CELPIP Listening Practice Test 85

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/85 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/85 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 Flat Tire on the Way to Revelstoke

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 1 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/85**

1. What is the man's problem?

A He has run out of gas on the highway.
B One of his tires has a leak.
C His dashboard warning light is faulty.
D The rental company gave him the wrong car.

2. Why does the woman advise against simply adding air to the tire?

A The air machine is out of order.
B The garage in town can patch it quickly.
C He would need to stop again and again.
D The rental company does not allow it.

3. What is likely true of the man?

A He has driven this same car for many years.
B He would like to spend the night in town.
C He expects the garage to open later today.
D He is not used to changing tires.

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 2 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/85**

4. What do they discover about the spare tire?

A It also has a screw in it.
B It has lost most of its air.
C It is the wrong size for the car.
D It is missing from the trunk.

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5. What does the woman offer to do?

A



B



C



D



▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 3 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/85**

6. Why does the woman tell the man to read the sticker on the spare?

A to find the rental company's phone number
B to check whether the nuts are tight enough
C to see if the spare is the right size
D to warn him the spare is only temporary

7. Why is the man unwilling at first to delay his trip?

A He has already paid for a hotel.
B Someone is waiting for him tonight.
C He must return the car tomorrow.
D He thinks the call will cost too much.

8. What will the man probably do next?

A contact the rental company by phone
B drive on slowly to Revelstoke tonight
C wait in town for the garage to open
D buy a new tire at the gas station

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Part 2: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation

A Weekend in Montreal

▶ **Recording: Part 2. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/85**

9. What went wrong at the start of the woman's trip?

A Their hotel had lost the booking.
B They missed the comedy show.
C They reached Montreal hours late.
D Rain caused their train to be cancelled.

10. Why did the woman and her sister eat at the hotel?

A Their booking could not be changed.
B Her sister does not like French food.
C It was raining too hard to go out.
D They were trying to save money.

11. What can be inferred about the woman's sister?

A She booked the train tickets.
B She wanted to skip the comedy show.
C She did not enjoy the poutine.
D The underground city won her over.

12. Why does the man ask whether Montreal is hilly?

A He hopes to climb Mount Royal.
B He is thinking of his parents' needs.
C He wants to book a bike tour for them.
D He would rather take taxis.

13. What does the woman recommend about the train?

A riding in first class
B leaving a day early
C taking the morning train
D driving there instead

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Part 3: Listening for Information

Fitness Classes for Seniors

▶ **Recording: Part 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/85**

14. Why is the woman calling?

A to sign herself up for a pool class
B to find exercise options for her father
C to book physiotherapy after surgery
D to arrange transportation for a senior citizen

15. What did the woman wrongly assume about Aqua Fit?

A that it costs more than the chair class
B that no lifeguard would be present
C that it is too hard on the joints
D that people must be able to swim

16. What is needed for Aqua Fit but not for the chair class?

A a doctor's approval
B a completed health form
C a seniors' transit card
D a ten-visit pass

17. How could the woman's father get to the centre?

A His daughter could drive him after work.
B A volunteer driver could pick him up at home.
C He could reserve a free ride in advance.
D He could buy a shuttle pass at the desk.

18. Why does the woman ask for an earlier trial class?

A She fears he will talk himself out of it.
B The Wednesday class is already full.
C His doctor wants him to start at once.
D She can only take Mondays off work.

19. What does the man mean when he says the father will be in good company?

A Some of his friends already attend.
B The instructor is very friendly.
C The group often socializes after class.
D Other newcomers have shared his fear.

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Part 4: Listening to a News Item

A Surprise Visitor at School

▶ **Recording: Part 4. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/85**

20. The passengers were

A teachers at the school.
B injured during the rough landing.
C marking a special occasion.
D learning to fly balloons.

21. The pilot landed at the school because

A his passengers wanted to see it.
B he needed a big clear spot quickly.
C his usual landing site was closed.
D the principal had invited him.

22. When the balloon came down, most students were

A playing on the soccer field.
B on their way to Agassiz.
C gathered in the gym.
D inside their classrooms.

23. Principal Karen Liu's first reaction was

A concern.
B delight.
C admiration.
D annoyance.

