CELPIP Listening Practice Test 84

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	Renting a Halloween Costume	1–8
Part 2: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation	A Balcony Vegetable Garden	9–13
Part 3: Listening for Information	Flying with a Pet	14–19
Part 4: Listening to a News Item	Prize-Winning Apple Pie	20–24
Part 5: Listening to a Discussion	Planning a Summer Picnic	25–32
Part 6: Listening to Viewpoints	Teaching Personal Finance	33–38

How to take this test

1. Open celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/84 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/84 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

Renting a Halloween Costume

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 1 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/84**

1. Why did the man first ask about a gorilla costume?

A It was the last costume left in the shop.
B It would go with his partner's costume.
C He wanted one for an outdoor parade.
D It was cheaper than the other animal costumes.

2. Why does the woman advise against the gorilla suit?

A It is not available in the man's usual size.
B It does not suit a zookeeper theme.
C It is already reserved for a parade.
D It would be uncomfortable at this party.

3. Which costume will the man try on?

A



B



C



D



▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 2 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/84**

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4. What problem does the woman find?

A The vest is too large for the man.

B The mane is missing its strap.

C Someone else needs it the day after his party.

D The shop's return slot is broken.

5. How does the man feel about the return time?

A relieved

B reluctant

C furious

D indifferent

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 3 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/84**

6. How will the costume most likely get back to the shop?

A The man will leave it in the return slot.

B The man will return it on Friday night.

C The shop will send someone to collect it from the restaurant.

D The man's partner will drop it off before work.

7. What does the man misunderstand?

A He mistakes the deposit for a higher rental fee.

B He thinks his partner is not allowed to return the costume.

C He believes the late charge is $50.

D He thinks face paint comes with the costume.

8. What is likely true of the man?

A He plans to wear a mask during dinner.

B He would rather pay for the rental in cash today.

C He will use his partner's makeup for his face.

D He wants to buy a face-painting kit.

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Part 2: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation

A Balcony Vegetable Garden

▶ **Recording: Part 2. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/84**

9. What is the man's problem?

A His plants have stopped flowering.
B The building wants the plants removed.
C His plants are producing hardly any fruit.
D His plants are shorter than expected.

10. According to the woman, what is causing the problem?

A Few insects reach plants that high up.
B The pots are too close to the railing.
C He waters the plants far too often for tomatoes.
D Strong winds knock the flowers off.

11. What does the man misunderstand?

A He thinks she wants him to buy new plants.
B He thinks the condo board has banned gardening.
C He thinks the flowers need more water.
D He thinks she wants him to raise insects.

12. Why did the man move his pots away from the railing?

A The woman had warned him it was dangerous.
B A neighbour below was bothered by drips.
C The pots blew over in a storm.
D The plants needed more shade.

13. What will the man probably do?

A replace his tomatoes with lettuce
B move his pots back to the railing
C try the woman's buzzing trick himself
D look into buying a hive of bees

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Part 3: Listening for Information

Flying with a Pet

▶ **Recording: Part 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/84**

14. Why is the woman calling?

A to book a flight for her move to Calgary
B to arrange travel for her cat
C to change her flight to an earlier time
D to complain about the airline's pet fee

15. What does the woman first hope to do?

A check that her cat is light enough for the cabin
B avoid a fee for changing flights
C find out whether pets can fly in the cabin
D put her cat's carrier on a seat she pays for

16. Why can't the cat fly on the woman's original flight?

A The limit for animals has been reached.
B The plane's cabin is too small for pets.
C Her carrier is the wrong size.
D No animals may fly in July.

17. Why won't the airline put the cat in the hold?

A The hold is already full of luggage.
B Cats must always stay with their owners.
C Summer heat could make it unsafe.
D The fee for the hold is too high.

18. What can be inferred about the woman?

A She has flown with her cat before.
B She would rather check in online.
C She is moving to be near her family.
D She will put up with inconvenience for her cat.

19. What will the woman probably do next?

A find out the size of the carrier
B check in for her flight online
C call back once she reaches the airport
D buy a smaller carrier for her cat

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Part 4: Listening to a News Item

Prize-Winning Apple Pie

▶ **Recording: Part 4. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/84**

20. Bourque spent months experimenting because the recipe card

A called for rare ingredients.
B was written in another language.
C had been damaged by water.
D was incomplete.

