CELPIP Listening Practice Test 87

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/87 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/87 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 Mix-Up at the Sushi Counter

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 1 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/87**

1. What is the woman's problem?

A She was given too many soups.
B The kitchen put fish in her vegetarian set.
C She took home someone else's food.
D She left part of her order at the counter.

2. Why did the mix-up happen?

A The woman gave the wrong phone number.
B Another customer had the same name.
C The kitchen had run out of vegetarian rolls.
D The woman came before her order was ready.

3. How does the woman respond to the man's offer?

A She asks for her money back instead.
B She asks him to have it delivered.
C She agrees only if it takes fifteen minutes.
D She accepts it, though not happily.

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 2 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/87**

4. What happened when the man tried to reach the other customer?

A Nobody picked up.
B The customer was already on the way back.
C The number on the receipt was not in service.
D The customer asked the restaurant to keep the food.

5. What does the man do about the woman's bill?

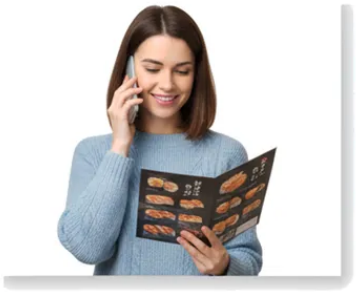
A He charges her only for the soups.
B He refunds her whole order.
C He adds the cost of the rolls to it.
D He takes part of the cost off.

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 3 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/87**

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6. How did the other customer get in touch with the woman?

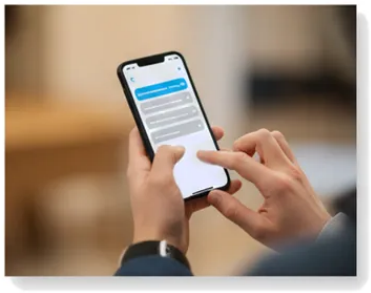
A



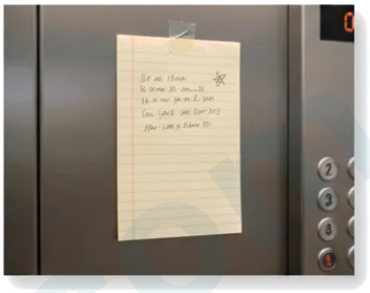
B



C



D



7. Who is the salmon roll most likely for?

A the woman's sister

B the neighbour from downstairs

C the woman's roommate

D a friend from the woman's work

8. What will the woman probably do next?

A stay close by until her order is ready

B go home and come back in about ten minutes

C change her order to two salmon rolls

D visit her neighbour two floors down

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Part 2: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation

Planning a First Cruise

▶ **Recording: Part 2. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/87**

9. What does the man remind the woman about?

A She once missed the ferry to Victoria.
B She has felt sick on a boat before.
C She dislikes being away from home for long.
D She has never travelled outside Canada.

10. According to the woman, what is the main advantage of a cruise?

A The food is available at any hour.
B The ships hardly move at all.
C Tips for the crew are included.
D She won't have to keep packing up her things.

11. What does the woman say about the price shown online?

A It leaves out many added costs.
B It already includes the shore tours.
C It went up after they had booked.
D It is a third lower than other cruise lines.

12. Why is the woman willing to pay for the glacier trip?

A Raj insisted on seeing a glacier.
B It costs less than she expected.
C She may never get another chance like it.
D The towns are not worth exploring on foot.

13. What can be inferred about the man?

A He has been on a cruise with his parents.
B He might take a cruise himself.
C He thinks the woman is wasting her money.
D He would rather visit the Caribbean.

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Part 3: Listening for Information

Calling About a Used SUV

▶ **Recording: Part 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/87**

14. Why is the woman calling?

A to put a deposit on a used SUV
B to ask whether the price on the website is firm
C to arrange to try a vehicle she saw online
D to sell her family's current car

15. Why does the man say there is no need to come in today?

A No one has reserved the SUV yet.
B Few buyers have shown any interest in it.
C He is busy until Thursday.
D The SUV is being cleaned today.

16. Why does the man suggest a weekday evening?

A The dealership is closed on weekends.
B Evening test drives last longer.
C Weekday test drives can include the highway.
D A Saturday time can't be booked ahead.

17. Why does the man offer a longer route?

A The woman asked to drive on the highway.
B It would show how the SUV handles a commute.
C The usual neighbourhood route is closed for repairs.
D The children will be coming along.

18. What can be inferred about the woman's family?

A They plan to bring the children on the test drive.
B The husband has a short drive to work.
C They need more room in the back seat.
D They want to trade in their car at this dealership.

