CELPIP Listening Practice Test 98

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/98 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/98 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 Wet Start to a Camping Trip

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 1 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/98**

1. Why can't the family use the site they reserved?

A It does not get enough shade.
B The creek overflowed onto it overnight.
C It is too close to the road.
D It was given to someone else by mistake.

2. Why does the woman mention the fishing nets?

A to ask where else her family could go fishing
B to explain why her car is too full for the cabin
C to complain that the rain has ruined their gear
D to show how much her children wanted that site

3. What will the woman probably do next?

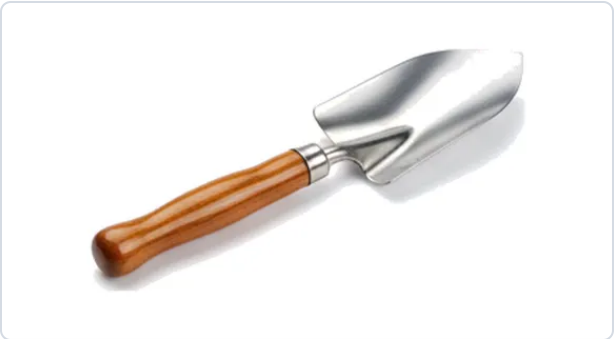
A book the cabin for the weekend
B ask for her money back
C go and look at another site
D drive home to Hamilton

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 2 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/98**

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4. What does the man lend the woman?

A



B



C



D



5. Why does the man advise against a campfire tonight?

A Fires are not allowed after the storm.

B The fire pits on that loop are flooded.

C The stores in town have run out of firewood.

D The wood would make more smoke than flame.

▶ **Recording: Part 1, section 3 of 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/98**

6. What does the campground offer the woman?

A a refund for the whole booking

B one night at no charge

C a cabin for the last night

D a guided walk to the waterfall

7. Why does the woman decide not to move back?

A The creek site will still be muddy.

B Her husband has to leave early on Sunday.

C Her children are enjoying the new site.

D Moving would cost her an extra night.

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8. What will the woman probably do next?

A give the man her phone number

B hike to the waterfall this morning

C pack up for the site by the creek

D go and look for the other family

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Part 2: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation

Learning Guitar Online

▶ **Recording: Part 2. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/98**

9. Why does the man have a deadline?

A His uncle wants to hear him play.
B He wants to join a friend's band by the end of August.
C He has promised to perform at a family event.
D His free lessons will end soon.

10. What is the man most worried about?

A how sore his fingertips are getting each night
B a growing pain in his wrist
C playing in front of his daughter
D the cost of his guitar

11. Why has the man been holding his hand the wrong way?

A He copied only what the videos showed.
B His uncle showed him how to hold it that way.
C He learned it from a book.
D His guitar is too big for him.

12. Why does the woman mention her high school band?

A to suggest that he learn from a book instead
B to invite him to play music with her
C to prove that she is a better guitar player
D to show that bad habits take a long time to undo

13. How does the man feel about the woman's suggestion by the end?

A willing to try a few lessons
B ready to give up the free videos
C sure that lessons are too expensive
D planning to see a physiotherapist

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Part 3: Listening for Information

A Child's Passport

▶ **Recording: Part 3. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/98**

14. Why is the man calling?

A to check on an application he mailed
B to find out how to get his son a new passport
C to book a family flight to Mexico
D to ask about renewing his own passport

15. What did the man wrongly believe?

A that he would have to apply in person
B that his sister could not be a reference
C that school pictures were not allowed
D that his son could use the simpler form

16. Why can't the man's sister act as a reference?

A She is related to him.
B She has not known him long enough.
C She does not live in the same city.
D She is not a doctor or a co-worker.

17. What does the woman suggest about the school pictures?

A They are too old to be used.
B They must be printed at a drugstore.
C They probably won't follow the official rules.
D They are fine if a professional photographer took them.

18. Why does the woman recommend applying in person?

A Mailed applications are often lost.
B A mailed application might not be ready in time.
C His son must be seen by an officer.
D The forms can only be picked up at the passport office.

19. Why does the man choose the Monday appointment?

A He has to work on Thursday morning.
B His son has a school event on Thursday morning.
C He needs time to get suitable photos.
D It is the earlier of the two.

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Part 4: Listening to a News Item

Thirty Years at the Crosswalk

▶ **Recording: Part 4. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/98**

20. Pelletier first took the job

A after retiring from teaching.
B to help her own children cross.
C when the school asked parents to volunteer.
D as a temporary favour to someone.

21. Pelletier has been absent from work

A on the coldest days each winter.
B four times every school year.
C only because she was ill once.
D while her knees were treated.