24. It can be inferred that the students

A were frightened by the balloon.
B enjoyed the unexpected visit.
C went for a ride in the balloon.
D missed their morning recess.

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Part 5: Listening to a Discussion

A Meeting at the Dog Daycare

▶ **Recording: Part 5. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/85**

25. What is the main purpose of the discussion?

A to change how holiday stays are handled
B to plan a holiday party for the staff
C to deal with a customer complaint
D to choose a bigger space for the business

26. Why does Tina mention her sister?

A to suggest a vet who could check the dogs
B to recommend the place on Fraser Street
C to justify turning some owners away
D to show that January is their busiest month

27. What is Alice's view of a non-refundable deposit?

A It is too small to matter.
B It is unfair if travel plans fall through.
C It would only scare away new customers.
D It should apply only to regulars.

28. Why does Alice object to a trial day for new dogs?

A The staff are too busy in December.
B New dogs often get sick on trial days.
C It would cost owners too much money.
D Owners may book with a competitor.

29. What problem with last year's vaccine records does Roberto describe?

A Owners refused to send any.
B The vet clinic would not release them.
C They were lost after being emailed.
D Many could not be properly checked.

30. Why does Roberto reject Alice's suggestion of twenty dogs?

A He fears overcrowding would happen again.
B He wants space for more of the regulars.
C He thinks twenty dogs is too few.
D He doesn't want to sleep at the daycare again.

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31. What is still undecided at the end of the discussion?

A whether vets must send records directly

B whether to ask owners for a deposit

C whether to pay for extra night staff

D whether new dogs need a trial day first

32. What is the best subject line for the message Tina will write?

A Holiday boarding cancelled this year

B Draft: new holiday boarding rules

C Hiring a groomer for December

D Complaint about a beagle's owner

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Part 6: Listening to Viewpoints

Public Washrooms in Cities

▶ **Recording: Part 6. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/85**

33. The main theme of the report is

A the rising cost of keeping public washrooms clean.
B how vandalism has forced public washrooms to close.
C how best to provide washrooms for the public.
D why shop owners keep their washrooms for customers.

34. Miriam Okafor believes that a shortage of washrooms

A narrows the daily lives of some people.
B is mainly a problem for tourists.
C is the fault of careless shop owners.
D affects young adults more than anyone else.

35. Councillor Marchetti's main concern is

A whether residents really need more washrooms.
B that shop owners would refuse a fee.
C that seniors would not use the facilities.
D the ongoing expense of new facilities.

36. Marchetti's remark about ribbon-cutting photographs suggests that

A opening ceremonies cost far too much.
B support may not outlast the opening.
C the media ignored his pilot project.
D Okafor is mainly seeking publicity.

37. Okafor uses the vandalized kiosk to argue that

A it failed because no one looked after it.
B kiosks belong only in safe neighbourhoods.
C Marchetti exaggerated the damage.
D businesses are better at stopping vandalism.

38. The speaker most likely believes that

A the current situation is good enough.
B Marchetti's plan would cost the most.
C businesses should solve the problem alone.
D a lack of toilets shuts some people out.

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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 Flat Tire on the Way to Revelstoke

