CELPIP Listening Practice Test 78

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/78 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/78 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

Picking Up a Dog from the Groomer

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 1 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/78**

1. What is the man's main complaint?

A His dog was not ready on time.
B His dog's coat was cut far too short.
C He was handed the wrong dog.
D He was charged the price of a full shave.

2. What did the man ask for when he dropped off his dog?

A a light trim that kept most of the fur long
B a short cut for the winter
C a full shave like Bingo's
D a trim around the ears only

3. What does the woman think went wrong?

A Tyler groomed the dog without checking a card.
B The man asked for the wrong cut.
C Bingo's owner chose the wrong style.
D Instructions for two dogs were mixed up.

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 2 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/78**

4. Why does the woman want to work on the dog's ears and tail?

A because his skin was nicked there
B to help the fur grow back more quickly
C to make the short cut seem planned
D because those areas grow back slowest

5. How does the man react to the refund?

A He insists on paying anyway.
B He's grateful but still upset.
C He thinks the amount is too small.
D He would rather have a free groom later.

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 3 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/78**

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6. What will the dog probably wear on walks now?

A



B



C



D



7. What can we infer about the red sweater?

A It was knitted for this Sunday's photos.

B It is sold at the salon.

C It no longer matches the family's sweaters.

D Biscuit should now wear it more easily.

8. What will the man probably do next?

A book an appointment with Tyler

B ask for an afternoon slot in January

C pay for a small purchase

D phone Bingo's owner to apologize

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Part 2: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation

An Evening Course

▶ **Recording: Part 2. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/78**

9. Why did the man sign up for the course?

A His employer requires it for his position.
B His wife asked him to get trained.
C His old certificate had run out.
D He was helpless during a scare at home.

10. What does the woman wrongly assume?

A that any employee can take the course for free
B that the course meets on Saturdays
C that Martin is staying in the office
D that the man has taken first aid before

11. Why does the woman prefer the evening classes?

A Her choir has finished for the season.
B She'd lose focus studying alone.
C The blended course costs more.
D Her Saturdays are already busy.

12. What does the woman suggest about Ahmed?

A He already has a first-aid certificate.
B He should take the blended course.
C He is not a good choice for the role.
D He will sign up before she can.

13. What will the woman probably do next?

A contact someone in HR
B register for the blended course
C drive the man to his class
D call Martin to ask about the role

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Part 3: Listening for Information

Staying Safe on Frozen Lakes

▶ **Recording: Part 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/78**

14. According to the officer, what effect can heavy snow have?

A It makes the ice twice as strong.
B It shows where the ice is thinnest.
C It melts the ice near creek mouths.
D It can leave the ice beneath it thinner than expected.

15. Why does the officer mention cloudy white ice?

A to point out that thickness alone can be misleading
B to show which ice is safe for trucks
C to explain how to spot thin ice from above
D to describe the ice found around docks

16. Why should people keep measuring the ice as they walk?

A Thickness changes from place to place on a lake.
B The ice gets thinner as the day warms up.
C Snow can hide dangerous cracks in the surface below.
D Ice picks only work on thick ice.

17. What should someone who falls through the ice do first?

A pull themselves straight out
B roll away from the hole
C turn and head back the way they came
D wait until their breathing settles

18. What is the officer's attitude toward driving on lake ice?

A She thinks fifteen centimetres is enough for it.
B She discourages it, even on thick ice.
C She says it is safer than walking.
D She leaves it to her office to approve.

19. Why won't the officer's office say which lakes are safe?

A Its officers are too busy to check every lake.
B Most lakes are still too thin this week.
C The ice may not stay the same.
D Listeners rarely follow official advice.

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Part 4: Listening to a News Item

Free Cooking Classes

▶ **Recording: Part 4. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/78**

20. Rajinder Gill started teaching because he

A was restless after retiring.
B wanted to open a restaurant.
C needed extra income.
D was asked by families for recipes.

21. The classes mainly show people how to

A cook like restaurant chefs.
B bake bread in the store's bakery.
C make healthy meals on a budget.
D shop for ingredients online.

22. The store has benefited because

A it charges a small fee for each class.
B Gill works there part-time.
C the bakery sells more bread.
D customers buy what the classes use.