22. The students gave Pelletier

A something the classes helped make.
B a new orange vest.
C a box of warm mittens.
D a framed photo of each class.

23. We can infer that Pelletier

A is strict with the school's teachers.
B pays close attention to the children's needs.
C would prefer a warmer climate.
D plans to retire within the year.

24. Pelletier's comment about her knees suggests that she

A has been hurt on the job.
B intends to keep working.
C has chosen a retirement date.
D wants a shorter shift.

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Part 5: Listening to a Discussion

Ideas for the Yoga Studio

▶ **Recording: Part 5. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/98**

25. According to Priya, what happens every January?

A Membership prices go up for the year.
B Classes are cancelled because of snow.
C Fewer people come to evening classes.
D Many new members sign up.

26. What did Laura misunderstand about the survey?

A how many members the forty came from
B who had written the survey questions
C when Priya had sent the survey out
D which kind of online classes members wanted

27. Why does Gordon mention teaching in 2020?

A to remind them that he already owns a camera
B to suggest that he could teach from home again
C to complain that few students paid for those classes
D to show how hard it is to guide people on a screen

28. What concern do Gordon and Laura share?

A The equipment will cost too much.
B A student could be injured at home.
C Parking downtown is too difficult.
D The morning classes start too early.

29. What does Laura believe about members who enjoy the social side of classes?

A They will keep coming to the studio.
B They are the ones who asked for online classes.
C They prefer morning classes.
D They are likely to switch to cheaper online classes.

30. What is Gordon worried about when he mentions pyjamas?

A students feeling uncomfortable in front of a camera
B members asking for classes in the evening
C losing income from people who now come in
D having to teach early in the morning

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31. What can we tell about Gordon at the end of the discussion?

A He still has doubts about the plan.

B He has offered to teach the morning classes.

C He has refused to try online classes.

D He will speak to their accountant.

32. What is the best subject line for Laura's message to the accountant?

A Selling our studio's old equipment

B Raising membership fees in January

C Hiring a new morning instructor

D Costs for a winter trial of online classes

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Part 6: Listening to Viewpoints

Car-Free Weekends on Main Street

▶ **Recording: Part 6. Play it at celpass.com/celpip/listening/practice-tests/98**

33. The report is mainly about

A the rising cost of parking in city centres.
B the gains and losses of keeping cars off a main street.
C how cafés can make the most of their summer patios on weekends.
D ways to make deliveries to stores more efficient.

34. According to Natasha Kowalski, store owners often

A prefer early-morning deliveries.
B refuse to take part in trial closures.
C misjudge how their customers travel.
D ignore the needs of people on bicycles.

35. Why does Bernard Leclerc mention lumber, paint and soil?

A to show that his shoppers need to drive
B to list the products that sell best in summer
C to explain why his prices are higher than the café's
D to argue that hardware stores deserve more space

36. Leclerc would most likely support

A a permanent ban on cars downtown.
B moving festivals to side streets.
C closing the street only on weekday evenings in summer.
D occasional closures that leave space for pickups close by.

37. According to the report, supporters see weekend closures as

A a gesture that mostly benefits large chain stores and restaurants.
B a way to reduce traffic accidents downtown.
C a small investment that can make a city's core lively again.
D a reward for stores that pay higher taxes.

38. The speaker's attitude toward Leclerc's concerns is

A scornful.
B amused.
C uninterested.
D sympathetic.

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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 Wet Start to a Camping Trip

1 B The creek overflowed onto it overnight.

2 D to show how much her children wanted that site

3 C go and look at another site

4 B Picture B

5 D The wood would make more smoke than flame.

6 B one night at no charge

7 C Her children are enjoying the new site.

8 A give the man her phone number

Part 2: Learning Guitar Online

9 C He has promised to perform at a family event.

10 B a growing pain in his wrist

11 A He copied only what the videos showed.

12 D to show that bad habits take a long time to undo

13 A willing to try a few lessons

Part 3: A Child's Passport

14 B to find out how to get his son a new passport

15 D that his son could use the simpler form

16 A She is related to him.

17 C They probably won't follow the official rules.

18 B A mailed application might not be ready in time.

19 C He needs time to get suitable photos.

Part 4: Thirty Years at the Crosswalk

20 D as a temporary favour to someone.

21 C only because she was ill once.

22 A something the classes helped make.

23 B pays close attention to the children's needs.

24 B intends to keep working.

Part 5: Ideas for the Yoga Studio

25 C Fewer people come to evening classes.

26 A how many members the forty came from

27 D to show how hard it is to guide people on a screen

28 B A student could be injured at home.

29 A They will keep coming to the studio.

30 C losing income from people who now come in

31 A He still has doubts about the plan.

32 D Costs for a winter trial of online classes

Part 6: Car-Free Weekends on Main Street

33 B the gains and losses of keeping cars off a main street.

34 C misjudge how their customers travel.

35 A to show that his shoppers need to drive

36 D occasional closures that leave space for pickups close by.

37 C a small investment that can make a city's core lively again.

38 D sympathetic.

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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 Wet Start to a Camping Trip

Section 1

WOMAN: Hi. We've got a reservation for three nights, under Grant. Site twenty-two, by the creek.