1 B One of his tires has a leak.

2 C He would need to stop again and again.

3 D He is not used to changing tires.

4 B It has lost most of its air.

5 D Picture D

6 D to warn him the spare is only temporary

7 B Someone is waiting for him tonight.

8 A contact the rental company by phone

Part 2: A Weekend in Montreal

9 C They reached Montreal hours late.

10 A Their booking could not be changed.

11 D The underground city won her over.

12 B He is thinking of his parents' needs.

13 C taking the morning train

Part 3: Fitness Classes for Seniors

14 B to find exercise options for her father

15 D that people must be able to swim

16 A a doctor's approval

17 C He could reserve a free ride in advance.

18 A She fears he will talk himself out of it.

19 D Other newcomers have shared his fear.

Part 4: A Surprise Visitor at School

20 C marking a special occasion.

21 B he needed a big clear spot quickly.

22 D inside their classrooms.

23 A concern.

24 B enjoyed the unexpected visit.

Part 5: A Meeting at the Dog Daycare

25 A to change how holiday stays are handled

26 C to justify turning some owners away

27 B It is unfair if travel plans fall through.

28 D Owners may book with a competitor.

29 D Many could not be properly checked.

30 A He fears overcrowding would happen again.

31 C whether to pay for extra night staff

32 B Draft: new holiday boarding rules

Part 6: Public Washrooms in Cities

33 C how best to provide washrooms for the public.

34 A narrows the daily lives of some people.

35 D the ongoing expense of new facilities.

36 B support may not outlast the opening.

37 A it failed because no one looked after it.

38 D a lack of toilets shuts some people out.

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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 Flat Tire on the Way to Revelstoke

Section 1

MAN: Excuse me, sorry to bother you. Do you, um, do you fix tires here? A warning light came on about twenty minutes ago, and the back tire on the driver's side looks pretty flat.

WOMAN: We don't do repairs, I'm afraid. But let me take a look. Which car is it?

MAN: The grey one at pump four. It's a rental, actually. I picked it up in Kelowna this morning.

WOMAN: Okay, yeah, see this? There's a screw stuck in the tread. That's your leak. It's going down slowly, but it's going down.

MAN: Can't I just fill it up and keep going? I'm supposed to be in Revelstoke tonight.

WOMAN: You could, but I wouldn't. With a screw in it, you'd be stopping every half hour, and on the highway after dark… The garage in town would patch it in ten minutes, but they're closed Sundays.

MAN: Of course they are.

WOMAN: Your best bet is the spare. Most rentals have one under the floor of the trunk. Have you ever changed a tire?

MAN: Once, about twenty years ago. With my dad doing most of the work.

WOMAN: Well, my co-worker's back from his break in ten minutes. Once he's on the till, I can come out and give you a hand.

Section 2

WOMAN: Okay, trunk's open. Lift that panel… there it is. Oh, hmm.

MAN: What, it's there, isn't it?

WOMAN: It's there, but press on it. Feel that? It's almost as soft as the one with the screw.

MAN: You've got to be kidding me. So both of them are—

WOMAN: Don't panic, the spare's not damaged. It's just been sitting in there for who knows how long, and they lose air over time. We'll fill it at the machine first. It only takes coins, though.

MAN: I don't think I have any. I've only got my card.

WOMAN: Don't worry about it, I've got some loonies in the till. Grab the jack and the wrench while I go get them.

MAN: Okay, thanks. Seriously.

Section 3

WOMAN: There, now tighten that last nut a bit more… good. You're all set.

MAN: I can't believe I actually did that. Okay, so Revelstoke's what, two hours from here?

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WOMAN: About that, on a normal tire. But read the sticker on that spare. Eighty kilometres an hour, max. It's only meant to get you to a garage, not over a mountain pass at night.

MAN: Right, but the garage here is closed till tomorrow, you said.

WOMAN: Eight o'clock Monday morning. Honestly, if it were me, I'd phone the rental company. There's usually a number on the key tag. They might bring you another car, or at least cover the repair.

MAN: Hmm, my sister's expecting me for dinner, though. She's already made a reservation…

WOMAN: Then call her too. Better a dinner tomorrow than standing on the shoulder of the highway in the dark.

MAN: Yeah, okay, you're right. Where's that key tag… Do you mind if I use your counter to write down whatever they tell me?

WOMAN: Go ahead. Take all the time you need.

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Part 2: A Weekend in Montreal

MAN: So, how was Montreal? You said you'd send pictures, and I got exactly one. Of a bagel.

WOMAN: Ha, sorry. That bagel deserved its own photo, though. Honestly, it was great, but not really the weekend I'd planned. We booked the train to save money, and it got held up outside Kingston for almost three hours. Something about a freight train ahead of us. So instead of arriving Friday at dinnertime, we rolled in close to midnight.

MAN: Oh no, so you missed the show? Weren't you going to that comedy festival thing?

WOMAN: No, no, that was Saturday night, we made that. What we missed was dinner. My sister had booked this little French place in Old Montreal months ago, and they wouldn't move the reservation. So we ended up eating poutine out of a box at the hotel.

MAN: Honestly, that sounds kind of like a win.