23. The store's owner was likely

A disappointed by the turnout.
B surprised by the response.
C worried about the cost.
D annoyed by the waiting list.

24. Gill is now preparing to

A move the class to Toronto.
B raise the class size.
C offer a weekend class.
D retire for a second time.

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Part 5: Listening to a Discussion

Planning the Office Move

▶ **Recording: Part 5. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/78**

25. What problem does Esther point out in the floor plans?

A The new floor has smaller windows.
B The kitchen is too small for everyone.
C There are fewer desks than employees.
D The floor is shared with a law firm.

26. Why does Carol mention her last company?

A to suggest using a booking app
B to explain why she likes window seats
C to show that few people come in on Mondays and Fridays
D to warn that open seating can cause competition

27. Carol's attitude toward the booking app is best described as

A skeptical.
B enthusiastic.
C indifferent.
D confused.

28. What did Graham wrongly believe about the new floor?

A It would have more desks than the old one.
B It would have its own large kitchen.
C It would be on the eighth floor.
D It would be closed on Mondays.

29. What point is Graham making about the meeting room tables?

A His earlier suggestion would still be useful.
B Sales deserves its own team area.
C The meeting room is too small for sales.
D Carol should organize the Tuesday bookings.

30. What can we infer about Carol?

A She is in charge of office supplies.
B She has handled shared equipment in a past move.
C She plans to unpack the supply cabinet over the weekend.
D She would prefer to work on Mondays.

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31. What is most likely true of Dennis?

A He suggested the idea of team areas.

B He works for the law firm upstairs.

C He may resist changes to the current plan.

D He will help with the move.

32. What is the best subject line for Esther's message to Dennis?

A Request for twelve more desks

B Cancelling the weekend move

C A booking app for all staff

D Team seating areas for the new floor

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Part 6: Listening to Viewpoints

Paid Time to Volunteer

▶ **Recording: Part 6. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/78**

33. The report is mainly about

A why charities need more helpers on weekdays.
B how managers can raise interest in volunteer days.
C whether volunteer leave is worth offering.
D why small firms volunteer less than large ones.

34. Dana Whitfield believes that employees who volunteer

A gain abilities that help them at work.
B should do so on evenings and weekends.
C are mostly people who volunteered already.
D need training before helping charities.

35. Martin Kovacs mentions his machinists to show that

A skilled workers are hard to recruit.
B his staff volunteer more than office workers.
C a single absence can halt his company's work.
D his employees dislike volunteer days.

36. We can infer that Kovacs

A opposes volunteering in general.
B has given his staff two volunteer days.
C thinks managers should volunteer first.
D is willing to seek a middle ground.

37. Participation in Whitfield's program rose after

A charities asked for help on weekdays.
B executives set an example.
C applicants began asking about it.
D the company added a third day.

38. The speaker suggests that the spread of volunteer leave

A may come down to company size and budgets.
B will turn on how persuasive its supporters are.
C is already secure in most Canadian firms.
D rests mainly on what charities request.

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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: Picking Up a Dog from the Groomer

1 B His dog's coat was cut far too short.

2 A a light trim that kept most of the fur long

3 D Instructions for two dogs were mixed up.

4 C to make the short cut seem planned

5 B He's grateful but still upset.

6 B Picture B

7 D Biscuit should now wear it more easily.

8 C pay for a small purchase

Part 2: An Evening Course

9 D He was helpless during a scare at home.

10 A that any employee can take the course for free

11 B She'd lose focus studying alone.

12 C He is not a good choice for the role.

13 A contact someone in HR

Part 3: Staying Safe on Frozen Lakes

14 D It can leave the ice beneath it thinner than expected.

15 A to point out that thickness alone can be misleading

16 A Thickness changes from place to place on a lake.

17 D wait until their breathing settles

18 B She discourages it, even on thick ice.

19 C The ice may not stay the same.

Part 4: Free Cooking Classes

20 A was restless after retiring.

21 C make healthy meals on a budget.

22 D customers buy what the classes use.

23 B surprised by the response.

24 C offer a weekend class.

Part 5: Planning the Office Move

25 C There are fewer desks than employees.

26 D to warn that open seating can cause competition

27 A skeptical.

28 B It would have its own large kitchen.

29 A His earlier suggestion would still be useful.

30 B She has handled shared equipment in a past move.

31 C He may resist changes to the current plan.

32 D Team seating areas for the new floor

Part 6: Paid Time to Volunteer

33 C whether volunteer leave is worth offering.

34 A gain abilities that help them at work.

35 C a single absence can halt his company's work.

36 D is willing to seek a middle ground.

37 B executives set an example.

38 A may come down to company size and budgets.

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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: Picking Up a Dog from the Groomer

Section 1

WOMAN: Hi there, welcome back. You must be here for Biscuit?

