CELPIP Listening Practice Test 52

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	A Mix-Up at the Dental Office	1–8
Part 2: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation	After the Power Outage	9–13
Part 3: Listening for Information	Saving for a First Home	14–19
Part 4: Listening to a News Item	Whale in the Harbour	20–24
Part 5: Listening to a Discussion	Choosing Office Days	25–32
Part 6: Listening to Viewpoints	Do Zoos Still Belong?	33–38

How to take this test

1. Open celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/52 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/52 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 Mix-Up at the Dental Office

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 1 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/52**

1. What is the woman's problem when she arrives?

A She has forgotten her reminder.

B The office isn't expecting her.

C Her hygienist has left the clinic for good.

D She gave the receptionist the wrong name.

2. Where did the office leave the message about the new date?

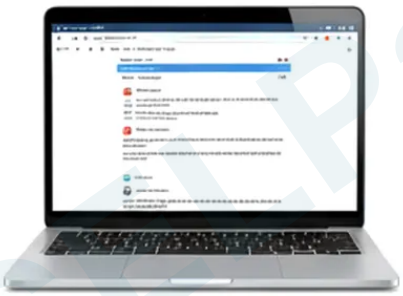
A



B



C



D



3. What is most likely true of the woman?

A She arranged her day around this visit.

B She has never been to this clinic before.

C She cares more about the cleaning than the tooth.

D She would like a different hygienist.

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 2 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/52**

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4. Why does the woman accept the four-fifteen appointment?

A Her insurance will pay for all of it.
B It also includes her cleaning.
C The tooth is bothering her too much to wait.
D She can come back after lunch.

5. What will the woman do before she leaves the office?

A update her contact details
B pay the emergency exam fee
C book her cleaning for Thursday
D call her insurance company

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 3 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/52**

6. What did the dentist do today?

A filled the chipped tooth
B cleaned the woman's teeth
C pulled out the damaged back tooth
D made the broken tooth less sharp

7. Why does the man suggest booking both treatments together?

A because the filling is urgent
B so she misses less work
C because the hygienist is away until Thursday
D so the clinic can charge her less

8. How does the woman feel about the way the office handles the mix-up in the end?

A annoyed
B suspicious
C grateful
D indifferent

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Part 2: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation

After the Power Outage

▶ **Recording: Part 2. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/52**

9. How did the woman's children react to the outage?

A They found it exciting.
B They were scared of the dark.
C They missed sleeping in their own beds.
D They stayed with their uncle in Moncton.

10. Why did the woman not open her door?

A She was asleep in the living room.
B She did not hear anyone knock.
C She could not see who was there.
D She did not want his generator.

11. What does the man criticize about the power company?

A Its crews worked too slowly.
B It left fallen trees on the streets.
C It did not answer customers' calls.
D It made promises it could not keep.

12. What is the woman's attitude toward the repair crews?

A She thinks they were careless.
B She sympathizes with them.
C She blames them for her lost food.
D She doubts they worked very hard.

13. Why does the woman want Greg to see the man's generator?

A to talk him out of a large purchase
B to borrow it during the next outage
C to show him how to store gas safely
D to persuade the man to sell it to them cheaply

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Part 3: Listening for Information

Saving for a First Home

▶ **Recording: Part 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/52**

14. What is the main purpose of the woman's visit?

A to apply for a mortgage on a condo
B to complain about the interest she earns
C to ask about investing in technology stocks
D to get advice on reaching a savings goal

15. Why does the man ask whether the woman has owned a home?

A to estimate her moving costs
B to check that she qualifies for an account
C to find out how much she can borrow
D to see whether she still pays rent every month

16. What did the woman wrongly believe about the account?

A It had a limit of $8,000 in total.
B She would pay tax when she withdrew it.
C Her money would be tied up until retirement.
D She could only use it to buy a condo in Halifax.

17. Why does the man advise against moving all of her savings?

A She will need cash for other expenses.
B The account cannot hold $9,000.
C She should invest some of it in stocks.
D The bank charges a fee for large transfers.

18. What does the man suggest about stocks?

A They are the fastest way to grow her money.
B Her friend probably lost money on them.
C They are too risky for a short timeline.
D They cannot be held in this kind of account.

19. What will most likely happen next?

A She will start saving $300 every two weeks.
B They will set up her new account.
C She will return in six months to open it.
D She will move her savings to a GIC first.

