CELPIP Listening Practice Test 68

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/68 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/68 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

Trouble at the Laundromat

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 1 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/68**

1. What is the woman's main problem?

A The machine would not accept her coins.
B Her towels came out still dirty.
C Her wash stopped with her things locked in.
D The machine is leaking onto the floor.

2. What does the man suggest about machine twelve?

A It has given trouble before.
B It gives refunds through the coin slot.
C It is usually the most reliable machine.
D It can only be restarted with a code.

3. Why does the woman want the problem fixed quickly?

A Her towels might be damaged by the water.
B The laundromat closes at three o'clock.
C She still has several more loads to wash today.
D She needs something in the machine for work.

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 2 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/68**

4. What does the man suggest about the owner?

A The owner keeps the key to the back panel.
B A warning about the machine was ignored.
C The owner will arrive at one o'clock.
D The owner has promised the woman a refund.

5. Why can't the man take the clothes out right away?

A The power to the machine is still off.
B The door of the machine is broken for good.
C He has misplaced the key to the back panel.
D He can't move the machine alone.

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 3 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/68**

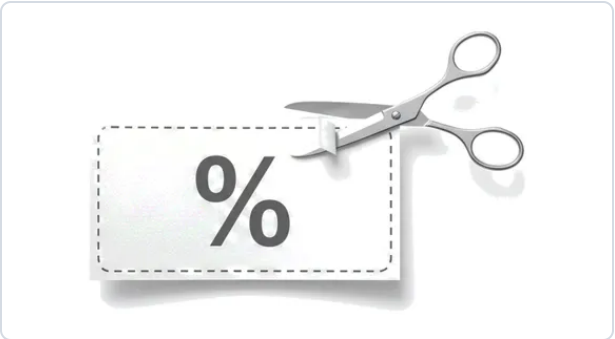
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6. How does the man make up for the money the woman lost?

A



B



C



D



7. What will the woman probably do next?

A wait at the laundromat until one o'clock

B take her wet uniform home to dry

C leave the man a way to contact her

D rewash her things in the triple loader

8. What can be inferred about the woman's uniform?

A It is too large for the regular washers.

B It could be ruined in a dryer.

C It must be ironed before her shift.

D It will only be ready after her shift starts.

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Part 2: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation

Planning a Team Potluck

▶ **Recording: Part 2. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/68**

9. Why does the woman ask the man for help?

A He is in charge of booking the boardroom.
B He knows which staff have food allergies.
C Janet asked him to work with her.
D He has run this kind of event before.

10. Why does the man mention the box of crackers?

A to suggest bringing simple appetizers
B to show how unbalanced the food was
C to complain about a particular co-worker
D to recommend buying snacks with company money

11. What is the purpose of the cards the man suggests?

A to help guests with allergies choose safely
B to show who cooked each dish
C to keep the dessert table organised
D to check names against the sign-up sheet

12. What is the man mistaken about?

A who usually books the boardroom
B which co-worker cannot eat nuts
C when the audit is taking place
D how much the company will pay

13. What does the man advise the woman to do about the company's money?

A Order pizza to keep costs down.
B Confirm the budget before buying anything.
C Hand in her receipts to accounting quickly.
D Use her own money and claim it back later.

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Part 3: Listening for Information

A Call to the Revenue Office

▶ **Recording: Part 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/68**

14. Why is the man calling?

A to find out how to pay his bill in parts
B to dispute the amount of his tax bill
C to ask why the old owners got the bill
D to report a change to his mailing address

15. Why did the man not know the tax amount before?

A He only moved into the home last month.
B The previous owners had never paid it.
C It was part of the old owners' mortgage.
D He had been paying it through the plan.

16. Why would the payment plan not help the man much this year?

A It requires a large first payment.
B It is only open to long-time owners.
C It adds a monthly penalty to each of the payments.
D Too few months remain to share out the cost.

17. What does the man misunderstand at first?

A when his tax bill is due
B how often the late penalty is charged
C which months of the year the plan covers
D whether he could lose his home

18. What does the woman suggest about paying late?

A It is cheaper than signing up for the payment plan.
B It is only allowed for new owners.
C It must be approved by a manager.
D It costs extra but is not a serious problem.