MAN: That's me. Is he ready? My wife's waiting out front, so…

WOMAN: All done! I'll just bring him out. And here he is!

MAN: That's not— wait, Biscuit? What happened to his coat? He looks like a completely different dog.

WOMAN: Oh, um, it is quite short, isn't it? Let me check his card. It says, short all over, summer cut.

MAN: A summer cut? It's November! I asked for a tidy-up. Just a little off around the eyes, and everything else left long. I told the young man at the desk twice.

WOMAN: I'm so sorry. That was Tyler, he's new… Hang on. There was another doodle in this morning, Bingo, and his owner asked for a full shave. I think the two cards got switched.

MAN: Well, lucky Bingo. We've got a photographer coming on Sunday to do family pictures. Biscuit was supposed to be the fluffy one in the middle.

WOMAN: I understand. I can't put the length back, but I'm not letting you leave like this. Give me five minutes to have a proper look at him?

MAN: Five minutes, okay. I'd better tell my wife to park the car.

Section 2

WOMAN: Thanks for waiting. So, I've had a good look at him. His skin's fine, not a single nick. But a coat like his takes about six to eight weeks to grow back.

MAN: Six weeks. So the photos on Sunday are—

WOMAN: —not necessarily ruined. Right now he's choppy around the ears and the tail, and that's what makes it look like an accident. If I even those out and keep his face nice and round, he'll look like he was meant to have a short cut.

MAN: Hmm, I suppose he does look a bit patchy at the moment.

WOMAN: And of course, there's no charge for today. I'm refunding the whole $85.

MAN: That's fair, thanks. But honestly, it was never about the money. My daughter's going to take one look at him and burst into tears.

WOMAN: I know. Can you leave him with me for another forty minutes?

MAN: Go ahead. We'll grab a coffee next door.

Section 3

MAN: We're back. Oh, wow, that's… that's so much better.

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WOMAN: Isn't it? Round face, neat ears.

MAN: My daughter might even forgive him.

WOMAN: Forgive us, you mean. One thing, though. With his coat this short, he's going to feel the cold on your walks for a while, so you'll want to put something on him.

MAN: Funny you say that. My daughter knitted him a red sweater last winter to match ours. It was always a bit tight on him with all that fur, but now…

WOMAN: Well, there you go. Every cloud, as they say. Now, shall I put Biscuit down for January? I'll do him myself this time.

MAN: Please, a morning if you've got one. Oh, and could I grab a bag of those treats by the till? I think he's earned them.

WOMAN: He has. They're $6. Tap or—

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Part 2: An Evening Course

WOMAN: Kevin, you're packing up early. Hot date?

MAN: Ha, I wish. No, I've started a first-aid course at the community centre, Tuesday and Thursday evenings. It starts at six, and if I hit traffic on the bridge I miss the first half hour of practice on the dummies.

WOMAN: First aid? Since when are you into that? You nearly fainted when I cut my finger at the potluck.

MAN: Well, that's sort of the point. Last month my son choked on a grape at dinner. He's fine, totally fine, but I just sat there, frozen. My wife was the one who jumped up and got it out. I keep thinking, what if she hadn't been home?

WOMAN: Oh, Kevin, that must have been terrifying. Is it expensive? I did one of those years ago when I coached my daughter's soccer team, but I'm sure that certificate ran out ages ago. I keep meaning to redo it.

MAN: It's $140, but here's the thing. The company pays for it if you agree to be one of the official first aiders on our floor. You get a little green sticker on your desk and everything.

WOMAN: Oh, so it's free for all of us? Then why isn't the whole office signing up?

