CELPIP Listening Practice Test 74

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/74 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/74 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 Tent with a Broken Pole

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 1 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/74**

1. Why can't the man get his money back?

A The tent has already been used on a trip.
B The time limit for returns has passed.
C He doesn't have his receipt.
D The pole broke through misuse.

2. Why did the man not use the tent until last weekend?

A He was keeping it new for the trip to Jasper.
B He couldn't find the receipt until now.
C Bad weather kept cancelling his son's trip.
D He had been too busy with work.

3. What concerns the man about the warranty option?

A It may be too slow for his trip.
B He would have to pay for shipping.
C It does not cover broken poles.
D The store might lose his tent.

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 2 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/74**

4. What has the woman arranged?

A The man will get a brand-new tent.
B The man must mail the tent to the company.
C New parts will come to the store.
D The tent will be repaired in the shop.

5. What does the man realize during the call?

A His son may have caused the damage.
B The poles won't arrive in time.
C The warranty may not cover the damage.
D He must return the whole tent after all.

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 3 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/74**

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6. Where is the man's son?

A



B



C



D



7. Why does the man mention spending the night under a tarp?

A to complain about the weather on his trip

B to ask for a discount on the sleeves

C to explain why his son was in a hurry

D to show the price seems fair to him

8. What will the man most likely do when he gets home?

A return the old poles to the store

B set up the new tent in his own backyard

C show his son how to join the poles

D go camping with his son's friends

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Part 2: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation

New Rules for Staff Parking

▶ **Recording: Part 2. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/74**

9. Why is the company changing the parking rules?

A to earn money from employee permits
B to make staff walk more in winter
C because visitors have struggled to park
D because the front lot needs major repairs

10. Why does the woman think the back lot won't work for her?

A She arrives later than many co-workers.
B She cannot afford the monthly permit.
C The path to it will not be plowed.
D Her son's daycare is beside the front lot.

11. What had the woman misunderstood about carpools?

A where carpool cars must park
B how much a carpool parking permit costs
C who registers the carpools
D how many employees must share a car

12. What does the woman suggest about the man?

A He refuses to pay anything for a parking permit.
B He is attached to his current schedule.
C He often arrives late to work.
D He would be glad to start later.

13. What will the woman probably do next?

A buy a permit for the back lot
B register a carpool with the man
C find out if her hours can change
D look for a daycare closer to work

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Part 3: Listening for Information

Winter Parking Bans

▶ **Recording: Part 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/74**

14. Why are parking bans announced only the evening before?

A Forecasts aren't reliable beyond that.
B Crews need the whole night to get ready.
C Each ban lasts only twelve hours.
D Residents asked for shorter notice.

15. What did the host wrongly assume?

A that ticket money pays for snow clearing
B that bans begin in the evening
C that alerts are sent by email
D that the whole city has one start time

16. How does the supervisor respond to the claim that bans are about money?

A He admits it is partly true.
B He understands but disagrees.
C He calls it a foolish idea.
D He refuses to comment on it at all.

17. Why does the supervisor mention a ridge of packed snow?

A to explain why crews work overnight
B to describe conditions on the main roads
C to show the lasting effect of one car
D to complain about the weather in spring

18. What happened to the listener's car?

A The city moved it a short distance.
B It was stolen from her street overnight.
C It was taken to the city pound.
D It was towed without any fine.

19. What does the supervisor suggest about the school parking lots?

A They charge a small fee overnight.
B They stay open for parking all winter long.
C They are reserved for school staff.
D They are inconvenient but worth using.

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Part 4: Listening to a News Item

A Backyard Rink

▶ **Recording: Part 4. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/74**

20. The rink became popular after

A the family invited the whole street.
B someone else spread the word about it.
C a local newspaper wrote about it.
D the city held a hockey night on the ice.

21. Luc Tremblay's response to the visitors has been

A reluctant.
B irritated.
C hospitable.
D indifferent.

22. The money in the donation tin

A more than pays for the extra water.
B pays the plumber who installed a tap.
C goes to a children's hockey team.
D pays the teenagers who clear the ice.

