CELPIP Listening Practice Test 50

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/50 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/50 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

Getting the Brakes Checked

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 1 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/50**

1. When does the man mostly hear the noise?

A



B



C



D



2. Why is the man concerned about the time?

A His brother-in-law needs the car back.
B He has to be at work in the afternoon.
C He must catch a bus at eleven-thirty.
D The inspection fee goes up after noon.

3. What will the man probably do next?

A come back for the estimate before noon
B give the woman his phone number
C take the bus home and come back after his shift
D charge his phone in the waiting area

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 2 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/50**

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4. Why would replacing only the pads not be enough?

A His brother-in-law does not have the right tools for the job.

B Pads cost more than rotors at this garage.

C The technician has already ordered new rotors.

D The damaged discs would ruin them quickly.

5. How does the man most likely feel at the end of this conversation?

A annoyed that the technician took his car out

B relieved that the price is lower than he feared

C confident he can do the repair himself

D uneasy about driving the car

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 3 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/50**

6. Why does the woman recommend the aftermarket parts?

A They come with a longer warranty than the others.

B They are made by the car's manufacturer.

C She thinks they suit the way he drives.

D They must be ordered in for tomorrow.

7. What does the woman offer to make the repair easier to afford?

A a discount on the inspection fee

B a loaner car for the day

C paying in several instalments

D a free upgrade to the original parts

8. What will the man probably do next?

A wait for the parts until tomorrow

B ask his brother-in-law to fix the car instead

C pay the whole bill at once

D arrange a ride to his job

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Part 2: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation

A Fortieth Anniversary

▶ **Recording: Part 2. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/50**

9. What does the man misunderstand at first?

A how many guests the room can hold
B which restaurant his sister phoned
C how much the restaurant wants up front
D when their parents will be away

10. Why does the woman mention their parents' twenty-fifth anniversary?

A to remind her brother how much it cost
B to show their parents may not enjoy a crowd
C to point out that fewer guests came than expected
D to suggest holding the party at the same place

11. What is suggested about Newfoundland?

A It has special meaning for the couple.
B It is where their father grew up.
C It is where the cousins who will chip in now live.
D It is cheaper to visit in June than in May.

12. What does the man think of his sister's idea?

A He prefers to invite all sixty-three people.
B He likes it but has doubts about the money.
C He thinks the cousins should pay for it.
D He believes their parents would refuse.

13. What will probably happen next?

A The man will book flights to Newfoundland.
B The deposit will not be paid yet.
C The woman will ask the Toronto cousins for money.
D The parents will be told about the party.

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Part 3: Listening for Information

Subletting an Apartment

▶ **Recording: Part 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/50**

14. Why does the man want to sublet his apartment?

A He is moving in with a friend of a friend.
B His apartment is too small for him.
C He will be working in another city for a while.
D He is starting a nursing program in another province.

15. Why does the woman mention other tenants?

A to warn that units are in high demand
B to show that subletting is very common in the building
C to explain that personal connections do not help
D to explain why the credit check takes ten days

16. What does the woman think of the advice from the man's friend?

A It would help pay for his furniture.
B It is fine if the apartment is small.
C It applies only to furnished apartments.
D It could break a provincial rule.

17. What can be inferred about the man's responsibilities?

A He must move back early if the student misses a payment.
B He could lose money if the subtenant causes problems.
C He has to pay the management company a separate deposit.
D He needs to inspect the apartment once a month.

18. According to the woman, why do many tenants ask a subtenant for a deposit?

A to protect themselves against damage
B because the management company requires it
C to pay for the credit check
D to cover the cost of the parking space

19. What is most likely true about the parking spot?

A It will go to the subtenant automatically.
B It is included in the monthly rent.
C It could be lost if he cancels it.
D It has a waiting list that he is already on.

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Part 4: Listening to a News Item

A Record-Breaking Pumpkin

▶ **Recording: Part 4. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/50**

20. The previous Canadian record

A was only slightly lower.
B was set at the same fair.
C belonged to a retired teacher.
D was beaten by twelve kilograms.

21. Thibodeau believes his pumpkin succeeded mainly because of

A his constant attention.
B a special fertilizer.
C the cool weather in August.
D advice from growers in Quebec.