MAN: No, no, not for everyone. There are only two first-aider spots per floor. I took one, and Martin from IT had the other, but he's—

WOMAN: —moving to Calgary, right. So there's an opening. Hmm, evenings are tricky, though. Tuesdays I've got choir.

MAN: There's a blended version too. You watch the videos at home, whenever you like, and then you just go in for one Saturday to do the hands-on part.

WOMAN: Honestly, I know myself. I'd have those videos playing in the background while I made dinner and wouldn't remember a thing. I need someone standing over me, telling me I'm pressing too softly. I could probably skip choir for three weeks.

MAN: Then you'd better move fast. Ahmed was asking about it this morning.

WOMAN: Ahmed, really? He can't even find the fire exit. Who handles that, Patricia in HR?

MAN: Yeah, but she leaves at four on Thursdays.

WOMAN: Then I've got ten minutes.

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Part 3: Staying Safe on Frozen Lakes

MAN: My guest this morning is Joanne Lafleur, a conservation officer with the province, and with the first real cold snap of the year, her phone's been ringing nonstop. Joanne, thanks for coming in.

WOMAN: Happy to. And yes, it's that time of year. Every December, the moment the lakes look white, people want to be out on them, fishing, skating, you name it.

MAN: So let's start with the question everyone asks. It's been minus twenty-five all week. Surely the ice on the local lakes is solid by now?

WOMAN: That's the most common mistake we see. Cold air helps, of course, but this week we also got about thirty centimetres of snow, and snow acts like a blanket. It actually slows down how fast the ice thickens underneath. So you can have a lake that looks perfectly frozen and has maybe five centimetres of ice in places.

MAN: Huh, so how thick does it need to be?

WOMAN: For one person walking, we say at least ten centimetres of clear, hard ice. A snowmobile, more like fifteen. A car or truck, and honestly I'd rather people didn't, you're looking at thirty or more. But those numbers are for clear blue ice. The cloudy white ice that forms from snow and slush is only about half as strong.

MAN: And you can tell the difference just by—

WOMAN: —just by looking? Not really, not from the top. You have to drill or chip a hole and measure, and you keep doing it as you go, because ice is never the same thickness across a whole lake. It's thinnest near creek mouths, around docks, and anywhere there's moving water underneath.

MAN: Let's say the worst happens and somebody goes through. What should they do?

WOMAN: First, don't try to haul yourself straight up. The cold water takes your breath away, and you need about a minute just to get your breathing under control. After that, you've got roughly ten minutes when your arms and legs still work properly. Turn back the way you came, since you know that ice held you, get your arms up on top, and kick so you slide out on your stomach. Then roll away. Don't stand up.

MAN: Roll away. That's surprisingly specific.

WOMAN: It spreads your weight out. And it's why I tell everyone to wear a pair of ice picks around their neck. They cost about $15, and they make pulling yourself out much, much easier.

MAN: Before we go, a listener emailed asking which lakes your office has checked and declared safe this week.

WOMAN: I get that one a lot. We don't do that, and we never will. Conditions can change overnight. Every trip onto the ice is your own judgment call.

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Part 4: Free Cooking Classes

NARRATOR: Shoppers at a Brampton grocery store are picking up more than groceries these days. Every Wednesday evening, a corner beside the bakery is cleared for a free cooking class led by seventy-four-year-old Rajinder Gill, who spent four decades running restaurant kitchens in Toronto before retiring last spring. Gill admits that retirement lasted about three weeks before boredom set in. When he complained to the store's owner, a longtime friend, she suggested he teach. The classes, limited to twelve participants, focus on simple weeknight meals built around whatever happens to be on sale. Gill insists the goal isn't to turn anyone into a professional, but to show families that a nutritious dinner doesn't have to cost a fortune. Registration opens each Monday at nine, and the spots are usually gone within an hour. The owner says she had hoped for a handful of curious regulars. Instead, the waiting list now stretches past two hundred names, and sales of the ingredients featured in each lesson have climbed noticeably. Some participants have even started posting their own variations on a recipe board near the checkout. Gill, for his part, says he has never been busier, or happier. He is currently training two volunteers so that the store can add a Saturday morning session.

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Part 5: Planning the Office Move

Esther: Right, so the floor plans finally came in this morning. I've printed a few copies. Brace yourselves.