19. What will the woman probably do next?

A give her name and phone number
B send a copy of her insurance
C try to agree on a price
D visit the lot this afternoon

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Part 4: Listening to a News Item

Winter Vegetables in Whitehorse

▶ **Recording: Part 4. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/87**

20. The greenhouse project began because

A a local mining company wanted to fund a school garden.
B the cafeteria's lettuce often arrived in poor shape.
C students hoped to study agriculture.
D the school's furnace was wasting heat.

21. The greenhouse is kept warm by

A LED lights.
B a heater paid for by the grant.
C the sun on short winter days.
D surplus heat from the school.

22. Kowalski sees the power failure as

A a valuable learning experience.
B a sign the project was too ambitious.
C the students' own fault.
D a reason to buy a generator.

23. We can infer that the project

A now supplies all of the food in the school cafeteria.
B has never faced a serious setback.
C has attracted interest beyond its own school.
D is run by the science teacher alone.

24. Most fresh vegetables in Whitehorse

A are grown in local greenhouses.
B travel a long way to get there.
C arrive within a day of picking.
D come from farms in the Yukon.

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Part 5: Listening to a Discussion

A Bakery Owners' Meeting

▶ **Recording: Part 5. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/87**

25. What are the owners mainly trying to decide?

A whether to buy new ovens
B how to shorten the bakery's hours
C whether to sell the original shop
D where their next shop should be

26. What is Linda's main objection to the downtown space?

A Customers would come only at certain times.
B It is too far from the current bakery.
C The coffee shop next door would compete with them.
D Its landlord insists on a long lease.

27. Why does Bonnie mention her father?

A to warn that a new shop often struggles in its first years
B to suggest asking him for advice
C to show that being first in a new area can pay off
D to explain why the first shop is so small

28. What had Linda expected about the second shop?

A It would need a kitchen of its own.
B Its goods would be baked at the current bakery.
C It would sell only croissants.
D It would open in the spring.

29. According to Emmanuel, what is the problem with the ovens?

A They are too old to rely on.
B They don't bake croissants evenly.
C They would be too large to fit in the new shop.
D They can't produce any more than they do now.

30. What can be inferred about the Front Street landlord?

A He is probably keen to fill the space.
B He has offered them a one-year lease.
C He also owns the coffee shop next door.
D He has given them until spring to decide.

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31. How does Linda feel at the end of the discussion?

A relieved that a choice has been made

B excited about the downtown space

C still unconvinced by either option

D annoyed that Bonnie will speak to the landlord

32. What is the best subject line for Bonnie's message to the Front Street landlord?

A Accepting your five-year offer

B Could we discuss a shorter lease?

C Cedar Hollow rental figures

D Cancelling our interest in Front Street

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Part 6: Listening to Viewpoints

Rethinking the School Year

▶ **Recording: Part 6. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/87**

33. The main theme of the report is

A how much students forget over the summer.
B the history of the long summer holiday.
C whether spreading school breaks across the year makes sense.
D how a year-round calendar would affect teen summer jobs.

34. Priya Sandhu suggests that the summer slide

A can be prevented by assigning more summer homework.
B is hardest on students with fewer resources.
C affects teachers more than students.
D has been exaggerated by researchers.

35. When Greg Tremblay calls the proposal a solution in search of a problem, he means that

A the plan has not been explained clearly.
B schools need more funding, not a new calendar.
C families should be allowed to choose their calendar.
D the long summer break is not truly harmful.

36. Tremblay's reply to Sandhu's idea of a gradual change suggests that he

A thinks it would worsen a concern he raised earlier.
B would accept it as long as it began in his own town.
C believes it would cost districts too much.
D agrees it would protect teenagers' jobs.

37. Seasonal employers are mentioned to show that

A resorts struggle to find workers in winter.
B schools should work more closely with local businesses in summer.
C scattered breaks could cost teens their summer income.
D tree planting is a popular career for graduates.

38. In the closing remarks, the speaker suggests that

A the research clearly supports Tremblay.
B farming families still rely on a long summer.
C the change should happen district by district.
D nostalgia may be the biggest obstacle to reform.