22. During the hailstorm, Thibodeau

A covered it with a tarp.
B asked his neighbours for help.
C moved it into a barn for shelter.
D stayed close to his pumpkin.

23. What can we infer about Thibodeau?

A He has grown pumpkins since childhood.
B He plans to carve the pumpkin himself.
C He is not motivated by money.
D He lives next door to the fairgrounds.

24. Moving the pumpkin to the fair was

A done by the fair organizers.
B a group effort.
C delayed by the August storm.
D cheaper than he expected.

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Part 5: Listening to a Discussion

Paying for the Class Trip

▶ **Recording: Part 5. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/50**

25. Why does the school need more money than last year?

A More students are going on the trip.
B The hotel in Ottawa raised its prices.
C The trip is now in March instead of May.
D The class is going to a different city.

26. Why does Leila mention the grade fours' track day?

A to suggest the grade fours join the fun run
B to point out that the gym is too small
C to show why an outdoor event would fail
D to complain that students keep losing their shoes

27. Why does Monica prefer an auction to the pizza lunches?

A It asks money only from those who can spare it.
B Local businesses have already offered to donate.
C The students would enjoy it more than pizza.
D It would need no help from the parent council.

28. What is Leila's main objection to the auction?

A the low prices parents would bid
B the amount of effort it demands
C the timing of the spring concert
D the shortage of local businesses

29. What can be inferred about the parent council?

A It has already organized an auction before.
B It disagrees with holding a pizza lunch.
C It cannot offer much help at the moment.
D It will decide which fundraiser to choose.

30. How does Leila react to Kevin's pizza calculation?

A She thinks his numbers are wrong.
B She is excited and wants to start at once.
C She insists the auction is a better plan.
D She is surprised but somewhat doubtful.

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

A Fun run moved to the gym

B Silent auction cancelled

C Pizza Fridays start next week for all grades

D Fundraiser: waiting to hear from Rita

32. What is suggested about Kevin?

A He has organized a silent auction before.

B He wants the trip moved to the fall.

C He works with the cafeteria staff on Fridays.

D He is willing to give up his first idea.

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Part 6: Listening to Viewpoints

Separated Bike Lanes

▶ **Recording: Part 6. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/50**

33. The report is mainly about

A whether expanding protected cycling routes is worthwhile.
B whether bike lanes can be used during Canadian winters.
C why hardware stores are struggling in Hamilton.
D the cost of building new highway interchanges.

34. According to Priya Raman, many people do not cycle because they

A find the winters too harsh.
B feel unsafe near large vehicles.
C cannot find parking for their bikes downtown.
D think cycling is only for children.

35. Doug Fraser suggests that his weekend sales have fallen because

A fewer cyclists pass by in winter.
B delivery drivers block the traffic lane.
C his customers have nowhere close to park.
D the city did not consult local merchants.

36. Why does Raman mention a twelve-year-old or a grandparent?

A to suggest the lanes appeal to a wider range of riders
B to describe who currently uses the city's bike lanes
C to argue that children should cycle to school more often
D to show that cycling is cheaper than driving

37. What can be inferred about Doug Fraser?

A He would like the lanes removed from every city.
B He would accept bike lanes in some areas.
C He wants the city to pay him for lost sales.
D He thinks painted lines would be safer.

38. The speaker's attitude toward separated bike lanes is

A doubtful about their value.
B supportive, with conditions.
C more sympathetic to business owners.
D concerned mainly with cyclists' safety.

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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: Getting the Brakes Checked

