CELPIP Listening Practice Test 96

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/96 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/96 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 Problem with a Rental

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 1 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/96**

1. What did the woman rent yesterday?

A



B



C



D



2. What does the man suggest about the employee who rented out the cleaner?

A He forgot to latch the tank before she left.

B He gave her a machine that had just been repaired.

C He was rude to her while loading her car.

D He left out something staff are expected to do.

3. What does the man's test show?

A One side of the latch had been left up.

B The tank had been filled too high.

C She had used the machine correctly.

D The leak was coming from the top tank.

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 2 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/96**

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4. Why can't the man settle the matter of the floor himself?

A The manager has gone home for the day.
B The store does not pay for damage at home.
C Someone more senior has to decide that.
D The floor must first be inspected in person.

5. Why does the man say the puddle isn't really the point?

A to suggest the leak was not as bad as she says
B to ease her worry about the missing photos
C to explain why the refund covers the cleaning
D to hint that her floor is almost certainly fine

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 3 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/96**

6. Why does the woman turn down the larger machine?

A It costs more than she wants to pay.
B It will not be ready for another twenty minutes.
C It is too big to fit in her car.
D It would be hard to move around her house.

7. Why does the woman ask for a note on her account?

A so she can be refunded for the cleaning solution
B so the fault is not blamed on her later
C so the manager will call her about the floor
D so the bigger model is held for her until Saturday

8. What will the woman probably do next?

A take the larger cleaner home with her
B email her photos to the store manager
C step out of the store and return shortly
D wait at the desk until the manager arrives

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Part 2: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation

Talking About Groceries

▶ **Recording: Part 2. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/96**

9. Why does the woman want to talk about groceries?

A Their even split no longer suits her routine.
B The man still owes her money from last month.
C She thinks Marco should start paying for food.
D The price of groceries has gone up sharply.

10. Why does the man mention Marco?

A to suggest that Marco should pay a share
B to point out that Marco buys groceries as well
C to admit that his visitor adds to the bill
D to explain why he cooks every evening

11. How does the woman feel about keeping their food separate?

A She thinks it would leave too little fridge space.
B She would agree to it for a short trial.
C She believes it would save them both money.
D She is firmly against it after a bad experience.

12. What is the man's first concern about the woman's plan?

A Marco would have to start paying too.
B Tracking every purchase would be tiresome.
C Twenty dollars a week would not cover her meals.
D Her work schedule changes too often to plan meals.

13. Why does the woman agree to pay for the coffee herself?

A The man hints that she uses far more of it.
B It is the most expensive item on the list.
C The man has stopped drinking coffee at home.
D She wants it in exchange for the salmon week.

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Part 3: Listening for Information

Calling a Tutoring Centre

▶ **Recording: Part 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/96**

14. Why is the man worried about his daughter?

A She has fallen behind her friend's son in class.
B A subject she was good at now upsets her.
C She wants to give up basketball to study more.
D She has stopped doing her homework at home.

15. According to the woman, why do strong students often have trouble with algebra?

A Their teachers move on before they are ready.
B They lose interest when the work seems easy.
C Their classes are too large to ask questions.
D They seldom had to show how they got answers.

16. Why does the woman suggest an assessment before group classes?

A The real gap may be in older material.
B The group classes are full for the next month.
C Private lessons cost less than group lessons.
D The man's friend found it useful for her son.

17. What does the woman say about the $60 fee?

A It is waived for families referred by friends.
B It is the same as one private hour.
C It is credited toward lessons if they enrol.
D It must be paid before the first visit.

18. What does the woman say most families do?

A move on to a less costly option later
B start their children in a small group
C choose sessions on Saturday mornings
D bring old report cards along to the first visit

19. What will the man probably do next?

A book the Saturday morning opening
B call the centre back after eight tonight
C sign his daughter up for a group class
D talk to his daughter before booking

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Part 4: Listening to a News Item

An Old Canoe in Kenora

▶ **Recording: Part 4. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/96**

20. The canoe reached the heritage society because

A a museum asked for it to be restored.
B a retired boatbuilder donated it to the society.
C its finders chose not to throw it away.
D the volunteers bought it from a collector.

21. The volunteers almost gave up because

A much of the frame could not be saved.
B they had nowhere suitable to work.
C their adviser in Thunder Bay withdrew.
D winter left them too little time.