21. The judges were particularly impressed by

A the maple syrup glaze on top.
B the texture of the pastry.
C the size of the pie.
D the decoration of the pie.

22. Bourque intends to spend her prize money on

A a baking course in Moncton.
B a new oven for her own home.
C a gift for a relative.
D a frame for the recipe card.

23. Bourque believes her pie won mainly because she

A swapped some sugar for another sweetener.
B baked it in her grandfather's oven.
C used apples from her family's trees.
D followed the old recipe exactly.

24. It can be inferred that Bourque's family

A helped her rewrite the recipe.
B grew tired of tasting her pies.
C entered the competition as well.
D judged her early pies harshly.

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Part 5: Listening to a Discussion

Planning a Summer Picnic

▶ **Recording: Part 5. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/84**

25. What is the main purpose of the discussion?

A to pick a location for a client's family event
B to plan a wedding reception at a farm
C to deal with a complaint about last year's event
D to compare the prices of renting tents

26. Why does Lucas mention his sister's wedding?

A to suggest the farm gives discounts
B to explain how he knows about the hayrides
C to show the barn has enough room
D to prove the farm can provide buses

27. What is most likely true about the client's event last year?

A It was held at Riverside Park.
B It took place at the golf club.
C Nora was in charge of planning it.
D Bad weather spoiled it.

28. Why is Farah against renting tents?

A They would not fit in the park.
B They would cost too much.
C They would take up the space for games.
D They would take too long to set up.

29. Why is the golf club ruled out?

A Its rules would keep out many of the guests.
B The CEO changed his mind and decided against it.
C It is too far from the office.
D It costs more than the farm.

30. What does Nora wrongly assume?

A that tents could be rented for free
B that the CEO had already chosen Riverside Park
C that the park was far from the office
D that the farm would take care of transport

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31. How does Nora feel about the farm by the end?

A She is excited about the hayrides.

B She refuses to consider it at all.

C She accepts it with some reluctance.

D She now prefers it to the park.

32. What is the best subject line for a follow-up email about the meeting?

A Riverside Park tent rental prices

B Bus costs will decide the venue

C Hillcrest Farm booked for August 9th

D Golf club ruled out by the CEO

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Part 6: Listening to Viewpoints

Teaching Personal Finance

▶ **Recording: Part 6. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/84**

33. The main theme of the report is

A why so many young adults fall into debt.
B how math teachers can make budgeting interesting.
C whether a required course is the best way to teach money skills.
D which electives schools should cut to make room in their timetables.

34. Lindqvist's reaction to Bergeron's alternative is

A dismissive.
B appreciative.
C uncertain.
D indifferent.

35. Lindqvist mentions poems in order to

A argue that literature should be dropped from the school curriculum.
B point out that schools already require less practical subjects.
C explain why she left her career in banking.
D show that students struggle with difficult reading.

36. Lindqvist believes a mandatory course would especially benefit students who

A hope to work in banking one day.
B find mathematics classes difficult.
C have already signed loan agreements.
D get little guidance about money at home.

37. Thomas Bergeron would most likely support

A a math unit on calculating credit card interest.
B a required finance course in Grade 11.
C replacing a language elective with finance.
D teaching retirement planning to sixteen-year-olds.

38. The speaker suggests that

A schools should make finance courses compulsory right away.
B parents strongly shape how young people handle money.
C finance lessons work best inside math classes.
D young adults rarely take on serious debt.

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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: Renting a Halloween Costume