1 C Picture C

2 B He has to be at work in the afternoon.

3 A come back for the estimate before noon

4 D The damaged discs would ruin them quickly.

5 D uneasy about driving the car

6 C She thinks they suit the way he drives.

7 C paying in several instalments

8 D arrange a ride to his job

Part 2: A Fortieth Anniversary

9 D when their parents will be away

10 B to show their parents may not enjoy a crowd

11 A It has special meaning for the couple.

12 B He likes it but has doubts about the money.

13 B The deposit will not be paid yet.

Part 3: Subletting an Apartment

14 C He will be working in another city for a while.

15 C to explain that personal connections do not help

16 D It could break a provincial rule.

17 B He could lose money if the subtenant causes problems.

18 A to protect themselves against damage

19 C It could be lost if he cancels it.

Part 4: A Record-Breaking Pumpkin

20 A was only slightly lower.

21 A his constant attention.

22 D stayed close to his pumpkin.

23 C He is not motivated by money.

24 B a group effort.

Part 5: Paying for the Class Trip

25 A More students are going on the trip.

26 C to show why an outdoor event would fail

27 A It asks money only from those who can spare it.

28 B the amount of effort it demands

29 C It cannot offer much help at the moment.

30 D She is surprised but somewhat doubtful.

31 D Fundraiser: waiting to hear from Rita

32 D He is willing to give up his first idea.

Part 6: Separated Bike Lanes

33 A whether expanding protected cycling routes is worthwhile.

34 B feel unsafe near large vehicles.

35 C his customers have nowhere close to park.

36 A to suggest the lanes appeal to a wider range of riders

37 B He would accept bike lanes in some areas.

38 B supportive, with conditions.

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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: Getting the Brakes Checked

Section 1

WOMAN: Morning. You're the one who called about a noise?

MAN: That's me. It's this grinding sound, mostly when I brake, and it's gotten worse since the weekend. My brother-in-law says it's nothing, but he says that about everything.

WOMAN: Well, grinding when you brake usually isn't nothing. Before I give you any numbers, though, one of our technicians needs to put it up on the hoist and have a proper look.

MAN: How long does that take? I've got a shift at two, and the bus from here is… well, let's just say it's not frequent.

WOMAN: The inspection itself is about forty minutes, but we're a bit backed up this morning. Realistically, you'd have an estimate by eleven-thirty. The inspection fee is $60, but if you go ahead with the repair here, we take it off the bill.

MAN: And if I don't go ahead?

WOMAN: Then you just pay the sixty. No pressure either way. There's a coffee place across the parking lot, if you'd rather not sit in here with the smell of tires.

MAN: Ha. Fine. Can I leave you my cell number? Actually, wait, my phone's nearly dead. Forget it, I'll just come back at eleven-thirty.

Section 2

MAN: So, how bad is it?

WOMAN: Your instinct was right. The front pads are completely worn down, and they've cut grooves into the rotors, the metal discs behind the wheels. Pads and rotors on the front, parts and labour, comes to $540, plus tax.

MAN: Five hundred and forty. Ouch. My brother-in-law said he could do pads for, like, a hundred bucks in his driveway.

WOMAN: He probably could do pads. But with the rotors in that condition, new pads alone would be worn out again in a few weeks. And honestly, I wouldn't drive it far as it is. The technician took it around the block, and it pulls to the left when you brake hard.

MAN: Pulls to the left. Okay, that's… that's not great.

Section 3

MAN: Is there any way to bring the price down? I wasn't budgeting for this.

WOMAN: A couple of things. The parts I quoted are from the car's manufacturer. We also carry a good aftermarket brand, made by another company, that would save you about $90. They come with a two-

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year warranty instead of three, but for a car that mostly does short trips in the city, I'd be comfortable with them.

MAN: And how long would that take? Because of my shift—

WOMAN: The aftermarket ones are on the shelf, so it'd be ready by four. The others we'd have to order in, so tomorrow morning at the earliest.

MAN: Four's fine, I can't pick it up before my shift ends anyway. The problem is getting there.

WOMAN: We don't do loaner cars, sorry. But we can split the payment over three months with no interest, if that helps.

MAN: It does, actually. Okay. The cheaper parts, and the payment plan. And, um, is there a taxi number you could give me?

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Part 2: A Fortieth Anniversary

WOMAN: Okay, so I called the restaurant on Elm Street about the back room. It holds forty people, which sounds great, except they want a $500 deposit, and the only Saturday they've got left in June is the twenty-first.

MAN: The twenty-first? Isn't that the weekend Mom and Dad are at the cottage with the Hendersons?

WOMAN: No, that's the long weekend in May. I checked with Dad, very casually, of course. He thinks I was asking because I want to borrow his truck.

MAN: Ha, good cover. Okay, so forty people. But wait, if we invite all of Mom's choir, that's twenty right there, and then Dad's whole bowling league… we're going to blow past forty.

WOMAN: That's actually what I wanted to talk about. Do we really want a big party? Remember their twenty-fifth? Mom spent the whole night making sure everybody had a drink, and Dad hid in the kitchen washing glasses. They looked exhausted by the end.