19. What does the woman recommend for next year?

A joining the plan sooner
B paying the full bill in January
C adding the tax to his mortgage
D printing the form from the website

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Part 4: Listening to a News Item

A Very Old Sourdough Starter

▶ **Recording: Part 4. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/68**

20. The starter was first brought to Fredericton

A after a fire destroyed the first shop.
B by researchers studying yeast.
C by a member of the owner's family.
D from another bakery in the province.

21. In 1973, the starter

A was saved from a burning building.
B was moved to a new city.
C was nearly lost in a flood at the old shop.
D was tested by scientists.

22. The researchers suggest that the yeast

A is the same as store-bought yeast.
B needs to be fed twice a day.
C is no longer safe to bake with.
D may account for how the bread tastes.

23. We can tell that Ruth Hollis

A feeds the starter only on weekdays.
B keeps her trips short because of the starter.
C has not taken a holiday at all in twelve years.
D plans to hand the bakery to a neighbour.

24. Ruth's final comment suggests that she

A plans to close the bakery soon.
B wants to move to a bigger shop.
C is glad to pass the starter on to others.
D worries that someone could steal the starter.

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Part 5: Listening to a Discussion

A Meeting at the Fire Hall

▶ **Recording: Part 5. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/68**

25. What is the main topic of the discussion?

A whether to buy a thermal camera
B how to improve a yearly fundraiser
C how to attract more seniors to the hall
D where to borrow extra cooking equipment

26. Why does Samuel mention his sister's school?

A to suggest serving spaghetti instead of pancakes
B to offer a place where they could borrow a griddle
C to point out that most schools charge too little
D to show that donations can beat a set price

27. According to Samuel, why did people go home hungry last year?

A Food could not be cooked fast enough.
B Not enough batter had been made.
C Too many seniors came at the same time.
D The syrup froze in the cold weather.

28. Why is Martha against moving the breakfast outdoors?

A The children might damage the fire truck.
B The tent is needed for the canoe race.
C The weather might be bad.
D The chief has banned events in the bay.

29. What is Dmitri's main concern about raising the price?

A It could shut out the people it matters to.
B It would not raise enough for the camera.
C The chief would have to approve it first.
D The sponsors would think it was unfair.

30. What is Martha mistaken about?

A how much they charged for each plate last year
B what date the breakfast will be held
C where the tent came from
D which business offered to match their money

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31. What is most likely true about the chief?

A He has already agreed to the outdoor plan.

B He is protective of the fire truck.

C He would prefer to charge $10 a plate.

D He will ask the Legion for a griddle.

32. What would be the best subject line for an email after this meeting?

A Pancake breakfast cancelled

B Price going up to $10 a plate

C Breakfast plan: extra griddle, pay what you can

D New thermal camera bought with last year's money

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Part 6: Listening to Viewpoints

Calorie Counts on Menus

▶ **Recording: Part 6. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/68**

33. The report mainly concerns

A how chain restaurants calculate calories.
B why diners underestimate their meals.
C the risk menus pose to people with eating disorders.
D whether wider labelling is worth its costs.

34. Marco Bellini mentions the farmers' market to show that

A his dishes change too often to be tested cheaply.
B local ingredients are naturally healthier.
C his customers prefer fresh food.
D farmers would benefit from the new labelling rule.

35. According to Lena Dufresne, the greatest benefit of labelling is that

A it greatly changes what customers order.
B it lowers the price of healthier dishes on menus.
C it pushes restaurants to make their food healthier.
D it helps chefs plan their weekly menus.

36. Marco Bellini would most likely agree that

A chains should be exempt from the rule.
B a low calorie count does not make a meal healthy.
C diners should count calories carefully.
D lab testing of restaurant food is usually inaccurate.

37. Bellini's reaction to the proposed exemption is best described as

A qualified acceptance.
B open hostility.
C relief that the problem is solved.
D mild amusement.

38. What does the speaker conclude about calorie labels?

A They should be required in every restaurant.
B They do more harm than good to small businesses.
C They confuse diners more than they help them.
D They can help diners but not decide for them.