1 B It would go with his partner's costume.

2 D It would be uncomfortable at this party.

3 B Picture B

4 C Someone else needs it the day after his party.

5 B reluctant

6 D The man's partner will drop it off before work.

7 A He mistakes the deposit for a higher rental fee.

8 C He will use his partner's makeup for his face.

Part 2: A Balcony Vegetable Garden

9 C His plants are producing hardly any fruit.

10 A Few insects reach plants that high up.

11 D He thinks she wants him to raise insects.

12 B A neighbour below was bothered by drips.

13 C try the woman's buzzing trick himself

Part 3: Flying with a Pet

14 B to arrange travel for her cat

15 D put her cat's carrier on a seat she pays for

16 A The limit for animals has been reached.

17 C Summer heat could make it unsafe.

18 D She will put up with inconvenience for her cat.

19 A find out the size of the carrier

Part 4: Prize-Winning Apple Pie

20 D was incomplete.

21 B the texture of the pastry.

22 C a gift for a relative.

23 A swapped some sugar for another sweetener.

24 B grew tired of tasting her pies.

Part 5: Planning a Summer Picnic

25 A to pick a location for a client's family event

26 C to show the barn has enough room

27 D Bad weather spoiled it.

28 B They would cost too much.

29 A Its rules would keep out many of the guests.

30 D that the farm would take care of transport

31 C She accepts it with some reluctance.

32 B Bus costs will decide the venue

Part 6: Teaching Personal Finance

33 C whether a required course is the best way to teach money skills.

34 A dismissive.

35 B point out that schools already require less practical subjects.

36 D get little guidance about money at home.

37 A a math unit on calculating credit card interest.

38 B parents strongly shape how young people handle money.

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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: Renting a Halloween Costume

Section 1

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

MAN: Um, my office is having a Halloween party on Friday, and I've left it really late. My partner and I are supposed to go as a pair, and she's already got a zookeeper outfit. So I was thinking… a gorilla?

WOMAN: The gorilla, okay. We've actually got one left, in a large. But it's a full suit, with the head and the hands. Where's the party?

MAN: At a restaurant downtown. Dinner, and then dancing, I think.

WOMAN: Then I'd think twice. People mostly rent that suit for outdoor parades. Indoors, with dancing, you'd last maybe half an hour before you're soaked. And eating with those big hands on—

MAN: —right, the hands. Okay, so what else goes with a zookeeper?

WOMAN: How about a lion? It's just a mane, a tail and a vest, so the mane comes off when you eat. And it's $35 for the weekend, compared to $70 for the gorilla.

MAN: A lion, huh. I like that, actually. Can I try it on?

WOMAN: Sure, the change room's at the back. I'll grab you a medium.

MAN: A medium? I'm usually a large.

WOMAN: Our costumes run big. Try the medium first, trust me.

MAN: Okay, you're the expert.

Section 2

MAN: Okay, you were right. The vest fits perfectly. Only thing is, the mane keeps sliding down over my eyes.

WOMAN: Oh, that's easy, there's a strap inside. Turn around… there. How's that?

MAN: Much better. So, can I just take it with me now?

WOMAN: Let me check… ah. This one's booked for Saturday by another customer. Your party's Friday, you said?

MAN: Friday night, yeah.

WOMAN: Then it can work, but it has to be back by ten Saturday morning. No exceptions, and it's $20 for every hour it's late.

MAN: Ten in the morning, after an office party. Wow. I guess I could drop it in your return slot on the way home…

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WOMAN: Sorry, costumes can't go through the slot, they get crushed. Someone has to bring it to the counter.

MAN: Hmm, okay. Give me a second to think.

Section 3

MAN: Okay, here's an idea. My partner works at a bakery just down the street from you, and she starts at seven on Saturdays. Could she drop it off on her way in?

WOMAN: Sure, anyone can bring it back, as long as they have the receipt.

MAN: Perfect, so it's $35, and…?

WOMAN: The $35, plus a $50 deposit.

MAN: Wait, fifty? I thought you said thirty-five.

WOMAN: It is thirty-five. The fifty is a deposit on your card, and you get it back when the costume comes back in one piece.

MAN: Oh, okay, that's fine, then. Should I get face paint too? I don't want a mask while I'm eating.

WOMAN: You could, but with the mane on, a bit of black on the nose and a few whiskers is plenty. Most people have an eyeliner pencil at home.

MAN: Ha, my partner has about ten of them. Okay, let's do it. Do you take debit?

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Part 2: A Balcony Vegetable Garden

WOMAN: So how's the big balcony farm going? Last time I was over, you had, what, six tomato plants out there?

MAN: Eight, actually. And honestly, they look amazing. They're taller than me, the leaves are this deep green, and there are yellow flowers everywhere. But it's almost September and I've got exactly three tomatoes. Three. The flowers just dry up and drop off.

WOMAN: Hmm, you're on the fourteenth floor, right? I bet nothing's visiting them up there. Down at ground level, bees and other insects carry the pollen around from flower to flower. On a balcony that high, the plants are mostly on their own.