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Part 4: Listening to a News Item

Whale in the Harbour

▶ **Recording: Part 4. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/52**

20. According to Gagnon, the whale most likely came into the harbour

A because it was injured.
B after losing its group.
C to feed on fish.
D to escape a large ship.

21. The report suggests that a whale this far into the harbour is

A unusual.
B expected each autumn.
C a danger to ferries.
D a sign of illness.

22. Many commuters were late because

A the terminal was crowded with onlookers.
B the whale damaged one of the ferries.
C boaters blocked the harbour entrance.
D the crossings were halted for a time.

23. Gagnon is mainly worried that the whale

A may be sick or underfed.
B could be struck by a ship.
C will be frightened by onlookers.
D might not find its way out.

24. Some commuters' reaction to the whale was one of

A amusement.
B fear.
C indifference.
D irritation.

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Part 5: Listening to a Discussion

Choosing Office Days

▶ **Recording: Part 5. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/52**

25. What is the main purpose of the discussion?

A to book desks for the coming month
B to choose when the team will be on site
C to complain to the regional director
D to plan the agenda for the weekly planning meeting

26. Why does Omar mention the kitchen?

A to complain about the food in the office
B to suggest a place for team lunches
C to show desks are scarce on busy days
D to explain why he prefers working from home

27. What did Rachel have wrong about the office?

A how desks are given out
B which days are the busiest
C when the new rule begins
D who sits next to the team

28. What can we infer about Omar?

A He lives within a short walk of the office building.
B He is a manager with his own desk.
C He would rather come in on Tuesdays.
D His childcare limits which days suit him.

29. Why does Nathan object to coming in on Monday and Friday?

A The building would be too crowded.
B Their colleagues would not be there.
C He goes for long runs on both of those mornings.
D The desks are fully booked then.

30. Why does Rachel suggest Monday as an office day?

A A regular meeting works better face to face.
B Nathan's run could move to lunchtime.
C The finance team comes in that day.
D Fewer people book desks on Monday.

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31. How does Nathan respond to the idea of running at lunch?

A He agrees to try it.

B He feels insulted by it.

C He thinks it is unrealistic.

D He does not understand it.

32. What is the best subject line for Rachel's email to the regional director?

A Our team will join finance on site

B Confirming Tuesday and Thursday

C Request for assigned desks

D Proposed in-office days: Monday and Wednesday

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Part 6: Listening to Viewpoints

Do Zoos Still Belong?

▶ **Recording: Part 6. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/52**

33. The speaker suggests that the debate should focus on

A which species are suited to zoos.
B how zoos can raise more money.
C whether sanctuaries are better run.
D how long visitors stay at exhibits.

34. Daniel Ferreira believes zoos cannot

A afford their planned renovations.
B give far-roaming animals enough space.
C breed animals that are endangered.
D attract enough paying families to stay in business.

35. Ferreira mentions visitors' phones in order to argue that

A phones should be banned at zoos.
B animals are stressed by the noise.
C zoos need more modern exhibits.
D zoos teach people very little.

36. According to Naomi Whitfield, the Vancouver Island marmot

A now lives mostly in zoos.
B has fewer than thirty animals today.
C was helped by animals raised in captivity.
D was moved to a sanctuary.

37. Whitfield would most likely support

A closing poor facilities while keeping accredited zoos.
B gradually phasing out all zoos.
C moving zoo animals to sanctuaries.
D using documentaries instead of exhibits.

38. The speaker's attitude toward Ferreira's argument is

A dismissive.
B partly sympathetic.
C fully persuaded.
D openly hostile.

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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 Mix-Up at the Dental Office