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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: Trouble at the Laundromat

1 C Her wash stopped with her things locked in.

2 A It has given trouble before.

3 D She needs something in the machine for work.

4 B A warning about the machine was ignored.

5 D He can't move the machine alone.

6 C Picture C

7 C leave the man a way to contact her

8 B It could be ruined in a dryer.

Part 2: Planning a Team Potluck

9 D He has run this kind of event before.

10 B to show how unbalanced the food was

11 A to help guests with allergies choose safely

12 C when the audit is taking place

13 B Confirm the budget before buying anything.

Part 3: A Call to the Revenue Office

14 A to find out how to pay his bill in parts

15 C It was part of the old owners' mortgage.

16 D Too few months remain to share out the cost.

17 B how often the late penalty is charged

18 D It costs extra but is not a serious problem.

19 A joining the plan sooner

Part 4: A Very Old Sourdough Starter

20 C by a member of the owner's family.

21 A was saved from a burning building.

22 D may account for how the bread tastes.

23 B keeps her trips short because of the starter.

24 C is glad to pass the starter on to others.

Part 5: A Meeting at the Fire Hall

25 B how to improve a yearly fundraiser

26 D to show that donations can beat a set price

27 A Food could not be cooked fast enough.

28 C The weather might be bad.

29 A It could shut out the people it matters to.

30 D which business offered to match their money

31 B He is protective of the fire truck.

32 C Breakfast plan: extra griddle, pay what you can

Part 6: Calorie Counts on Menus

33 D whether wider labelling is worth its costs.

34 A his dishes change too often to be tested cheaply.

35 C it pushes restaurants to make their food healthier.

36 B a low calorie count does not make a meal healthy.

37 A qualified acceptance.

38 D They can help diners but not decide for them.

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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: Trouble at the Laundromat

Section 1

WOMAN: Excuse me, do you work here?

MAN: I do, yeah. I'm just cleaning out the lint traps. What's up?

WOMAN: That machine over there, number twelve, the big one by the window. I put my money in, $6 in loonies, and it filled up with water, sort of churned for a minute, and then it just… stopped. Now the door's locked and all my towels are sitting in there, soaking.

MAN: Twelve again? Hmm. Did the little screen show anything? Like a code with letters?

WOMAN: It was flashing something. E-something. I didn't really look, I was too busy trying to get my coins back out of the slot. Which doesn't work, by the way.

MAN: No, the slots never give anything back. Okay, let me try resetting it. Sometimes if you cut the power for a minute, it picks up right where it left off.

WOMAN: And if it doesn't? I start work at three, and my uniform's in there with the towels.

MAN: Then we drain it by hand and get your things out. Either way, you're not leaving here without your laundry.

Section 2

MAN: Okay, so, bad news. The reset didn't take, and the drain hose is jammed behind the machine. I can't reach it without pulling the whole unit out from the wall, and that's a two-person job.

WOMAN: Seriously? So my uniform's just going to sit in there?

MAN: Not for long. My manager, Doug, comes in at one. He's got the key for the back panel, and between the two of us it's ten minutes, tops.

WOMAN: One o'clock. That's, what, forty minutes from now? And then I still have to wash everything again and dry it.

MAN: I know, I know. Look, I'm really sorry. That machine's been acting up all week, and I told the owner on Monday it should be taken out of service. Honestly, this one's on us, not you.

Section 3

WOMAN: Okay. And what about my money? Six dollars isn't a fortune, but still.

MAN: Of course. I can't open the coin box myself, but here's what I can do. These are wash tokens. Take two. One so you can rewash your things in the triple loader, that's the newest machine we've got, and one for next time. And the dryer's on the house.

WOMAN: Well, that's… actually more than fair. Thank you. But I'm still stuck here until one.

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MAN: Not necessarily. If you want to head off, I'll get your stuff out when Doug arrives, run it through, and fold it for you. You could pick it all up before your shift.

WOMAN: You'd do that? I mean, I only live around the corner, so it's no trouble for me to—

MAN: It's the least I can do. Just, uh, write your name and number on this card so I can text you when it's ready.

WOMAN: Sure. Oh, wait, the uniform has to hang dry. It shrinks otherwise.

MAN: Good thing you said so. I'll hang it on the rack in the back.

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Part 2: Planning a Team Potluck

WOMAN: Owen, have you got a second? Janet asked me to organise a potluck for the team at the end of the month, and I've never done one before. You ran the one last spring, didn't you?

MAN: Guilty. It was, um, a learning experience. We ended up with something like seven bowls of pasta salad and exactly one dessert. Somebody brought a box of crackers and called it an appetizer.

WOMAN: Ha. Okay, so I'll need a sign-up sheet.