22. We can infer that the volunteers wanted the canoe to

A look newer than it did when it was first built.
B keep as much of its first form as possible.
C be lighter than the original for paddling.
D carry the mark of its original builder.

23. Donna Kowalski would most likely be disappointed if the canoe

A were paddled by other volunteers.
B spent the winter indoors.
C were shown to the public.
D never left the museum again.

24. What remains uncertain about the canoe?

A who exactly built it
B how old it is
C where it will be kept this winter
D how far it was paddled

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Part 5: Listening to a Discussion

A Proposal for the Office

▶ **Recording: Part 5. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/96**

25. Why does Rafael want to bring a dog to work?

A His neighbour has asked him to look after her dog for a while.
B He thinks having a dog would help the firm win clients.
C The partners have asked staff for ideas to improve the office.
D A pet he is adopting would otherwise be home alone all day.

26. What is Harriet's first concern?

A She has never felt very comfortable around dogs.
B The dog might disturb visitors at key moments.
C A co-worker might react badly to the dog.
D The firm's lease forbids animals.

27. What do we learn about Owen?

A He would rather sit away from the dog.
B He reacts more strongly to dogs than to cats.
C He has not yet heard about Rafael's plan.
D He left the Christmas party because of a dog.

28. Why does Harriet mention the pet food company?

A to show that clients often find dogs distracting
B to propose pitching to that company again
C to suggest a dog could help win some clients
D to explain why the firm lost money in the spring

29. How does Stella react to Harriet's business case?

A She is irritated that it was raised.
B She is fully won over by it.
C She is confused about what it means.
D She is amused but not persuaded.

30. What does Harriet suggest about calling the plan a trial?

A It would be hard to undo once begun.
B It would have to be approved by the building.
C It should start with one day a week.
D It would cost too much to run properly.

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31. What does Rafael say about the building's rules?

A They allow small dogs but not large ones.

B They are not always strictly enforced.

C They were changed earlier this year.

D They apply only to ground-floor tenants.

32. What is the best subject line for a follow-up email after this discussion?

A Partners approve dog for the office

B Hiring a dog walker for Biscuit

C Office dog: check insurance first

D New lease rules for all tenants

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Part 6: Listening to Viewpoints

Charging for Carry-On Bags

▶ **Recording: Part 6. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/96**

33. The report is mainly about

A how discount airlines manage to keep their prices so low.
B whether a newer airline fee is fair to travellers.
C why boarding takes longer on discount flights.
D how European airlines influenced Canadian ones.

34. Lisa Barrett's main objection is that

A the fee is far higher than it is in Europe.
B cheap fares have made planes too crowded.
C families end up paying more than business travellers.
D the full price appears when backing out is hardest.

35. According to Gregory Tam, the old pricing model

A made light travellers cover part of others' costs.
B kept students and pensioners off long-distance flights.
C hid extra charges until the final screen.
D allowed only one bag per business traveller.

36. Why does Barrett mention the bulging personal item?

A to argue that personal items should be charged
B to advise travellers to pack less for flights
C to question one of the benefits Tam claims
D to show that most travellers pay the bag fee

37. What does Barrett concede?

A Boarding has become faster than it used to be.
B The fee system has helped some people travel.
C Airlines are right to hide the fee until the end.
D Banning the fee would hurt smaller airlines.

38. The speaker's attitude toward the fee itself is best described as

A open hostility.
B eager support.
C grudging acceptance.
D complete indifference.

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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 Problem with a Rental