MAN: Grant… yes. Ah. Glad you came in first. We had about eighty millimetres of rain overnight, and the creek came right up over its banks. The whole lower loop is under water. Your site included, I'm afraid.

WOMAN: Under water? I booked that site in February! My kids have talked about that creek for months. They've got their fishing nets in the car and—

MAN: I'm sorry. Here's what I can do. Site six, in the upper loop. It's dry and flat, but there's not much shade, and it's closer to the road. There's also a cabin, but that's forty dollars more a night, and it only sleeps three.

WOMAN: There are four of us. Plus the dog.

MAN: Then the cabin's out. Or I can refund the whole booking, no fee.

WOMAN: We've driven four hours from Hamilton. I'm not turning around now. Can we at least see number six before we decide?

MAN: Absolutely. It's past the washrooms, second on your left.

Section 2

WOMAN: Okay, number six is fine. It's not the creek, but we'll take it.

MAN: Great, I'll switch it over. Anything else?

WOMAN: Yes. The ground up there's like concrete. My husband's bent two tent pegs trying to push them in with his boot. You wouldn't have a hammer we could borrow?

MAN: There should be one in the back with the shovels… yep, here. Drop it off when you're done. Need a flashlight too? There are no lights up there.

WOMAN: We've got three, thanks. And can we have a fire tonight? We promised the kids marshmallows.

MAN: Well, there's no fire ban. But our woodshed flooded too, so everything we sell is soaked right through. You'd get a lot of smoke and not much fire.

WOMAN: Oh, no. And in town?

MAN: Same storm. You've got a camp stove? Marshmallows work over that. Sort of.

WOMAN: We do. The kids will survive.

Section 3

MAN: Morning! How was your first night up the hill?

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WOMAN: Better than I expected. Windy, but dry. Well, mostly dry.

MAN: Good. The creek dropped overnight, and the lower loop reopens tomorrow at noon. Your original site's yours again for the last night, if you want it. And for the trouble, we're taking tonight off your bill.

WOMAN: Oh, that's kind. So if we move back, tonight's—

MAN: —free either way.

WOMAN: Hmm. The thing is, the kids found the playground up there, and there's a family two sites over with boys the same age. I couldn't drag them away now.

MAN: Say no more. One warning, though. The trail along the creek, to the waterfall, is still partly under water.

WOMAN: That was half the reason we came. When will it open?

MAN: Tomorrow afternoon, maybe. Are you leaving early Sunday?

WOMAN: Pretty early. My husband works Sunday night.

MAN: As soon as the crew gives me the okay, I'll call you. What's a good cell number?

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Part 2: Learning Guitar Online

WOMAN: Is that a guitar case? Since when do you play guitar, Raj?

MAN: Since about March, officially. My uncle gave me his old guitar when he moved into a seniors' residence, and I figured, why not? There are thousands of free lessons online, so I do about half an hour every night after the kids go to bed.

WOMAN: That's great! So what, you're plugging into an amp, the whole rock star—

MAN: No, no amp, it's an acoustic one. Mostly campfire songs. My daughter turns ten in August, and she's asked me to play at her party, so I've got a deadline. A very small, very honest audience.

WOMAN: The toughest kind. So how's it going with the videos?

MAN: Honestly, better than I expected. My fingertips are killing me, but the guy in the videos says that goes away. What actually worries me is my left wrist. After twenty minutes it starts aching, kind of a burning feeling, and I end up taking a break every couple of songs.

WOMAN: Fingertips, yeah, they toughen up. But the wrist… that sounds like how you're holding it. Show me. See, your hand's bent right over like a hook. Who told you to do that?

MAN: Nobody, really. The camera's always on the guy's fingers, never on his arm. I just copied whatever I could see.

WOMAN: That's the trouble with videos. They can't watch you back. When I was in my high school band, I taught myself from a book and held the pick completely wrong for four years. When I finally took lessons, the teacher spent two whole months just undoing it. Two months of dull exercises before I could play properly again.

MAN: So you think I need real lessons. Aren't those, like, fifty or sixty dollars an hour?

WOMAN: I'm not saying quit the videos. Just book two or three sessions so somebody can watch you play and fix your hand before it sets in. Then go back to your free lessons.