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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 Mix-Up at the Sushi Counter

1 C She took home someone else's food.

2 B Another customer had the same name.

3 D She accepts it, though not happily.

4 A Nobody picked up.

5 D He takes part of the cost off.

6 B Picture B

7 C the woman's roommate

8 A stay close by until her order is ready

Part 2: Planning a First Cruise

9 B She has felt sick on a boat before.

10 D She won't have to keep packing up her things.

11 A It leaves out many added costs.

12 C She may never get another chance like it.

13 B He might take a cruise himself.

Part 3: Calling About a Used SUV

14 C to arrange to try a vehicle she saw online

15 A No one has reserved the SUV yet.

16 D A Saturday time can't be booked ahead.

17 B It would show how the SUV handles a commute.

18 C They need more room in the back seat.

19 A give her name and phone number

Part 4: Winter Vegetables in Whitehorse

20 B the cafeteria's lettuce often arrived in poor shape.

21 D surplus heat from the school.

22 A a valuable learning experience.

23 C has attracted interest beyond its own school.

24 B travel a long way to get there.

Part 5: A Bakery Owners' Meeting

25 D where their next shop should be

26 A Customers would come only at certain times.

27 C to show that being first in a new area can pay off

28 B Its goods would be baked at the current bakery.

29 D They can't produce any more than they do now.

30 A He is probably keen to fill the space.

31 C still unconvinced by either option

32 B Could we discuss a shorter lease?

Part 6: Rethinking the School Year

33 C whether spreading school breaks across the year makes sense.

34 B is hardest on students with fewer resources.

35 D the long summer break is not truly harmful.

36 A thinks it would worsen a concern he raised earlier.

37 C scattered breaks could cost teens their summer income.

38 D nostalgia may be the biggest obstacle to reform.

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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 Mix-Up at the Sushi Counter

Section 1

MAN: Hi there, welcome back. Did you forget something?

WOMAN: Sort of. I picked up an order here maybe twenty minutes ago, under Kim? I got all the way home and opened the bag, and—

MAN: Was it the soups? They get left behind sometimes, sorry about—

WOMAN: No, no, it's not the soups. It's the whole thing. There's a big platter of salmon and tuna rolls in here, and I ordered the vegetarian set and two miso soups.

MAN: Oh no. Can I see the receipt on the bag?

WOMAN: Here, see, it says Kim, but that phone number isn't mine.

MAN: Right, okay, I see what happened. We had two orders for Kim tonight. So the other Kim must have walked out with yours.

WOMAN: Great, and my sister's waiting at home. She doesn't eat fish at all, so this is no use to her.

MAN: I'm really sorry. The quickest thing is for the kitchen to make your order again right now. It'll be fifteen, maybe twenty minutes.

WOMAN: Twenty minutes. Well, I guess I don't have much choice. Should I leave this bag with you?

MAN: Yes, please. The other customer might come back for it, so I'll hang on to it for now.

Section 2

WOMAN: Any luck? It's been almost fifteen minutes.

MAN: Good news and bad news. Your order's being packed right now. But I tried the number on that other receipt, and it went straight to voicemail. Twice.

WOMAN: So somebody's probably sitting at home, wondering why their dinner is all vegetables.

MAN: Probably, yeah. Oh, and I've taken the soups off your bill, for the trouble.

WOMAN: Oh, you didn't have to— well, thank you. That's kind.

MAN: If the other customer does come back, the kitchen will make them a fresh platter anyway. These rolls won't keep until tomorrow. So my manager says you should take them.

WOMAN: Oh, really? My sister won't touch them, but my roommate's going to be thrilled.

Section 3

MAN: Hey, the vegetarian set! Welcome back. You'll be glad to hear we've changed how pickups work. Every order gets a number now, and we check the last four digits of your phone before anything leaves the counter.

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WOMAN: Good, and I meant to tell you, the other Kim found me. Turns out she lives two floors down in my building. She'd seen me in the elevator that night with a bag from here, and she knocked on my door the next morning.

MAN: No way. So she really did end up with your vegetables.

WOMAN: She did, and she said it was the best thing she'd eaten all week. Apparently she's thinking of going vegetarian now.

MAN: Well, there you go. So, the same as last time?

WOMAN: Actually, two vegetarian sets tonight, and, um, one salmon roll. My roommate hasn't stopped talking about those rolls.

MAN: About ten minutes. Your number is forty-two, so listen for that.

WOMAN: Forty-two, got it. I'll just wait over there, then. I'm not letting that bag out of my sight this time.

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Part 2: Planning a First Cruise

WOMAN: So, guess what Raj and I finally booked for our anniversary? A cruise. Seven nights, Vancouver up to Alaska and back.

MAN: No way. You? You get seasick on the ferry to Victoria. I still remember you spending the whole crossing with your head between your knees.

WOMAN: That was one time, and it was a really windy day! Anyway, the travel agent says those big ships hardly move at all, and most of the route goes through the Inside Passage, which is sheltered from the open ocean. I'm bringing pills, just in case.