MAN: Oh, great. So now I'm a beekeeper. I wouldn't even know where to buy a hive, and I'm pretty sure the condo board would—

WOMAN: No, no, nobody's asking you to keep bees! You just do their job for them. Every couple of days, when the flowers are open, give each stem a gentle shake, or tap it with a pencil. Some people even hold an electric toothbrush against it. The buzzing knocks the pollen loose.

MAN: An electric toothbrush. My neighbours already think I'm strange because I talk to the plants. Okay, but then how did I get three?

WOMAN: Probably the wind, that stormy week in July. Which reminds me, I'd move those pots back from the railing if I were you. A big pot of soil can tip over in a strong gust, and fourteen floors is a long way down.

MAN: Actually, the building manager already made me do that. Someone below complained about water dripping onto their patio furniture every time I watered.

WOMAN: Well, there you go, two problems solved. And next spring, try a couple of pots of lettuce and peas as well. They need a lot less fuss, and they're happy in partial shade, so they could go along the back wall.

MAN: Lettuce I could probably manage. But I'm not giving up on the tomatoes. I've still got an old electric toothbrush in a drawer somewhere, I think.

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Part 3: Flying with a Pet

MAN: Thanks for calling customer service, this is Jordan. How can I help you today?

WOMAN: Hi, yes. I have a flight booked from Halifax to Calgary on July 14th. I'm moving out there for a new job, and, well, I can't exactly leave my cat behind. So I'm trying to figure out how she gets there too.

MAN: Sure, I can help with that. On most of our flights within Canada, a cat can travel in the cabin with you. She'd stay in a soft carrier under the seat in front of you for the whole flight, and the cat and the carrier together can't weigh more than ten kilograms.

WOMAN: Oh, weight's no problem, she's tiny. Maybe four kilos. But under a seat for five hours? Could I just pay for the seat beside me and put the carrier there? I really don't mind the extra cost.

MAN: I'm afraid not. Even if the seat's empty, the carrier has to stay on the floor, for everyone's safety in case of turbulence. Pets can't occupy a seat, even a paid one. There's a pet fee of $75 each way, and that's it.

WOMAN: Okay, fair enough.

MAN: Now, let me just pull up your booking… hmm. Unfortunately, there's an issue with the flight you're on. We only allow two animals in the cabin on each flight, and both spots on the fourteenth are already taken.

WOMAN: Oh no. Could she go down below with the suitcases, then? I've heard people do that.

MAN: Normally, yes, but not in July. Between June and September we don't accept animals in the hold, because planes can sit on the ground in the heat before takeoff, and it gets far too hot down there. What I can do is move you to the earlier flight that same day. It still has both spots open, and since this is a pet issue, there's no change fee.

WOMAN: How much earlier are we talking?

MAN: It leaves at six-fifteen in the morning.

WOMAN: Six-fifteen, so I'd have to be at the airport by, what, four-thirty? I am really not a morning person. But… okay. Let's do that.

MAN: Great, one more thing: you can't check in online when you're travelling with a pet, so you'll need to see an agent at the counter. And before I can confirm her spot, I'll need the carrier's measurements and her exact weight. Do you have those handy?

WOMAN: Not on me. She's asleep on top of the carrier right now, actually. Give me a minute, I'll go get the tape measure.

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Part 4: Prize-Winning Apple Pie

NARRATOR: A sixteen-year-old from Saint John has beaten more than forty experienced bakers to take first prize in the pie competition at this year's provincial fair. Hailey Bourque entered an apple pie based on her late great-grandmother's recipe, which she discovered last winter, handwritten on an index card tucked inside an old cookbook. The card, however, was missing half of its instructions, so Bourque spent months experimenting, baking nearly thirty pies before she was satisfied. Her family, she admits, eventually began quietly leaving the kitchen whenever another one came out of the oven. The judges praised her remarkably flaky crust, and one described the filling as perfectly balanced, neither too sweet nor too tart. Bourque credits a single unexpected ingredient: a spoonful of maple syrup in place of some of the sugar. Her prize includes a ribbon, $500, and a professional baking course in Moncton next spring. Bourque intends to put the money toward a new oven for her grandfather, whose kitchen she borrowed throughout the summer. The original recipe card, meanwhile, is now framed and hanging above that kitchen's stove.

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Part 5: Planning a Summer Picnic

Farah: Okay, so we've got the client's numbers now. About a hundred and fifty staff, and with partners and kids, call it four hundred people. And the date's locked in: Saturday, August 9th.