23. The rink was originally meant for

A neighbourhood hockey games.
B a local charity fundraiser.
C the teenagers down the street.
D the family's own private use.

24. We can infer that before this winter, Tremblay

A had never built a rink in his backyard.
B barely knew many of his neighbours.
C lived on a different street.
D used to work as a plumber.

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Part 5: Listening to a Discussion

Game Night at the Pizza Shop

▶ **Recording: Part 5. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/74**

25. Why does Lisa mention the garlic bread dough?

A to suggest a new item for the menu
B to explain why the walk-in is full
C to show how she coped with a shortage
D to blame the kitchen staff for the delays

26. What can we infer about the customer who phoned four times?

A He was unhappy with the service.
B He lived just a few blocks from the shop.
C He cancelled his order.
D He ordered garlic bread.

27. How does Gloria deal with the lack of space in the walk-in?

A She cancels the drinks order.
B She asks Lisa to make a smaller batch of dough.
C She has Lisa start work at six.
D She has the drinks stored elsewhere.

28. What does Neil need to check about his roommate?

A that he is free for a shift
B that the shop's insurance covers him
C that he knows the east end well
D that he has a reliable car of his own

29. How does Lisa feel about the plan for the pop?

A She goes along with it reluctantly.
B She thinks it's a clever, simple solution.
C She refuses to allow it.
D She worries the cases will freeze.

30. Why does Gloria object to switching off online orders?

A The phone lines would be overwhelmed.
B Customers would complain more.
C The shop would lose a lot of sales.
D The app cannot be switched off.

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31. What will Gloria do before deciding about the east end?

A phone some of their regular customers

B ask Neil to time the drive

C talk to the insurance company

D see how many orders came from there

32. What is the best subject line for a follow-up message to the staff?

A Switching off online ordering for game seven

B More dough; delivery area still undecided

C East end now pickup only

D New driver hired for the playoffs

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Part 6: Listening to Viewpoints

Library Late Fees

▶ **Recording: Part 6. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/74**

33. The report mainly discusses

A how libraries track lost or unreturned items.
B why library budgets depend on fines.
C the best ways to remind borrowers.
D whether overdue fines are worth keeping.

34. When Fairweather points out that children were often excused, he is suggesting that

A the fairness argument is overstated.
B children should pay fines too.
C fines should be raised for adults.
D reminders would work better than any fine.

35. Olsen is most troubled that fines

A used up a great deal of staff time.
B were a small part of the budget.
C pushed low-income families away.
D caused books to come back late.

36. Olsen's branch still

A charges a lower daily fine.
B bills borrowers for missing items.
C blocks cards that have unpaid debts.
D excuses only children from fees.

37. Fairweather's attitude toward Olsen's results is

A skeptical.
B impressed.
C grateful.
D indifferent.

38. The speaker believes that ending fines

A has mostly helped library staff.
B will leave popular books sitting unread for weeks.
C should apply only to children.
D has not caused the harm critics feared.

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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 Tent with a Broken Pole