WOMAN: It was, actually. Anyway, Saturday it poured, so we gave up on the bike tour and did the underground city instead. You can walk for, like, kilometres between shops and metro stations without ever going outside. My sister was skeptical, she hates malls, but she ended up buying a coat.

MAN: Huh, I'm thinking of taking my parents there in the fall. They're not exactly… big walkers anymore, though. Is it hilly?

WOMAN: Parts of it, yeah. Mount Royal is a real climb, but you don't have to do that. And if you take the train, don't do what we did. Book the—

MAN: —first class?

WOMAN: Ha, no. I was going to say the earlier departure. The morning one's usually on time, apparently. And get a hotel near a metro station. Taxis add up fast.

MAN: Good to know. Did you try speaking French at all?

WOMAN: I tried! Everyone switched to English the second I opened my mouth. Next time I'm practising before I go.

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Part 3: Fitness Classes for Seniors

MAN: Good morning, Westbrook Recreation Centre, this is Jordan. How can I help you?

WOMAN: Hi, yes, I'm calling about your seniors' fitness classes. It's for my father, actually. He's seventy-eight, and his doctor has been after him to get moving since his hip surgery last spring. He's, well, he's not thrilled about it.

MAN: That's pretty common, honestly. We've got two options for seniors. There's Strong and Steady, which is a chair-based class, mostly balance and light weights. And then there's Aqua Fit in the pool, which is a bit more of a workout but very easy on the joints.

WOMAN: The pool one sounds good, but he hasn't been in a pool in, oh, thirty years. I'm guessing he'd have to know how to swim, though.

MAN: Not at all. It's in the shallow end, the water's about waist height, and there's a lifeguard on deck the whole time. Plenty of our participants don't swim. That said, after a recent hip surgery, we do ask for a note from the doctor before anyone starts in the water.

WOMAN: Okay, and the chair class, would he need a note for that too?

MAN: No, for that one he just fills out a health form on the first day. It runs Mondays and Wednesdays at ten-thirty, and it's $4 a class, or $35 for a ten-visit pass.

WOMAN: Oh, that's reasonable. The thing is, he doesn't drive anymore, and I work until five. Is there any way he could—

MAN: —get here on his own? Actually, yes. The city runs a community shuttle for seniors, and it stops right out front. He'd have to book it a day ahead by phone, but it's free with a seniors' transit card.

WOMAN: He has one of those somewhere. Probably in a drawer next to his bathing suit. Okay, I think the chair class is the place to start. He'd never admit it, but he's scared of falling again.

MAN: Then he'll be in good company. Half the group says the same thing on the first day. Why don't I put his name down for a free trial class next Wednesday? If he likes it, he can buy the pass then.

WOMAN: Is there anything sooner? If he has a whole week to think about it, he'll come up with ten reasons not to go.

MAN: Let me look… there's a spot this Monday.

WOMAN: Perfect, Monday it is. His name is Frank Dubois.

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Part 4: A Surprise Visitor at School

NARRATOR: Students at a Chilliwack elementary school got an unexpected science lesson on Tuesday morning when a hot air balloon touched down in the middle of their soccer field. The balloon, carrying a pilot and three passengers, had lifted off from a farm near Agassiz shortly after sunrise. Pilot Doug Ferreira says the winds shifted unexpectedly about forty minutes into the flight, pushing the balloon away from his usual landing sites and toward residential neighbourhoods. Running low on fuel, he chose the school field because it was the largest open space he could see. Recess had not yet begun, so the field was empty, but dozens of youngsters pressed against classroom windows to watch. Principal Karen Liu admits her first reaction was alarm, but says the crew handled everything calmly and professionally. Once the balloon was safely packed away, Ferreira volunteered to answer questions in the gym, explaining how heated air keeps a balloon aloft. Nobody was injured, and the only damage was a few tire ruts in the grass. The passengers, who had purchased the flight as an anniversary gift, were driven back to Agassiz by the ground crew. Liu says the students have already asked whether the balloon can come back next year.

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Part 5: A Meeting at the Dog Daycare

Tina: Okay, holiday bookings open Monday, so we need to decide what's changing from last year. Because last year was… a lot.