MAN: Fair enough. Honestly, I've always been a bit curious about cruises myself. My parents did one in the Caribbean last winter, and all my mom talked about afterwards was the food. Apparently there's a buffet open basically around the clock.

WOMAN: That's exactly what worries Raj, actually. He's convinced he'll come home ten pounds heavier. But for me, the big draw is that you unpack once. Every morning you wake up somewhere new, and you never have to drag a suitcase through an airport.

MAN: So what's the catch? There's always a catch.

WOMAN: Well, the price on the website isn't really the price. Drinks are extra, the tours on shore are extra, the Wi-Fi is extra, and they automatically add tips for the crew to your bill every day. By the time I added it all up, it was almost a third more than we'd planned.

MAN: A third? Ouch. Couldn't you skip the tours and just walk around the towns on your own?

WOMAN: In some places, sure. But the one thing I really want is to see a glacier up close, and the only way to get out there is on a small boat, and that's—

MAN: —extra. Let me guess.

WOMAN: Two hundred dollars each. But I figure, when else am I going to do this? So I'm cutting back on other things. No spa, and Raj has agreed to one coffee a day from the café on board.

MAN: Poor Raj. Well, send me pictures of that glacier. And if you come back raving about it, well… my wife's birthday is in March.

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Part 3: Calling About a Used SUV

MAN: Good morning, Riverbend Motors, Paul speaking.

WOMAN: Hi, Paul. Um, I was on your website last night, and there's a used hybrid SUV, a grey 2022 with about forty thousand kilometres on it? I'd like to take it out for a drive this week, if it's still there.

MAN: Let me just pull it up… the grey one with the roof rack?

WOMAN: Uh, I don't remember a roof rack. The listing just said grey, 2022, hybrid.

MAN: Oh, sorry, that's the other one. Grey 2022 hybrid… yes, here it is, no rack. It's still on the lot. Although I'll be honest, we've had a lot of interest. Two people have asked about it since yesterday.

WOMAN: Oh, so should I come in today, then?

MAN: That's up to you, but nobody's put down a deposit, so it's not going anywhere just yet. What day were you thinking?

WOMAN: Saturday would be ideal. My husband works weekdays, and he'll be the one driving it most of the time. He's got a long commute out to Airdrie every day.

MAN: Saturday's tricky. We're open, but it's our busiest day, and test drives are first come, first served. If you want a guaranteed spot, I can book you in for a weekday evening. We're open until eight, Tuesday to Thursday.

WOMAN: Hmm, he usually gets home around six-thirty. Thursday at seven, maybe?

MAN: Thursday at seven works. Now, a test drive's normally about twenty minutes around the neighbourhood, but I can give you a longer route that includes the highway. Since your husband commutes, that might be worth it.

WOMAN: Yes, definitely. Oh, and we've got two kids in car seats. Could we bring the seats along and check they fit in the back? In our car right now, the little one's feet kick the front seat the whole way.

MAN: Absolutely, people do that all the time. Bring the kids too, if you like, though some parents find it easier to—

WOMAN: —leave them with grandma. Yes, I think we'll do that.

MAN: Probably wise. The only things I'll need on Thursday are a valid driver's licence for whoever's driving, and proof of insurance. We make a copy before anyone gets behind the wheel.

WOMAN: That's fine. And, sorry, one more thing. Is the price on the website firm? It said $31,000.

MAN: That's the listed price. I can't promise anything over the phone, but once you've driven it, we can sit down and talk numbers. Now, can I get a name and number for the booking?

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Part 4: Winter Vegetables in Whitehorse

NARRATOR: Students at a Whitehorse high school are enjoying fresh salad in January, thanks to a greenhouse that keeps producing vegetables all winter. In a city where temperatures can drop below minus thirty and daylight shrinks to about six hours, most fresh produce is trucked in from the south, a journey that can take several days. The project began three years ago, when science teacher Dana Kowalski noticed that the cafeteria's lettuce was frequently wilted by the time it arrived. With a grant from a local mining company, students built an insulated greenhouse beside the gym. Leftover heat from the school's furnace keeps it warm, and LED lights make up for the short days. Each class takes turns planting, watering and recording temperatures. The greenhouse now supplies spinach, kale, herbs and cherry tomatoes to the cafeteria three times a week. Not everything has gone smoothly. During the first winter, a power failure froze nearly the entire crop overnight, and students had to start again from scratch. Kowalski says that setback taught them more than any textbook could. Several other Yukon schools have since asked for help designing their own greenhouses, and two graduating students now plan to study agriculture.