1 B The time limit for returns has passed.

2 C Bad weather kept cancelling his son's trip.

3 A It may be too slow for his trip.

4 C New parts will come to the store.

5 A His son may have caused the damage.

6 A Picture A

7 D to show the price seems fair to him

8 C show his son how to join the poles

Part 2: New Rules for Staff Parking

9 C because visitors have struggled to park

10 A She arrives later than many co-workers.

11 D how many employees must share a car

12 B He is attached to his current schedule.

13 C find out if her hours can change

Part 3: Winter Parking Bans

14 A Forecasts aren't reliable beyond that.

15 D that the whole city has one start time

16 B He understands but disagrees.

17 C to show the lasting effect of one car

18 A The city moved it a short distance.

19 D They are inconvenient but worth using.

Part 4: A Backyard Rink

20 B someone else spread the word about it.

21 C hospitable.

22 A more than pays for the extra water.

23 D the family's own private use.

24 B barely knew many of his neighbours.

Part 5: Game Night at the Pizza Shop

25 C to show how she coped with a shortage

26 A He was unhappy with the service.

27 D She has the drinks stored elsewhere.

28 B that the shop's insurance covers him

29 A She goes along with it reluctantly.

30 C The shop would lose a lot of sales.

31 D see how many orders came from there

32 B More dough; delivery area still undecided

Part 6: Library Late Fees

33 D whether overdue fines are worth keeping.

34 A the fairness argument is overstated.

35 C pushed low-income families away.

36 B bills borrowers for missing items.

37 A skeptical.

38 D has not caused the harm critics feared.

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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 Tent with a Broken Pole

Section 1

WOMAN: Hi there, what can I help you with?

MAN: Hi, um, I need to return this tent. One of the poles snapped the first time we put it up. Right in half, see?

WOMAN: Oh, that's not good. Do you have your receipt?

MAN: Somewhere… here you go.

WOMAN: Thanks, so this was bought on the second of June. I'm afraid that's past our thirty-day window for a refund.

MAN: Well, we only got to use it last weekend. My son's camping trip kept getting rained out, so it sat in the closet all summer.

WOMAN: I'm sorry. The good news is this brand has a one-year warranty on poles. I can't give you your money back, but I can send the tent to them for a replacement.

MAN: And how long does that take?

WOMAN: Usually four to six weeks.

MAN: Six weeks? We're going to Jasper on the twentieth. That's less than three weeks away.

WOMAN: Let me call the company's rep this afternoon and see if there's a faster way.

Section 2

WOMAN: Hi, it's Dana from the sports store, about your tent?

MAN: Oh, hi. Any luck?

WOMAN: A little, yes. I spoke to their rep, and you don't need to send the whole tent back. They'll mail us a new set of poles directly.

MAN: Oh, so I can keep using the tent in the meantime?

WOMAN: Well, without poles it won't stand up, but yes, it stays with you. The poles should be here in about ten days.

MAN: Ten days, so around the thirteenth. That still leaves a week before Jasper.

WOMAN: There's one thing, though. The rep asked how it broke. Apparently that model almost never snaps unless the sections aren't pushed all the way together.

MAN: Well, my son set it up, but I'm sure he— actually, no, I'm not sure at all. It was pouring, and he was rushing to get it up.

WOMAN: That's okay, it's still covered. When you come in, I'll show you both the trick.

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WOMAN: Here are your new poles. Where's your son? I thought you were both coming.

MAN: He had swim practice, so you're stuck with me. I'll pass it on.

WOMAN: Have a go at putting this one together.

MAN: Like this? There.

WOMAN: Close, but see this little gap? Once the tent's pulling on it, that's where it bends.

MAN: Huh, it looked fine to me. So I push until it clicks?

WOMAN: Until there's no gap at all. And one more thing, don't let the cord snap the pieces together on their own. It chips the ends, and a chipped end cracks.

MAN: He does that all the time. He thinks it sounds cool.

WOMAN: Then he'll want one of these too. It's a repair sleeve. If a pole cracks when you're miles from anywhere, you slide it over the break and tape it up. They're $8.

MAN: Eight dollars? Last weekend we spent the night under a tarp in the rain, so I'd have paid fifty. I'll take three. He's going out with his buddies in the fall.

WOMAN: Three it is.

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Part 2: New Rules for Staff Parking

MAN: Did you see the email from facilities this morning? About the parking?

WOMAN: I skimmed it. Something about permits? I had a meeting at nine, so I sort of filed it under later.

MAN: Well, later's here. Starting in November, the front lot is only for visitors and carpools. Everybody else has to park in the back lot behind the warehouse, and you need a permit for that, which is $30 a month.

WOMAN: Thirty dollars a month to park next to the loading dock? You're kidding. And how is anyone supposed to walk from there in February? It's a good five minutes, and there's no sidewalk, just that gravel path.

MAN: They say they'll plow it. Their reasoning is that clients keep complaining they can't find a spot, and apparently somebody drove around for twenty minutes last month and just gave up on a big meeting with us.