Graham: Why, what's wrong with them? I thought the seventh floor was supposed to be the upgrade.

Esther: It is, in a way. Bigger windows, new carpet, all very nice. But count the desks.

Carol: Thirty-eight… thirty-nine, forty. Forty? There are fifty-two of us.

Esther: Management's thinking is that nobody's in five days a week anymore, so we'll never all be there at once.

Graham: Well, that's mostly true. Mondays and Fridays it's a ghost town.

Carol: Sure, but on Tuesdays and Wednesdays everybody comes in for meetings. And I've lived through this before. At my last company it was first come, first served, and within a month people were showing up at seven just to get a spot by the window. One guy used to leave his jacket on a chair overnight.

Graham: Okay, so we use one of those booking apps. You reserve a desk the day before, done.

Carol: Which nobody will use properly. Trust me.

Graham: You don't know that, Carol. We're not your old company.

Esther: Can I suggest a middle ground? We give each team its own area. Accounting gets the quiet corner by the storage room, sales goes down the far end, away from the kitchen. And inside each area, people sort out the seats among themselves.

Graham: Hang on, the kitchen on our floor, that's the big one, right? With the long table and the good coffee machine?

Carol: No, that's on eight. We share it with the law firm. Ours is basically a sink and a kettle.

Graham: Fantastic, so we're losing twelve desks and a kitchen.

Esther: We're not losing a kitchen, Graham, we never had a— anyway. Team areas. What do you think?

Carol: Esther, I could live with that. Though sales has twelve people and they all come in on Tuesdays.

Graham: Then sales can book the spare tables in the meeting room on Tuesdays. Which, I'll point out, means a booking app.

Carol: For one team, maybe. Fine.

Esther: There's also the actual move. The building only lets movers use the freight elevator on weekends, so we pack up on Friday the fourteenth and come back on Monday to a sea of boxes.

Graham: And who's unpacking all the shared stuff? The supply cabinet alone is…

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Carol: Don't look at me. I did the printer last time.

Esther: Let's park that. I still have to take the team areas to Dennis, and he's the one who signed off on forty desks, so…

Graham: So he'll want to know what was wrong with his plan.

Carol: Or he'll tell us to sit on the boxes.

Part 6: Paid Time to Volunteer

NARRATOR: Volunteering has long been regarded as a private virtue, something Canadians squeeze into evenings and weekends between work and family obligations. Increasingly, though, employers are being asked to make room for it on company time. A growing number of firms now offer what is known as volunteer leave: typically one to three paid days a year that staff can spend at a food bank, a literacy program or a local shelter. Advocates call it a modest investment with outsized returns; sceptics wonder whether generosity can, or should, be scheduled by the human resources department.

NARRATOR: Dana Whitfield, who oversees personnel at a Winnipeg insurance company, introduced two volunteer days four years ago and has little patience for the sceptics. Her staff, she notes, are not short of goodwill but of time, and charities report that weekday help is precisely what they lack most. Whitfield also points to less obvious benefits. Employees who coach youth teams or sit on non-profit boards, she argues, return with leadership skills that no workshop could replicate. And in a competitive hiring market, the policy has become an unexpected recruiting asset; applicants routinely ask about it in interviews, and a few have told her it was the reason they said yes.

NARRATOR: Martin Kovacs, who runs a twenty-person machine shop outside Hamilton, sees things differently. He doesn't object to volunteering, and he volunteers himself, but he maintains that what a large insurer absorbs without noticing can cripple a small operation. A shop his size, he says, has no one to spare. When one of his machinists is away, an entire production line can sit idle. Kovacs is also unconvinced that the policy changes much. In his experience, the people who use such days are those who already volunteer, so companies end up subsidizing generosity that would have happened anyway. And he wonders whether a good deed performed on the company's dime carries quite the same meaning.

NARRATOR: Whitfield concedes that participation was dismal at first, barely one employee in ten. It climbed only after senior managers began taking the days themselves and talking openly about where they had spent them. Kovacs, for his part, has floated a compromise: letting staff trade a statutory holiday for a volunteer day, an arrangement that costs his business nothing and that his staff, so far, seem to like. Still, whether volunteer leave becomes a workplace standard may depend less on the arguments than on who can afford to make them.

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