1 B Picture B

2 D He left out something staff are expected to do.

3 C She had used the machine correctly.

4 C Someone more senior has to decide that.

5 B to ease her worry about the missing photos

6 D It would be hard to move around her house.

7 B so the fault is not blamed on her later

8 C step out of the store and return shortly

Part 2: Talking About Groceries

9 A Their even split no longer suits her routine.

10 C to admit that his visitor adds to the bill

11 D She is firmly against it after a bad experience.

12 B Tracking every purchase would be tiresome.

13 A The man hints that she uses far more of it.

Part 3: Calling a Tutoring Centre

14 B A subject she was good at now upsets her.

15 D They seldom had to show how they got answers.

16 A The real gap may be in older material.

17 C It is credited toward lessons if they enrol.

18 A move on to a less costly option later

19 D talk to his daughter before booking

Part 4: An Old Canoe in Kenora

20 C its finders chose not to throw it away.

21 A much of the frame could not be saved.

22 B keep as much of its first form as possible.

23 D never left the museum again.

24 A who exactly built it

Part 5: A Proposal for the Office

25 D A pet he is adopting would otherwise be home alone all day.

26 B The dog might disturb visitors at key moments.

27 A He would rather sit away from the dog.

28 C to suggest a dog could help win some clients

29 D She is amused but not persuaded.

30 A It would be hard to undo once begun.

31 B They are not always strictly enforced.

32 C Office dog: check insurance first

Part 6: Charging for Carry-On Bags

33 B whether a newer airline fee is fair to travellers.

34 D the full price appears when backing out is hardest.

35 A made light travellers cover part of others' costs.

36 C to question one of the benefits Tam claims

37 B The fee system has helped some people travel.

38 C grudging acceptance.

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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 Problem with a Rental

Section 1

MAN: Rental desk. What can I do for you?

WOMAN: Hi. I'm bringing this back. The carpet cleaner? I rented it yesterday and, well, it leaked all over my living room. The dirty water, too.

MAN: Oh no. Okay, let me have a look. Was it coming from the bottom, or from the tank up here?

WOMAN: From underneath, I think. When I moved it, there was this brown puddle right on my hardwood, next to the rug.

MAN: Hmm. See this latch? The tank has to click down on both sides. If one side's up, the dirty water seeps out the back.

WOMAN: I did click it. I mean, I'm pretty sure I did. The guy who rented it to me didn't show me anything. He just wheeled it out.

MAN: He… huh. We're supposed to run through it with every customer. Okay, let me run it here on the mat. There. See? It's dripping, and the latch is closed on both sides. The seal's cracked.

WOMAN: Well, that's a relief. Sort of.

MAN: I'm really sorry about your floor. Is it okay?

WOMAN: There's a spot that looks a little raised. I'm hoping it just needs to dry out.

Section 2

MAN: Okay, for the rental itself, I can refund the full $45 right now, and the cleaning solution too.

WOMAN: Thanks. And the floor? Because if it's warped, I can't just—

MAN: Right. That part I'm not allowed to decide. Anything like that goes to the store manager, and she's not in until four.

WOMAN: Four? I have to pick up my son at three-thirty.

MAN: You don't have to wait around. Take a few photos of the spot tonight, and again tomorrow once it's dried, and email them to her. I'll write the address on your receipt.

WOMAN: Photos. Ugh, I should've taken some before I mopped it all up.

MAN: Honestly, the puddle isn't really the point. What she'll want to see is whether the boards have lifted.

WOMAN: Okay. Good. And I've still got half the carpet to do. My in-laws are coming Saturday.

Section 3

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MAN: So, for the rest of your carpet, there's the bigger model. It's normally $65 a day, but you can have it for the small one's price.

WOMAN: The bigger one? My stairs are really narrow. I could barely get the small one up to the bedrooms.

MAN: Fair enough, it's a beast. The other small one came back this morning, but it's still being cleaned. Give me, uh, twenty minutes?

WOMAN: Twenty minutes I can do. But this time I want to see it run before I take it. On that mat, with the latch closed.

MAN: Absolutely. That's how it should've gone the first time.

WOMAN: Oh, and could you put a note on my account? I don't want someone next week deciding I broke the first one.

MAN: Already done. I wrote faulty seal, customer not responsible, right on the tag.

WOMAN: Perfect. Okay, there's a coffee place across the street. I'll be back in twenty.

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Part 2: Talking About Groceries

WOMAN: Hey, have you got a minute? I was going through my bank app last night and, um, I think we should talk about groceries.

MAN: Uh-oh. Did I forget to pay you back for something?

WOMAN: No, no, nothing like that. It's just, right now we split everything fifty-fifty, right? But since I switched to evening shifts at the hospital, I'm hardly ever here for dinner. I eat at work most nights. And this month I paid half of a $480 grocery bill.

MAN: Oh. Yeah, I hadn't really thought about that. I mean, I do cook most nights. And Marco's over a lot lately… he does put it away.

WOMAN: He does! Which is fine, I like Marco. I'm only saying half seems like a lot when I'm eating, what, a third of it? Maybe less.

MAN: Okay, that's fair. So what, we keep our food separate? Separate shelves in the fridge, names on everything?

WOMAN: Ugh, no. I lived like that in residence for two years. People stealing yogurt, little notes stuck on the milk… I'm not going back to that.