WOMAN: Okay, that's fair, I guess. But I drop my son at daycare at eight-fifteen. By the time I get here, the back lot will be packed too.

MAN: So carpool. Carpools park free, right at the front.

WOMAN: With who? You need at least three people in the car for that, don't you?

MAN: No, just two. I thought the same thing at first, but I double-checked with Raj in facilities. Two employees, same car, registered together. And you live out near Millwoods, right? I'm ten minutes from you.

WOMAN: That's actually… huh. But you start at seven-thirty. I can't even get the daycare door open before eight.

MAN: True, unless you could switch to the later shift? Or I suppose I could—

WOMAN: —start later? You'd hate that. You're always the first one out the door at four, and you brag about beating the traffic.

MAN: I do. But thirty dollars a month is thirty dollars a month. Let me think about it.

WOMAN: And I'll ask Helen whether my hours are really as fixed as she keeps telling me they are.

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Part 3: Winter Parking Bans

WOMAN: With a big storm on the way this weekend, I've got the city's snow-clearing supervisor, Gord Halvorsen, on the line. Gord, thanks for joining us.

MAN: Happy to. It's a busy week, but happy to.

WOMAN: So, every winter my inbox fills up with angry emails about parking bans. Let's start simple. When does a ban actually kick in?

MAN: Generally once we get about ten centimetres or more. We announce it by six in the evening, and it starts at seven the next morning. People always ask why we don't give more notice, but honestly, with weather, twelve hours is about as far ahead as we can be sure of anything.

WOMAN: And at seven, every car in the city has to be off the street?

MAN: No, no, and that's the big misunderstanding. The city is split into zones, and each zone gets its own twelve-hour window, so your ban might not start until the evening. And it's only residential streets. If you sign up for our text alerts, they tell you exactly when your street is up.

WOMAN: Okay, now what do you say to people who think this is just a way to make money off tickets?

MAN: I get it, I'd probably be suspicious too. But tickets are a headache for us as well, because every car we tow slows the crew down. One car parked in the wrong place, the plow has to swing out around it, and you end up with a ridge of packed snow in the middle of the street that sits there till April. Multiply that by a few hundred cars and…

WOMAN: And a fire truck can't get through.

MAN: Exactly, that's the part that keeps me up at night.

WOMAN: Here's one from a listener. She came out one morning, her car was gone, she reported it stolen, and it turned out—

MAN: —it was around the corner. Yeah, we call that a courtesy tow. We don't haul cars to the pound unless we really have to. We just move them to the nearest street that's already been cleared. There's still a $75 ticket, mind you. But before you call the police, call the city's information line, and they'll tell you where it went.

WOMAN: And for people who don't have a driveway?

MAN: That's the tough one. A lot of school parking lots open up overnight during a ban, and they're free. It's not perfect, it might be a bit of a walk, but it beats a ticket.

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Part 4: A Backyard Rink

NARRATOR: For the past six winters, the Tremblay family of Sherbrooke, Quebec, has flooded part of their backyard to create a skating rink for their two young daughters. This year, however, the rink has become something considerably bigger. After a neighbour posted a photograph of it online in December, families from throughout the neighbourhood began dropping by after supper with skates and hockey sticks. On most evenings now, twenty or thirty people gather around the boards, and someone usually brings a thermos of hot chocolate. Luc Tremblay admits the attention caught him off guard. Maintaining the ice means getting up before dawn to resurface it with a hose, and his water bill has nearly doubled. Rather than turn anyone away, though, he set out a coffee tin for donations, which now covers the extra water and then some. Neighbours have pitched in as well. A retired plumber volunteered to install an outdoor tap that won't freeze, and teenagers from down the street clear the surface after every snowfall. Tremblay says the unexpected reward is that he finally knows the names of people who have lived on his street for years. The family has already promised to rebuild the rink next winter, though they joke they may need a bigger yard.