MAN: Yeah, but this is their fortieth. Forty years. That deserves something big. I already started a list, and it's at sixty-three names.

WOMAN: Sixty-three! Okay, what if we did something smaller, just family and their oldest friends, and then put money toward something they'd actually remember? Dad's been talking about going back to Newfoundland for years. That's where they spent their honeymoon.

MAN: A trip. Huh. That's… actually, that's a really nice idea. Though I don't know how we'd pay for flights for two on top of a party.

WOMAN: Well, if it's twenty people instead of sixty, the dinner costs a lot less. And some of the cousins said they'd want to chip in.

MAN: Which cousins? The Toronto ones? Because they still owe me for Grandma's—

WOMAN: —I know, I know. Not them. Aunt Rosa's kids.

MAN: Okay. Let me sit on it. I'll look around at flight prices this week, and you hold off on the deposit until we decide.

WOMAN: Fine, but if somebody else grabs the twenty-first, don't blame me.

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Part 3: Subletting an Apartment

WOMAN: Lakeview Property Management, Diane speaking.

MAN: Hi, I'm in unit 412 in the Birch Street building. I've been offered a work placement in Saskatoon, January to June, and I was wondering about subletting my apartment while I'm away. Is that even allowed?

WOMAN: It is, yes, but it's not something you can arrange privately. Under your lease, any subtenant has to be approved by us first. They fill out the same application as a regular tenant, with references and a credit check, and that usually takes about ten business days. There's no charge for the application itself.

MAN: Ten business days. Okay. Actually, I already have someone in mind. A friend of a friend, she's a nursing student, very responsible.

WOMAN: That's great, but she'll still have to go through the process like anyone else. I've had tenants assume that knowing someone personally speeds things up, and I'm afraid it doesn't.

MAN: Fair enough. What about rent? I was thinking I'd charge her a little less than I pay, since the place is kind of small. Or, actually, a friend told me I could charge a bit more to cover the furniture—

WOMAN: I'd be careful there. In this province, you can't charge a subtenant more than your own rent. Less is fine, of course. But here's the important part: you remain responsible to us. If she stops paying you, we still expect the full amount from you on the first of every month.

MAN: Oh. I didn't realize that. So if something goes wrong, it's on me.

WOMAN: Exactly, and the same goes for damage. That's why a lot of tenants in your situation ask the subtenant for a deposit of their own, and they do a walk-through together, with photos, before handing over the keys.

MAN: That makes sense. And, sorry, one more thing. My parking spot. Does that go with the apartment?

WOMAN: Parking's on a separate agreement, so no, it doesn't transfer automatically. If she has a car, she'd need to sign up for a spot herself, and there's a waiting list right now. If she doesn't, you can keep paying for yours, or give it up, but if you give it up, I can't promise it'll be there for you in June.

MAN: Hmm. I'll ask whether she even drives. Could you email me that application?

WOMAN: Sure. What's the best address?

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Part 4: A Record-Breaking Pumpkin

NARRATOR: A retired schoolteacher from rural Nova Scotia has grown the heaviest pumpkin ever recorded in Canada. Gerald Thibodeau's enormous squash weighed in at 1,286 kilograms at the Annapolis Valley Fall Fair on Saturday, beating the previous national record, set in Quebec two years ago, by just nine kilograms. Thibodeau, who took up competitive growing after his retirement, attributes his success not to fertilizer but to patience. Throughout the summer, he says, he monitored the pumpkin around the clock, shielding it from the afternoon sunshine with a tarp and even sleeping in a tent beside it during a ferocious hailstorm in August. Transporting the giant presented its own complications: it took a forklift, a flatbed trailer and six exhausted neighbours to move it the twelve kilometres to the fairgrounds. The achievement earned Thibodeau a modest prize of $2,500, which he intends to donate in its entirety to the local food bank, adding that the bragging rights are reward enough. Asked what will become of the record-breaker, he chuckled that it is far too heavy to carve. Instead, as fair tradition dictates, it will be hollowed out and paddled across a nearby lake in next weekend's pumpkin boat race.

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Part 5: Paying for the Class Trip

Monica: Okay, so the bus company finally sent the quote for the Ottawa trip, and it's gone up. With the buses and the hotel, we need to raise about six thousand dollars by March.

