a drain.

Gary: She's got a point there. Look, my brother-in-law runs a paving crew out in Chilliwack. I could ask him to come and look at it. Even if he doesn't take the job, he'd tell us whether nine thousand is reasonable.

Mona: That would actually help. Valley Paving was the only company that ever called me back.

Elise: And if it came down a bit, maybe I could manage my share. Would they let us pay in parts, do you think? Half now and half in the spring?

Mona: I can ask. They seemed flexible on timing.

Gary: So we get a second price, and then we work out the split.

Mona: Well, we could work out the split now, really. Equal is the simplest.

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Gary: Or not. Let's just see the number first.

Elise: I'll put the kettle on while you two find the tape measure.

Part 6: Daily Gym Class for Every Student

NARRATOR: In most Canadian provinces, physical education is compulsory in elementary school, yet the number of minutes children actually spend moving varies enormously from one classroom to the next. Some students have gym every day; others manage barely two short periods a week, often squeezed out by assemblies, testing or a lack of gym space. A growing coalition of health professionals now wants daily physical education written into provincial law. Few people would quarrel with the goal itself. Writing it into law is another matter.

NARRATOR: Dr. Nadia Okafor, a pediatrician in Winnipeg, sees the consequences of inactivity in her office every week: children who are out of breath after a flight of stairs, and teenagers already showing early signs of diabetes. In her view, voluntary guidelines have had twenty years to work, and the results speak for themselves. Okafor also points to research linking regular exercise with better concentration, arguing that thirty minutes in the gym may sharpen, rather than steal from, the hours spent on mathematics and reading. For children whose neighbourhoods lack safe parks, or whose families cannot afford hockey fees, school may be the only dependable place to be active. A daily requirement, she contends, is simply a matter of fairness.

NARRATOR: Gordon Fraser, a principal in rural Saskatchewan for fifteen years, shares the goal but doubts the method, and his objection deserves more attention than it usually receives. His school has one small gym for three hundred students, and timetabling a daily class for every group would mean cutting music, art or library time. None of that, in his view, justifies doing nothing; his teachers already take classes outside for walks and games whenever the weather cooperates. What troubles him is a single rule applied identically to every school, regardless of its building, its staff or its winters. He would prefer funding for trained gym teachers and equipment, which he believes would improve the quality of each lesson, not merely the quantity.

NARRATOR: Okafor counters that schools have pointed to a shortage of resources for decades, and that without a firm requirement, activity will always be the first thing dropped when the timetable gets crowded. Fraser replies that a rule schools cannot meet tends to be quietly ignored, which helps nobody. Both sides, notably, want children moving more. Admirable as the goal is, a law with no money behind it may turn out to be more symbolic than real.

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