Roberto: A lot? We had twenty-six dogs in a space meant for eighteen. I was sleeping on the floor next to a husky who howled every time the furnace came on.

Alice: And three families never showed up, remember? We turned away regulars to hold those spots, and then nothing. Not even a phone call.

Tina: Right, so a deposit. Fifty dollars, non-refundable?

Alice: Non-refundable feels harsh. What if someone's flight gets cancelled? I'd say refundable up to a week before.

Roberto: Fine by me. But honestly, the no-shows weren't the real problem. The new dogs were. We had dogs we'd never met staying four or five nights, and half of them had never been away from home.

Tina: The beagle.

Roberto: The beagle. Who ate an entire bag of— never mind. My point is, any dog that hasn't been here before should come in for at least one day of regular daycare first.

Alice: In December? Everyone books at the last minute. If we tell them to come for a trial day first, they'll just go to the place on Fraser Street.

Tina: Maybe that's okay, though. My sister works at a vet clinic, and she says January is when they see all the dogs that came home from boarding with kennel cough. I'd rather lose a few bookings than be that place.

Alice: Okay, so we're talking about vaccines too. We already ask for records.

Roberto: We ask. Half of last year's were emailed photos of a sticker. I couldn't read a single date.

Alice: Fair enough. So proof straight from the vet, and a trial day for new dogs. And a cap. What, twenty?

Roberto: Eighteen, that's what the room actually holds. Last year it was just a couple more, then just a couple more, and we ended up at twenty-six.

Tina: Eighteen means turning away regulars again, though. Unless we add a second person overnight?

Alice: Who would that be? Everyone wants Christmas off. I'm already working the twenty-fourth.

Roberto: I could do it if the holiday rate covered time and a half. Which it would, if we charged a bit more over the actual holidays.

Tina: Owners will grumble about a price increase.

Alice: They'll grumble less than they did when their dog came home coughing.

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Tina: Hmm, well, I'd need to run the numbers before I promise anyone time and a half. Let me write up the new rules tonight, and…

Roberto: And by the way, the beagle's owner already called. He wants six nights.

Alice: Of course he does.

Part 6: Public Washrooms in Cities

NARRATOR: Anyone who has hunted for a washroom in a Canadian downtown knows the predicament. The coffee shop restricts its facilities to paying customers, the library has closed for the evening, and the nearest public option is a locked, graffiti-covered kiosk. Advocates argue that this scarcity is not a trivial inconvenience but a quiet barrier to public life, one that falls hardest on seniors, parents with toddlers, delivery drivers and people without housing. Several municipalities are now debating whether to invest substantially in freestanding public washrooms, and the conversation has proven surprisingly heated.

NARRATOR: Urban planner Miriam Okafor contends that washrooms belong in the same category as sidewalks and streetlights: basic infrastructure that a city simply owes the people who use it. She points to research suggesting that many older adults limit how far they travel, or drink less water before leaving home, because they cannot count on finding a toilet. In her view, every closed door quietly shrinks someone's world. Okafor also dismisses the notion that businesses should shoulder the responsibility. Shop owners, she notes, never volunteered to be the city's plumbing, and a patchwork of customers-only policies simply pushes the problem onto whoever happens to be most desperate.

NARRATOR: Councillor Stephen Marchetti doesn't quarrel with the need, but he is decidedly sceptical of the price tag. A single staffed, accessible washroom, he points out, can cost upwards of half a million dollars to build, and considerably more to clean, repair and secure each year. Marchetti recalls a pilot project in his own ward where an unattended kiosk was vandalized so frequently that it spent more weeks closed than open. Rather than scattering expensive buildings across downtown, he favours paying nearby businesses a modest annual fee to keep their washrooms open to everyone.

NARRATOR: Okafor counters that the vandalized kiosk illustrates her argument rather than his: a facility nobody maintains will inevitably fail, which is why attendants must be part of the budget from the outset. Marchetti, for his part, worries that taxpayers will balk at the cost once the ribbon-cutting photographs have faded. Still, the two agree on more than their rhetoric suggests. Neither considers the status quo acceptable; they differ chiefly on who should hold the keys. And whichever model prevails, a city that cannot offer its residents somewhere to go can hardly claim to be welcoming.

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