MAN: Ha. Okay, so…

WOMAN: What if we kept a shared list for the basics, you know, rice, cleaning stuff, toilet paper, coffee, and split those evenly? And dinners are yours, and I just chip in for the nights I'm actually home to eat.

MAN: Hmm. That sounds fair, but it also sounds like a lot of math. I'm not texting you a receipt every time I buy an onion.

WOMAN: You wouldn't have to. We just round it. Like, if I'm home for dinner twice a week, I give you twenty dollars a week toward food. Done.

MAN: Twenty a week? Honestly, that might be more than you'd owe, depending on what I make. Remember the salmon week?

WOMAN: The salmon week was a gift to us all. Okay, let's try it for a month, and if either of us feels short-changed, we'll sort it out.

MAN: Deal. Oh, but, the coffee. You drink, like, four cups a day. Is that really a basic?

WOMAN: Wow. Okay. Fine, the coffee's on me.

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Part 3: Calling a Tutoring Centre

WOMAN: Good afternoon, Northside Learning Centre, this is Joanne.

MAN: Hi, yes, um, I'm calling about math tutoring for my daughter. She's in grade 8. A friend of mine said her son came to you last year and his marks went up quite a bit.

WOMAN: Oh, that's nice to hear. Can you tell me a little about what's going on?

MAN: Sure. So, she's always been fine at math. Better than fine, actually. But this year they started algebra and something just isn't clicking. Her last test came back at fifty-two percent and she cried in the car. That's not like her at all.

WOMAN: That's really common in grade 8. A lot of strong students get caught off guard, because until now they could just see the answer in their heads. Suddenly they have to write out every step, and if one early idea is shaky, everything built on it wobbles.

MAN: Right. So I was thinking a couple of hours a week, group classes maybe? She's pretty social, she'd probably like being with other kids.

WOMAN: We do have small groups, four students at most. But honestly, with a gap like this, I'd usually start with an assessment. It's forty minutes, one on one, and it shows us exactly where things went off track. Sometimes it isn't even the algebra. It's fractions from two years ago.

MAN: Fractions. Hmm, that… actually might make sense. Is there a cost for that?

WOMAN: The assessment is $60, but if you sign up afterwards, it comes off your first month.

MAN: Okay. And the groups, how much are those?

WOMAN: Groups are $35 an hour, and private sessions are $55. Most families start private for a few weeks and then move her into a group once she's caught up.

MAN: I see. The thing is, she has basketball Mondays and Wednesdays after school, so—

WOMAN: That's fine, we're open until eight on weekdays, and Saturday mornings too.

MAN: Saturday might be easiest. Although she'll probably never forgive me.

WOMAN: Ha. You'd be surprised. A lot of kids end up liking it once the stress goes away. Oh, and if you could bring her last couple of tests, the marked ones, that helps the tutor a lot.

MAN: I'll dig them out. I think one's crumpled up at the bottom of her backpack.

WOMAN: That sounds about right for grade 8. So, I have an opening this Saturday at ten, or next Tuesday at six.

MAN: You know what, let me check with her first. If I book her Saturday without asking, I'll never hear the end of it. Can I call you back tonight?

WOMAN: Of course. We're here until eight.

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Part 4: An Old Canoe in Kenora

NARRATOR: A wooden canoe built more than a century ago glided across Lake of the Woods on Saturday, cheered on by roughly two hundred spectators along the Kenora waterfront. Just two years ago, the cedar vessel was little more than a heap of splintered ribs, discovered beneath a collapsing boathouse on a property its new owners were clearing. Rather than haul it to the dump, the owners contacted a local heritage society, which assembled a team of volunteers, most of them retirees with no boatbuilding experience whatsoever. Project lead Donna Kowalski admits the group very nearly abandoned the effort that first winter, after discovering that about half the ribs were rotten beyond rescue. A retired boatbuilder from Thunder Bay eventually offered guidance by video call, and the volunteers steamed and bent replacement cedar in a borrowed garage, copying the original pattern by hand. Every scrap of salvageable wood was put back. Historians believe the canoe came from a workshop that once operated near the town, although no maker's mark has survived. On Saturday, Kowalski and her eldest volunteer, eighty-one-year-old Ray Lindqvist, paddled it about two kilometres to a public dock. The canoe will spend the winter on display at a local museum, but Kowalski insists it was restored to be paddled, not merely admired.