1 B The office isn't expecting her.

2 A Picture A

3 A She arranged her day around this visit.

4 C The tooth is bothering her too much to wait.

5 A update her contact details

6 D made the broken tooth less sharp

7 B so she misses less work

8 C grateful

Part 2: After the Power Outage

9 A They found it exciting.

10 C She could not see who was there.

11 D It made promises it could not keep.

12 B She sympathizes with them.

13 A to talk him out of a large purchase

Part 3: Saving for a First Home

14 D to get advice on reaching a savings goal

15 B to check that she qualifies for an account

16 C Her money would be tied up until retirement.

17 A She will need cash for other expenses.

18 C They are too risky for a short timeline.

19 B They will set up her new account.

Part 4: Whale in the Harbour

20 C to feed on fish.

21 A unusual.

22 D the crossings were halted for a time.

23 B could be struck by a ship.

24 D irritation.

Part 5: Choosing Office Days

25 B to choose when the team will be on site

26 C to show desks are scarce on busy days

27 A how desks are given out

28 D His childcare limits which days suit him.

29 B Their colleagues would not be there.

30 A A regular meeting works better face to face.

31 C He thinks it is unrealistic.

32 D Proposed in-office days: Monday and Wednesday

Part 6: Do Zoos Still Belong?

33 A which species are suited to zoos.

34 B give far-roaming animals enough space.

35 D zoos teach people very little.

36 C was helped by animals raised in captivity.

37 A closing poor facilities while keeping accredited zoos.

38 B partly sympathetic.

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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 Mix-Up at the Dental Office

Section 1

MAN: Good afternoon. Can I help you?

WOMAN: Hi, I'm Amanda Clarke. I've got a cleaning at two-thirty.

MAN: Clarke… hmm. I don't see you on today's list. Could it be under a different—

WOMAN: No, it's definitely Clarke. Look, here's the reminder you sent me. Tuesday, two-thirty.

MAN: Ah. I see what happened. Our hygienist is off sick this week, so we moved all of her patients. You were rebooked for Thursday the sixteenth. We left a voice message at, let's see, a number ending in four-four-one-two?

WOMAN: Oh, no. That's my old landline. I got rid of it when I moved last spring.

MAN: I'm really sorry. We should have had your cell number on file.

WOMAN: The thing is, I took the afternoon off work for this. And honestly, the cleaning isn't even the main thing. I chipped a back tooth on Sunday, and it's been driving me crazy.

MAN: Okay, that changes things a bit. Let me see what Doctor Singh has this afternoon.

Section 2

MAN: Okay. Doctor Singh has a gap at four-fifteen, just fifteen minutes. That's enough for him to look at the tooth, but not for the cleaning.

WOMAN: Four-fifteen. That's almost two hours from now.

MAN: I know, I'm afraid it's the best I can do today. And I should mention, an emergency exam is billed separately. It's $75, and whether your insurance covers it depends on your plan.

WOMAN: Hmm. My plan's pretty basic. But honestly, the edge is so sharp it keeps cutting my tongue. I couldn't even eat lunch properly. Okay, put me down.

MAN: Done. There's a coffee shop just across the street if you'd like somewhere nicer to wait than our waiting room.

WOMAN: Good idea. I'll leave you my cell number before I go. The right one this time.

Section 3

WOMAN: Well, that was quick.

MAN: How did it go?

WOMAN: Not bad. He smoothed down the sharp edge, so at least my tongue's safe. But he says I need a filling, and soon, before it cracks any further.

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MAN: Okay, so here's what I'm thinking. Your cleaning is on Thursday now anyway. If I book the filling for the same visit, right after, you only take one more afternoon off instead of two.

WOMAN: Oh, that would be great. Wait, isn't Thursday when the hygienist is still—

MAN: Off? No, she's back on Wednesday. Thursday's fine. Two-thirty for the cleaning, then the filling. About an hour and a half altogether.

WOMAN: Perfect. Now, about today's $75…

MAN: Actually, I spoke to the office manager while you were in there. Since the mix-up was our fault, there's no charge for today.

WOMAN: Really? Well, thank you. That's very decent of you.

MAN: It's the least we could do. And I see the number you left me. Is that a six or a zero at the end? Your handwriting…

WOMAN: Oh, a six. Sorry, I've always been terrible.

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Part 2: After the Power Outage

WOMAN: Oh, Dave, hi! Your lights are on too. I keep flicking switches just to make sure it's real.

MAN: Ha, me too. Three days. I don't think we've ever had one that long. How did you manage over there? I didn't see a single light in your windows.

WOMAN: We managed, mostly. The fireplace kept the living room warm, so we all slept in there on the floor like we were camping. The kids thought it was the best thing ever. The freezer's another story, though. I threw out two garbage bags of food this morning. Meat, berries from the summer, all of it.