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Part 5: Game Night at the Pizza Shop

Gloria: Okay, so tomorrow night. If it goes to game seven, we all know what's coming. Last round we were completely buried.

Lisa: Buried is a nice way of putting it. We ran out of dough before the second period was over. I was stretching the garlic bread dough into pizza bases, which, for the record, nobody noticed.

Neil: People noticed the wait, though. Ninety minutes for delivery. One guy in the east end phoned four times, and by the time I got there, the game was over. He tipped me in nickels.

Gloria: So, dough first. Lisa, can you double the batch?

Lisa: I can make it, sure. Where I'd put it is another question. The walk-in's already full of the pop order that came in early.

Gloria: The pop can sit in the back hallway for one night. It's cold enough back there.

Lisa: Fine, but if somebody trips over a case of ginger ale in the middle of the rush, that's on you.

Neil: Okay, my problem is drivers. Kevin's got exams, so it's me and two others. I was thinking, my roommate drives for one of those delivery apps, and he said he'd do a shift.

Gloria: Is he on our insurance, though? Because if he isn't, I can't—

Neil: —I know, I know. I'll get his papers from him tonight.

Lisa: Here's a thought. What if we just shut off online orders once the puck drops? Phone orders only. At least then we'd know what's coming.

Gloria: Turn off online? Half our sales come through the app on a game night.

Lisa: And half our complaints.

Neil: What if instead we stop delivering past the bridge, just for the night? The east end is where I lose twenty minutes each way. People over there could still pick up.

Gloria: Hmm, that's… I mean, those are some of our best regulars.

Lisa: Who'd rather wait ninety minutes for a cold pizza than drive ten for a hot one? Wait, no, I mean, who wouldn't rather… you know what I mean.

Gloria: I do. Okay, I'll pull up the receipts from the last round tonight. If the east end is as big a share as I think it is, I'm not cutting it off. But the dough is happening either way.

Lisa: Then I'm in at six.

Neil: And if it goes to overtime?

Gloria: Then we hope everybody's already eaten.

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Part 6: Library Late Fees

NARRATOR: For as long as most of us can remember, returning a library book late has carried a modest penalty: a few cents a day, collected at the front desk along with a disapproving glance. Over the past decade, however, a growing number of Canadian library systems have quietly abandoned overdue fines altogether, and the question of whether others should follow has provoked a surprisingly impassioned debate.

NARRATOR: Marguerite Olsen, who directs a branch library in a mid-sized Ontario city, is among the most outspoken advocates of abolition. Fines, she argues, were never really about money. In her system they accounted for barely one percent of the annual budget, while staff spent countless hours chasing and processing them. More troubling, in her view, is who actually paid. Families on tight budgets piled up debts they couldn't clear, had their cards blocked, and simply stopped coming, often the very children the library most hopes to reach. Since her branch dropped fines, she reports, hundreds of lapsed members have returned, and contrary to gloomy predictions, most books come back within days of their due date.

NARRATOR: Councillor Douglas Fairweather remains unpersuaded. He readily concedes that fines carry little financial weight, but contends that they serve another purpose: they teach borrowers that a shared collection comes with shared obligations. Without meaningful consequences, he warns, popular titles will gather dust on bedside tables while dozens of patrons wait their turn. Abolition, he insists, merely rewards carelessness at the expense of conscientious borrowers. He also bristles at the suggestion that fines are inherently unfair, pointing out that most systems already excused children and anyone who asked. The real failure, in his view, was poor communication, not the fines themselves.

NARRATOR: Olsen's reply is pragmatic. Her branch still charges for items that are lost or never brought back, and automated reminders by text and email, she says, have done more to speed returns than any fine ever did. Trust, she maintains, has proved a far more dependable motivator than embarrassment. Fairweather counters that one branch's experience hardly settles the matter.

NARRATOR: He has a point, though perhaps a narrower one than he imagines. If a few cents a day were truly what kept books moving, abolishing them should have emptied the shelves, and so far there is little sign of that. Libraries exist to put books into hands, and a policy that drives away the readers who need them most seems a curious way to protect a collection.

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