MAN: You need a sign-up sheet with categories. Mains, sides, salads, desserts, drinks. And put a limit on each one, or everybody just picks whatever's easiest to throw together the night before.

WOMAN: Makes sense. What about allergies? I know Priya can't have nuts, and I think somebody in shipping is gluten-free.

MAN: That's the other thing I'd do differently. Ask people to bring a little card that lists what's in their dish. Last time Priya spent the whole lunch quizzing everyone about every single bowl, and in the end she barely ate a thing. I felt awful.

WOMAN: Cards. Got it. And I was thinking we'd hold it in the boardroom on the twenty-eighth, since—

MAN: The twenty-eighth? Isn't that the quarterly audit? Half of finance will be locked in a room with the auditors all day.

WOMAN: No, that got pushed to the following week. I checked with Grant this morning.

MAN: Oh, good. Then the boardroom's fine, but book it now. The sales team grabs it for every client call, and trust me, they won't give it up for a casserole.

WOMAN: Will do. One more thing. Janet said the company would cover drinks and plates, but she didn't say how much. Should I just buy what I think we need and hand in the receipt?

MAN: I wouldn't. That's what I did, and it took accounting six weeks to pay me back, because I hadn't gotten anything approved first. Get a figure from her in writing, even just an email, before you spend a cent.

WOMAN: Six weeks? Wow. Okay, I'll email her today. Honestly, I'm starting to think it'd be easier to just order pizza.

MAN: Don't you dare. The pasta salad people would never forgive you.

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Part 3: A Call to the Revenue Office

WOMAN: Revenue office, Dana speaking. How can I help you?

MAN: Hi, yes. So, I got my property tax bill last week, and, um, I wasn't expecting it to be quite this high. It's due at the end of June, the whole thing, and I just… I don't have that sitting in the bank right now. I was wondering if there's some way to spread it out.

WOMAN: There is, yes. We have what's called a pre-authorized payment plan. Basically, the amount comes out of your bank account in equal instalments, once a month. Can I ask, is this your first year in the home?

MAN: It is, yeah. We bought in September. I think the previous owners had it all rolled into their mortgage payments, so we never actually saw the number until now.

WOMAN: That's really common. Okay, so, the plan runs from January to June, and that's the catch here, because if you sign up today you'd only have two withdrawals left, in May and June. So you'd be paying roughly half the bill each month.

MAN: Half each month. Hmm. That's… not a whole lot better, honestly.

WOMAN: I know. The other option is to pay what you can by the due date and the rest afterwards. There's a penalty of one and a quarter percent on whatever's still outstanding. It's not ideal, but it isn't the end of the world either.

MAN: Wait, so it's just a one-time charge of one and a quarter percent?

WOMAN: Not one time, no. It's added every month the balance is still owing. So if you cleared it by, say, the end of September, that's three months of penalties, and on a smaller amount each time if you keep paying something.

MAN: Okay. That's actually manageable. And next year?

WOMAN: Next year I'd really recommend signing up before the first of December. Then it's split over all six months, and you won't get a shock like this again. I can mail you the form, or you can print it from our website.

MAN: Could you mail it? Our printer hasn't worked since the move, and I'd honestly forget otherwise. Oh, and do I need to send a void cheque with it?

WOMAN: Yes, please, or a direct deposit form from your bank. Either one's fine. Now, can I get your mailing address?

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Part 4: A Very Old Sourdough Starter

NARRATOR: A small bakery in Fredericton is celebrating an unusual birthday this week. The sourdough starter used in every loaf at the Hollis Street Bakery has just turned one hundred. A starter is a living mixture of flour and water that must be fed daily to stay active, and this one was carried over from Scotland in 1926 by Agnes Hollis, the great-grandmother of current owner Ruth Hollis. Over the decades, the family has protected it through floods, power failures and two moves. In 1973, when the original shop caught fire, Ruth's grandfather grabbed a jar from the kitchen before the firefighters arrived. Ruth admits that keeping it alive is a demanding commitment. She hasn't taken a vacation longer than four days in twelve years, and when she does get away, a neighbour comes in to feed it. Researchers at a local university recently examined a sample and found that its yeast differs from commercial varieties, which may explain the bread's slightly sweet flavour. To mark the anniversary, the bakery is handing out free slices on Saturday and sharing small portions of the starter with customers who bring a container. Ruth says it's time the family treasure left the building.