MAN: Oh, that hurts. You know, I did come by on the second night. I was going to offer to run a cord over from my generator, but—

WOMAN: Wait, that was you? I saw someone at the door with a flashlight, and honestly, I didn't answer. It was pitch-black, and I couldn't tell who it was.

MAN: Fair enough, I'd have done the same. Anyway, my generator only just handles my own fridge and the furnace fan, so it might not have saved your freezer.

WOMAN: And did you hear the power company? They kept saying everything would be back on by tonight. Three nights in a row.

MAN: I know! That's what drove me crazy. I'd rather they just said, we have no idea, plan for the worst. Then at least we could have gone to my brother's place in Moncton.

WOMAN: I don't know, I kind of feel for them. Those crews were out in the freezing rain for twenty hours a day. There were trees down on every street.

MAN: Oh, sure, the crews were great. It's the people giving out the updates I'm talking about.

WOMAN: Anyway, Greg wants to buy a generator now. A big one. I keep telling him we'd use it once every five years.

MAN: Honestly? Don't get one like mine. It's loud, you have to store gas, and you can't run it inside. My sister bought one of those big battery packs instead. It's quiet and charges from the wall. It won't run a furnace, but it'll keep a freezer going for a day or so.

WOMAN: Hmm. That might be the middle ground. Could I bring Greg over to see yours sometime? He won't believe it coming from me.

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Part 3: Saving for a First Home

MAN: So, Ms. Okafor, what brings you in today?

WOMAN: Well, I'm twenty-nine, I've been renting in Halifax for six years, and my rent just went up again. I'd really like to buy a place, maybe a small condo, in the next three years or so. Right now I've got about $9,000 sitting in a regular savings account, and it's earning practically nothing.

MAN: Okay. Three years is a realistic timeline. First question, though: have you ever owned a home before? Even a share in one?

WOMAN: No, never.

MAN: Then I'd start with a First Home Savings Account. You can put in up to $8,000 a year, and whatever you put in lowers the income tax you pay that year. Then, when you take the money out to buy your first home, you don't pay any tax on it at all.

WOMAN: Oh, I've heard of those. But doesn't the money get locked in until you're, like, sixty-five?

MAN: No, you're thinking of a pension. This one you can take out as soon as you buy. And if you never buy, you can move it into your retirement savings without a penalty.

WOMAN: Okay, that's a relief. So should I just move the whole nine thousand over?

MAN: You could put $8,000 in this year, but I wouldn't empty your savings completely. Lawyer's fees, a moving truck, new furniture… people always forget those. And you'll want a little set aside for emergencies.

WOMAN: Makes sense. What about investing it, though? A friend of mine made a lot of money on tech stocks last year.

MAN: Some people did. Others lost a lot. With only three years, I'd be careful. If the market drops the year before you buy, you might not have time to recover. I'd suggest something steady, like a GIC, even if it grows more slowly.

WOMAN: Boring, but okay.

MAN: One more thing that really helps: set up an automatic transfer on payday. Even $300 every two weeks adds up quickly, and you don't have to remember to do it.

WOMAN: Three hundred… that's tight, with the new rent. Could I start lower and build up?

MAN: Absolutely. Let's start at $200 and look at it again in six months. Shall we open the account now? It only takes about twenty minutes.

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Part 4: Whale in the Harbour

NARRATOR: A humpback whale drew hundreds of onlookers to the Halifax waterfront on Tuesday after it was spotted feeding just metres from the downtown ferry terminal. The animal, estimated at roughly twelve metres in length, first surfaced shortly after seven in the morning, startling commuters waiting for the Dartmouth ferry. Harbour authorities briefly suspended ferry crossings and instructed pleasure boaters to remain at least one hundred metres away, a precaution that delayed thousands of passengers by nearly an hour. Marine biologist Claire Gagnon says humpbacks seldom venture this deep into the harbour, but explains that unusually large schools of herring have been reported near the shoreline this autumn. In her view, the whale is probably healthy and simply following its food. Gagnon cautioned, however, that the harbour's heavy traffic poses genuine dangers, particularly collisions with large vessels, which remain a leading cause of injury among whales on the Atlantic coast. Not everyone appreciated the spectacle. Several commuters complained on social media that they had missed morning meetings. By early afternoon, the whale had drifted back toward the harbour entrance, and regular service resumed. Officials are asking anyone who sees it again to report the sighting rather than approach the animal.