Nora: Four hundred. Well, that pretty much decides it for me. Riverside Park. The permit costs next to nothing, there's tons of open space for the kids, and it's a ten-minute walk from their office, so nobody has to drive.

Lucas: I mean, it's nice, but there's no cover there at all. You remember what happened to them last year?

Nora: That was a completely different park.

Lucas: Sure, but a downpour's a downpour. Their HR director still brings it up every time we talk. Hot dogs floating in the—

Farah: Okay, okay, we get the picture. But he's got a point, Nora. If it pours again, nobody will care which park it was.

Nora: So we rent tents.

Farah: For four hundred people? Have you priced that? Last time I checked, it was close to $6,000, and that's before anyone sets up a single table.

Lucas: Which is why I keep coming back to Hillcrest Farm. They've got hayrides, the animals, a huge field for games, and if the weather turns, everybody just moves into the barn.

Nora: Can a barn really hold four hundred people, though?

Lucas: My sister had her wedding there in June. Two hundred and fifty guests, a dance floor, a full buffet, and it still didn't feel crowded. Standing, it'd easily take everyone.

Nora: Okay, but it's out past the airport. That's a forty-minute drive. And half their staff take transit to work.

Lucas: Fifty, actually, if traffic's bad. But we could run a couple of buses from the office.

Farah: Buses aren't cheap either. Still, I'd rather pay for buses than for tents nobody wants to stand under. And honestly, the farm's price for the whole day was lower than I expected.

Nora: Hmm, what about the golf club, though? Didn't the CEO specifically ask us to look at it?

Farah: He asked us to look, yes. And I looked. Kids under twelve aren't allowed past the clubhouse. There goes half the guest list.

Nora: Well, that settles that. Fine. I still think people would rather walk to a park than sit on a bus, but… if the farm can sort out the buses for us—

Lucas: —they can't, though. They don't run buses. We'd have to hire a charter company ourselves.

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Farah: Right, so that's the real question. If the buses come in well under the cost of the tents, I think the farm wins. I'll get two or three quotes this afternoon.

Nora: And if they don't?

Farah: Then we're back at the park, hoping for sunshine.

Part 6: Teaching Personal Finance

NARRATOR: Ask most adults what they wish they had learned in high school, and a surprising number will mention neither calculus nor Shakespeare, but money: how to read a pay stub, why a credit card balance balloons, or what a mortgage actually costs over twenty-five years. A growing number of school systems have responded by making personal finance a compulsory course, and advocates elsewhere are lobbying for the same. The proposal sounds almost unobjectionable, yet it has provoked a surprisingly spirited debate about what schools can realistically accomplish.

NARRATOR: Rebecca Lindqvist spent fifteen years as a bank manager before retraining as a business teacher in Winnipeg. Behind her desk at the bank, she says, she routinely met young adults who had signed loan agreements they could not explain, some of them saddled with debts that would follow them for a decade. Schools already require students to analyze poems they may never reread, she argues, so it is hardly unreasonable to require a course on decisions every graduate will inevitably face. Lindqvist also frames the issue as one of fairness. Teenagers whose parents discuss budgets at the dinner table, she contends, enter adulthood with a considerable head start, while their classmates learn through costly mistakes. Only a mandatory course, in her view, guarantees everyone the same foundation.

NARRATOR: Education researcher Thomas Bergeron is sympathetic to those goals but skeptical of the remedy. He cites studies suggesting that the benefits of standalone finance courses tend to fade within a few years, particularly when the material is taught long before students need it. A sixteen-year-old, he notes, has little reason to care about retirement savings or mortgage renewals, and lessons memorized for an exam are quickly forgotten. Bergeron also warns that timetables are already crowded; adding a required course inevitably squeezes out an elective, often in the arts or a second language. He would rather see practical money problems woven into existing mathematics classes, where budgeting and percentages could reinforce skills students are already practising.

NARRATOR: Lindqvist has little patience for that approach, calling it wishful thinking, since a topic everyone is responsible for frequently becomes a topic nobody teaches properly. Bergeron, for his part, concedes that a compulsory course would do little harm, but doubts it would deliver the transformation its champions promise. Both agree on one point: by the time most students leave home, the habits that will govern their spending have largely been formed. Which suggests that the most valuable financial education may begin not in a classroom, but much earlier, and much closer to home.

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