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Part 5: A Proposal for the Office

Rafael: So, I wanted to run something by you two before I take it to the partners. My neighbour's moving overseas in January, and she can't take her dog. Biscuit. He's a beagle, four years old, and I've basically been his second owner for a year now. I'd like to adopt him. But I'm here ten hours a day, so…

Stella: So you want to bring him to work.

Rafael: Two or three days a week, to start. There's that empty corner by the window where the old printer used to be.

Harriet: Okay, I'll just say it. I love dogs, I grew up with three of them. But we have clients in here almost every day. The Lakeview people were in twice last week. What happens when he starts howling in the middle of a pitch?

Rafael: He's a beagle, so, yeah, he'll make noise sometimes. But he's fine if he's had a good walk. I'd take him out at lunch.

Stella: Hmm. My bigger worry is Owen. He's allergic, isn't he? At the Christmas party at my place he left early because of my cat.

Rafael: He is, but I asked him already. He says it's mostly cats, and dogs only bother him if he's actually petting one. He'd want his desk at the other end of the room, though.

Harriet: Well, that's generous of him. But you asked Owen. Did you ask the building? Because I'm pretty sure our lease says—

Rafael: —no pets. It does. I checked. But the property manager told me two other tenants already have dogs, and they let it slide if you sign a damage form.

Stella: Okay, that's a lot of buts. And what about insurance? If Biscuit trips a client on the stairs, who pays for that?

Rafael: I… hadn't thought about insurance, honestly.

Harriet: You know, there's actually a business case here. That pet food company we pitched in the spring? Their marketing director spent half the meeting showing us photos of her dog. If we'd had a dog in the office, I swear we'd have landed that account.

Stella: Ha. So now Biscuit's on the sales team.

Harriet: I'm just saying it's not all downside. For some clients it's a selling point. For others, we'd have to warn them before they come in.

Stella: Fine, but I'm not making those calls. We could put a line in the booking email?

Rafael: I can write that. And look, if it's a disaster, I'll get a dog walker. I'd rather not, they're like thirty dollars a day, but I would.

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Harriet: Let's not pretend it's just a trial, though. Once he's here and everyone's attached, nobody's going to want to be the one who says he has to go.

Stella: Which is exactly why I want to go slowly. Before the partners hear a word of this, someone finds out about the insurance.

Rafael: And if the insurance is fine?

Stella: Then… I suppose we'd have to talk about who cleans up that corner by the window.

Part 6: Charging for Carry-On Bags

NARRATOR: Not long ago, a carry-on bag was simply part of the ticket, as unremarkable as the seat itself. Today, on a growing share of discount fares, travellers who wish to use the overhead bin must pay for the privilege, often thirty dollars or more each way. The practice, long familiar in Europe, has steadily crept into Canadian skies, provoking predictable outrage, though whether that outrage is entirely deserved is a more complicated question.

NARRATOR: Aviation consultant Gregory Tam, who advises several low-cost carriers, maintains that the fee is not a hidden charge but an honest one. Under the old model, he points out, the business traveller with a single briefcase was quietly paying for the family hauling three overstuffed suitcases into the cabin. Unbundling, as the industry calls it, lets the lightest packers pay the least, and Tam credits it with putting cross-country flights within reach of students and pensioners who once stayed home, a democratizing effect that critics, in his view, conveniently overlook. Fewer oversized bags, he adds, also means quicker boarding.

NARRATOR: Consumer advocate Lisa Barrett finds this reasoning convenient, if not altogether wrong. Cheaper base fares have, she acknowledges, opened the skies to new travellers; her quarrel is with the way the fee is revealed. The price that appears first in an online search, she observes, is rarely the price anyone pays, and by the time the bag charge surfaces on the final screen, most customers have invested too much effort to begin again. To Barrett, that resembles an ambush more than a choice. Comparison shopping, supposedly the engine of a competitive marketplace, becomes nearly impossible when every carrier calculates its extras differently. Nor is she persuaded by the claim about boarding: travellers unwilling to pay, she notes, simply cram everything into one bulging personal item and wedge it under the seat, which hardly speeds anyone along.

NARRATOR: Barrett would stop short of banning the fee. Instead, she wants airlines required to display the complete cost, bag included, from the very first search, so that comparisons are genuine. Tam counters that such regulations would make discount fares look less competitive and could eventually drive some smaller carriers out of business. Yet if a fare only looks affordable until the final click, one might reasonably ask how affordable it ever was. Passengers may be prepared to pay for what they carry; what they seem to resent is discovering the price too late.

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