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Part 5: Choosing Office Days

Rachel: So, the email from head office. Two days a week in the office starting in November, and each team picks its own days. Which means the three of us actually have to agree on something.

Nathan: Easy. Tuesday and Thursday. Nobody wants to commute on a Monday, and on Fridays half the building's empty anyway.

Omar: That's exactly the problem, though. Every other team is going to pick Tuesday and Thursday. Have you tried getting a desk on a Tuesday lately? Last week I ended up in the kitchen with my laptop next to the microwave.

Rachel: Wait, I thought desks were assigned now.

Omar: Only for managers. The rest of us book online. First come, first served.

Nathan: Okay, but if we come in Monday and Friday, what's the point? We'd be sitting in an empty office, on video calls with everybody who stayed home. And honestly, if I'm going to spend all day on video calls, I might as well do it from my kitchen table.

Rachel: Hmm. That's fair. The whole idea is to be with the people we actually work with.

Omar: Then what about Wednesday? Nobody fights over Wednesday. And I'll be honest, there's another reason. My daughter's daycare closes early on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and it's an hour's drive, so on those days I'd have to leave here by two-thirty.

Nathan: Oh. I didn't know that.

Rachel: Okay, so Wednesday for sure. And one more. What about Monday? The weekly planning meeting is Monday morning anyway, and it's so much easier in person. Last Monday the video froze three times, and we still don't know what Jeff was trying to say about the budget.

Nathan: Monday's… I mean, I do my long run on Monday mornings before work. But fine, I can move it. I'm not going to be the one who—

Omar: You could run at lunch. There's that trail behind the building.

Nathan: In November? Sure.

Rachel: Okay, so Monday and Wednesday. That's… oh, wait. The email says the days have to be approved by the regional director. And didn't she say something about wanting finance in on the same days as us?

Omar: We're not finance, though. We just sit next to them.

Rachel: Well, that's what I'm going to find out. I'll send it up and see what comes back.

Nathan: And if she says Tuesday and Thursday?

Omar: Then I guess I'll be eating lunch next to the microwave again.

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Part 6: Do Zoos Still Belong?

NARRATOR: Few institutions inspire such mixed emotions as the zoo. For generations, a day spent watching elephants and penguins has been a cherished family outing, yet a vocal and growing movement now argues that keeping wild animals in captivity is indefensible, whatever the educational justification. As several Canadian zoos face expensive renovations, the question of whether they deserve public funding at all has moved from the margins to the mainstream. Attendance, meanwhile, remains strong, and many parents cannot imagine childhood without at least one visit.

NARRATOR: Ethicist Daniel Ferreira is among the most uncompromising critics. He contends that no enclosure, however spacious or well designed, can replicate the territory of a wide-ranging animal. Polar bears, he notes, may roam hundreds of kilometres in the wild; in captivity, many develop repetitive behaviours such as pacing, which researchers associate with chronic stress. Ferreira is equally unconvinced by claims that zoos educate the public. Visitors, he observes, typically spend less than two minutes at each exhibit, often more absorbed in their phones than in the animals. He proposes that zoos be gradually phased out, with existing animals relocated to sanctuaries and the savings redirected toward protecting natural habitats.

NARRATOR: Conservation biologist Naomi Whitfield sees things differently, although she concedes that some older facilities deserve the criticism. Modern accredited zoos, she argues, have evolved into something closer to conservation centres. The Vancouver Island marmot, once reduced to fewer than thirty animals in the wild, survives today partly because zoos bred the animals and released them back into their mountain habitat. She also points out that most zoo animals today were born in zoos, not taken from the wild, and would not survive if they were simply set free. Whitfield also disputes the claim that visitors learn nothing. Children who see a living animal, she maintains, form emotional attachments that no documentary can supply, and those attachments often grow into lifelong support for wildlife protection. Closing zoos, in her view, would sacrifice these programs while doing little for animals threatened by habitat loss.

NARRATOR: Both experts agree that the worst facilities, the roadside attractions with concrete cages, should close; few would mourn their loss. Their dispute concerns the rest. Ferreira's argument carries considerable moral force, particularly regarding large, far-ranging species. Yet it is difficult to dismiss Whitfield's record of animals rescued from the brink. Perhaps the more productive question is not whether zoos should exist, but which animals belong in them.

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