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Part 5: A Meeting at the Fire Hall

Martha: So, the breakfast. It's six weeks away, and last year we ran out of batter by ten-thirty. People were lined up out past the trucks, and we were sending them home hungry.

Samuel: That was the griddle, though, not the batter. We only had the one, and it takes forever to get through a hundred pancakes on a single griddle.

Martha: Well, both, really. But fine. So we borrow a second griddle. The Legion has one, doesn't it?

Dmitri: They do, but they've got their own thing that weekend. Some kind of anniversary dinner. I already asked.

Samuel: What about moving the whole thing outside? We pull the engine out onto the driveway and set up in the bay. Kids love climbing on the truck, and then the line isn't snaking through the kitchen.

Martha: In May? Remember two years ago, it was, what, four degrees and sleeting—

Dmitri: —and the syrup went solid. I remember.

Samuel: Okay, okay. But we could put the tent up. The one from the canoe race.

Dmitri: Honestly, I think the bigger issue is the money. We charged $5 a plate, and after the sausages and the coffee and everything, we cleared, what, $900? The thermal camera's closer to $8,000. At that rate we'll have it in about nine years.

Martha: So raise the price. $10?

Dmitri: Hmm, I'd rather keep it cheap. Half the people who come are seniors from the apartments on Main Street. For some of them it's the only time all year they set foot in the hall. That counts for something.

Samuel: What about by donation, then? Suggest $10, but nobody gets turned away. My sister's school does that for their spaghetti night, and they bring in more than when they charged a flat price. People just round up.

Martha: Wait, Samuel, you mean people actually pay more when they don't have to?

Samuel: That's what she tells me. And you'd put a jar right by the coffee, with a picture of the camera, so people can see what it's for.

Martha: Huh. And the hardware store said they'd match whatever we raise, up to a thousand, right?

Dmitri: That was the grocery store. The hardware store's giving us the propane.

Martha: Right, right. Still. Okay, so a second griddle from somewhere, donations instead of a price, the tent, maybe. Who's going to talk to the chief?

Samuel: Well, you're always the one who…

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Dmitri: I'll bring it up with him. But you know what he's like about the bay. If anyone so much as scratches that engine…

Martha: We'll cross that bridge when we get to it.

Part 6: Calorie Counts on Menus

NARRATOR: Glance at the menu board in almost any fast-food chain in Ontario and you'll find, tucked beside each burger and milkshake, a modest figure: its calorie count. That province already requires large chains to display this information, and advocates are now urging governments elsewhere to follow suit and, crucially, to extend the rule to independent restaurants. The idea sounds harmless enough. Who could object to more information? As it turns out, quite a few people.

NARRATOR: Registered dietitian Lena Dufresne has campaigned for mandatory labelling for over a decade. She contends that diners routinely underestimate what they eat in restaurants, sometimes by half, and that one restaurant meal can now contain an entire day's worth of energy. Without a number in front of them, she argues, customers are essentially ordering blindfolded. Dufresne concedes that studies show labels change what people order only slightly. But she points to a quieter effect: once restaurants must publish the figures, many of them reformulate their recipes, trimming portions or swapping ingredients, rather than display an embarrassing number. In her view, the real winner isn't the customer who counts calories, but everyone else who eats the improved dish without ever reading the menu.

NARRATOR: Marco Bellini, who runs a family restaurant in Halifax with a menu that changes weekly, finds the proposal exasperating. Laboratory analysis of a single dish can cost several hundred dollars, he notes, and a chef who improvises with whatever the farmers' market offers would be paying for new tests constantly. Large chains, with standardized recipes and entire nutrition departments, absorb such costs easily; small kitchens cannot. He also points out that his regulars already ask his servers about ingredients, and they get honest answers. Bellini also worries about the message. Reducing a meal to one number, he suggests, teaches people that a deep-fried snack and a plate of grilled salmon are interchangeable if their totals match, which is the opposite of sound nutrition. And for diners recovering from eating disorders, he adds, a menu crowded with numbers can turn a celebration into an ordeal.

NARRATOR: Dufresne acknowledges the burden on small businesses and has proposed exemptions for restaurants whose menus change frequently. Bellini calls that a sensible start, but wonders whether an exemption written today will survive the next round of regulations. Perhaps the fairest conclusion is that a number can inform a choice, but it cannot make one.

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