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Part 5: A Bakery Owners' Meeting

Bonnie: Okay, the landlord on Front Street wants an answer by Monday, so we can't keep putting this off. Are we taking that downtown spot or not?

Emmanuel: I walked past it again at lunch yesterday. The lineup at the coffee place next door went right out the door. That's a few hundred office workers every morning who've never heard of us.

Linda: Every weekday morning. And then what? Those towers are empty by six, and on weekends you could roll a bowling ball down that street. We'd be paying downtown rent for, what, twenty hours of real business a week?

Emmanuel: So we open at six-thirty and close at two. Fewer hours, smaller staff.

Linda: And the rent's still $6,000 a month whether we're open two hours or twelve.

Bonnie: Which is why I keep coming back to the place in Cedar Hollow, out on the east side. It's half that, it's got parking, and there's an elementary school right across the road.

Emmanuel: A brand-new development, though. Half those houses aren't even finished. We'd be betting on people who haven't moved in yet.

Bonnie: That's sort of the point. Get in first, before some chain does. When Dad opened the original shop, Wellington Street was mostly empty lots. Everyone told him he was crazy.

Linda: And for the first two years he was eating day-old bread for dinner. Mom still talks about it.

Bonnie: Okay, fair. But he outlasted every bakery that opened after him.

Emmanuel: Look, I'm not against the east side. I just think— what if the bigger problem is our ovens? We're already baking at full capacity. If the second shop needs its own kitchen, we're buying two of everything.

Linda: Wait, I thought the plan was to bake everything here and drive it over every morning?

Emmanuel: That's what I assumed too, until I checked. Cedar Hollow is twenty-five minutes each way in traffic. Croissants don't travel well. By the time they got there, they'd be flat.

Bonnie: Downtown's only ten minutes from here, though.

Emmanuel: Exactly my point.

Linda: Hmm, so downtown solves the baking, and Cedar Hollow solves the rent. Wonderful.

Bonnie: What if we asked the Front Street landlord for a shorter lease? One year instead of five. If the mornings are as busy as you think, great. If not, we haven't sunk everything into it.

Linda: He'll never go for one year.

Emmanuel: He might for two. That building's been sitting empty since spring.

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Bonnie: Then I'll ask him. But I want to see the Cedar Hollow numbers again before Monday, just in case.

Linda: I'll dig them out. Although, honestly, I'm still not sure either one is—

Emmanuel: —the right one. I know. We'll get there.

Part 6: Rethinking the School Year

NARRATOR: Every June, Canadian classrooms empty out for roughly ten weeks, a tradition so entrenched that few people think to question it. Yet the long summer break is something of a historical leftover, and a growing chorus of educators argues that it no longer serves today's families. Their alternative, often called a balanced or year-round calendar, keeps the same number of school days but redistributes them, replacing the marathon summer with a shorter break and several two- or three-week pauses spread across the year. Proponents insist the change is long overdue; skeptics counter that it would upend family life for questionable gains.

NARRATOR: Education researcher Priya Sandhu is among the model's most vocal proponents. She points to what teachers call the summer slide: over a ten-week holiday, students, particularly those whose families can't afford camps or tutoring, forget a considerable portion of what they learned. Teachers then spend much of September reviewing old material instead of moving forward. Shorter, more frequent breaks, Sandhu contends, would curb that backsliding and let exhausted students and staff recharge before burnout sets in. She also notes that school buildings sit largely unused for two months, which strikes her as an extravagant waste of public property.

NARRATOR: Not everyone is persuaded. Greg Tremblay, who chairs a parents' association in a mid-sized Ontario town, considers the proposal a solution in search of a problem. Summer, he argues, is when many teenagers earn money at seasonal jobs, from tree planting to lakeside resorts, and those employers can hardly reorganize around a scattered school timetable. He also worries about families with children in different schools, who might face mismatched calendars and a patchwork of childcare costs. Camps, swimming lessons and family reunions, he adds, are all built around July and August, and would hardly rearrange themselves. As for the summer slide, Tremblay maintains that the evidence is mixed, and that a summer spent at the cottage or a part-time job teaches lessons no classroom can.

NARRATOR: Sandhu counters that the calendar could be adopted gradually, district by district, so families aren't caught off guard. Tremblay remains skeptical, pointing out that a gradual rollout is precisely what would create those mismatched calendars in the first place. Still, both seem to agree that the current system was designed for a farming economy that has largely disappeared. The real question, perhaps, is not whether summer should change, but whether we're willing to give up a ritual that so many of us remember fondly.

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