Kevin: Six? Last year it was four.

Monica: Last year it was two buses. This year fifty-two kids signed up, so it's three.

Kevin: Right, of course. Okay. Well, I'll say what I said last time. A fun run. Kids get sponsors, families come out and cheer, and it costs us almost nothing to organize.

Leila: In March? The field is a swamp until May. Last spring the grade fours had their track day and half of them lost a shoe in the mud.

Kevin: We could run it inside, laps around the gym—

Leila: Two hundred laps around the gym. Kevin, I love you, but no.

Kevin: Fine, fine. Maybe in the fall, for next year's class.

Monica: What I keep coming back to is a silent auction. Local businesses donate things, a dinner for two, a haircut, hockey tickets, and parents bid on them at the spring concert. My sister's school raised almost nine thousand dollars that way.

Leila: Nine thousand is wonderful, but do you know how much work that is? I helped with one at my old school. Somebody has to visit every business, collect everything, write up the descriptions, chase down the people who win and then forget to pay. I did that for three months, while I was writing report cards.

Monica: So we split it up. The three of us, plus the parent council.

Leila: The parent council is two people right now, and one of them just had a baby.

Kevin: What about something smaller but more often? Like a pizza lunch every Friday. The kids already beg for it, and the pizza place on King Street gives schools a discount.

Monica: How much would that actually bring in, though?

Kevin: If we make two dollars a slice and sell, say, a hundred and fifty slices a week… that's three hundred a week. Twenty weeks till March…

Leila: That's six thousand. Huh. On paper, anyway.

Monica: On paper. Half the families in this school are already stretched. Asking them for pizza money every single week is different from asking once, at a concert, from the parents who can afford to bid.

Kevin: Fair point. Though nobody has to buy it.

Leila: And the cafeteria staff would have to agree, since they'd be the ones handing it out. I can ask Rita on Monday.

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Monica: Let's not take the auction off the table yet. Maybe a smaller one, just ten or fifteen items.

Leila: Smaller I could live with. Maybe.

Kevin: So… pizza, small auction, both, neither?

Monica: Let's see what Rita says first.

Part 6: Separated Bike Lanes

NARRATOR: In city after city across Canada, a familiar battle is being waged over a few metres of pavement. Separated bike lanes, protected from traffic by concrete curbs or rows of planters, have multiplied in recent years, and municipal councils are now debating whether to expand these networks considerably. Proponents describe them as essential infrastructure; opponents call them an expensive inconvenience imposed with little consultation.

NARRATOR: Supporters such as Priya Raman, an urban planner in Montreal, insist that painted lines are simply not enough. According to Raman, the majority of residents say they would happily cycle to work or school, but are deterred by the prospect of sharing a lane with buses and delivery trucks. Physical separation, she argues, transforms cycling from an activity for the brave into one suitable for a twelve-year-old or a grandparent. Raman also emphasizes the economics. A kilometre of protected lane, she notes, costs a fraction of a new highway interchange, and every commuter on a bicycle is one fewer vehicle competing for parking downtown. She acknowledges that the first year after construction can be messy, but maintains that, once a network connects, ridership tends to climb steadily. She also points to northern European cities, where winters are hardly gentle, yet cycling remains commonplace throughout the year.

NARRATOR: Critics, however, remain unconvinced. Doug Fraser, who owns a hardware store on a busy commercial street in Hamilton, says the lane installed outside his shop last year eliminated twenty-two parking spaces, and that his weekend sales have fallen noticeably since. Many of his customers, he points out, are buying lumber and paint, not items one can carry home in a bicycle basket. Delivery drivers, he notes, now double-park in the remaining traffic lane, creating precisely the congestion the project was supposed to relieve. Fraser also questions whether the lanes are used enough to justify the space, observing that from November to March he can count the passing cyclists on one hand. He adds, somewhat wearily, that the city consulted local merchants only after construction had already begun. He does not oppose cycling, he insists, merely the assumption that a single solution suits every neighbourhood.

NARRATOR: Both perspectives contain more than a grain of truth. Perhaps the more productive question is no longer whether to build separated lanes, which have clearly earned a place in our cities, but where they will genuinely be used, and how to compensate the businesses that inevitably bear the initial disruption.

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