MAN: Hmm. Two or three I could probably justify. It's cheaper than a physiotherapist, I guess.

WOMAN: Much cheaper. And cheaper than giving up in July.

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Part 3: A Child's Passport

WOMAN: Passport services, this is Colleen speaking. How can I help you?

MAN: Hi, yes. My son's passport runs out next month, and we're flying to Mexico for my mother's seventieth birthday in five weeks. So I just want to renew it. Is there a short form I can fill out, like the one I used for mine last year?

WOMAN: I'm afraid that one's only for adults. For a child under sixteen, every passport is treated as a brand-new application, even if he's had one before. So it's the longer form, plus the supporting documents.

MAN: Oh. Okay, I didn't realize that. What counts as supporting documents?

WOMAN: His original birth certificate, not a photocopy. His current passport. Two identical photos. And your own identification, since you're the parent signing. You'll also need two references, people who've known you for at least two years.

MAN: References, like my sister? She's known me my whole life.

WOMAN: Ha, she certainly has, but no relatives, unfortunately. A neighbour, a co-worker, your family doctor, that kind of person.

MAN: Right. And the photos, we actually just had his school pictures done last week. They're really nice ones, a professional photographer and everything. Could I just use two of those?

WOMAN: Probably not. Passport photos have very strict rules about the size, the lighting, the background, even how much space there is above his head. School portraits almost never meet them. Most drugstores and photo shops can take the proper ones while you wait.

MAN: Okay. So once I've got it all together, I'll just pop it in the mail.

WOMAN: You can, but with your trip coming up, I'd really recommend applying in person. Mailed applications take about twenty business days to process, and that's not counting the time it spends in the post, both ways. In person, it's usually ten, and you can check on it at the counter.

MAN: Twenty days plus the post office… yeah, that's too close for comfort. Do I need an appointment?

WOMAN: This time of year, I'd strongly recommend one, or you could be waiting most of the morning. I can book it for you now. I've got Thursday at nine-fifteen, or Monday at two.

MAN: Thursday's— hmm, actually, no. If the school pictures won't work, I'll have nothing to bring by then. Let's say Monday.

WOMAN: Monday at two it is. Can I get a phone number, in case anything changes?

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Part 4: Thirty Years at the Crosswalk

NARRATOR: When Doreen Pelletier agreed to cover a neighbour's shift at a Kamloops crosswalk in the autumn of 1996, she assumed the arrangement would last a couple of weeks. This week, the seventy-one-year-old celebrated three decades in her bright orange vest outside an elementary school on the city's North Shore. Pupils marked the anniversary with a surprise assembly, presenting her with a quilt stitched from squares that each class had decorated. Pelletier estimates she has escorted children across the street roughly two hundred thousand times, in conditions ranging from sweltering September afternoons to bitter January mornings. Remarkably, she has missed only four days, all of them during one bad case of the flu. Several parents who now wait at her corner once crossed the street with her as children, and one, a teacher at the school, recalls being scolded for dashing across before the whistle. Principal Alan Brandt calls her a part of the neighbourhood, adding that she notices which youngsters arrive without mittens and quietly keeps a spare supply in her pockets. Asked about retirement, Pelletier laughed, insisting that she will hang up her stop sign only when her knees file a formal complaint.

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Part 5: Ideas for the Yoga Studio

Priya: Okay, I know we said we'd only talk about the schedule tonight, but I want to bring up the online thing again before winter hits.

Gordon: Here we go.

Priya: Hear me out. Every January our evening classes drop by nearly a third. People don't want to drive in the snow, and then they don't renew. If we streamed even a couple of classes a week, they could stay with us from their living rooms.

Laura: I'm not against it, exactly. But who's actually asking for this? I don't want to spend money on cameras for three people.

Priya: That's the thing. I ran a survey last month, and forty members said they'd take online classes.

Laura: Forty out of… what, all two hundred?

Priya: No, forty of the sixty-five who answered. So most of the people who bothered to reply.

Gordon: Or most of the people who like filling out surveys. Look, I did this in 2020, remember? Teaching from my living room on a laptop. Half the class kept their cameras off, and with the ones who didn't, I'd see someone's knee twisting the wrong way and I couldn't walk over and fix it. I'd just be shouting at a tiny square.

Laura: That's a real problem, though. If somebody gets hurt following us at home—

Gordon: —we're the ones who answer for it. Exactly.

Priya: So we keep it to gentle classes. Stretching, breathing, beginners. Nothing where a bad knee ends in a physio bill.

Laura: And the cost? I'm assuming you've looked.

Priya: A decent camera, a microphone, better lighting in the back room. Around fifteen hundred, all in. And we could charge maybe twelve dollars a class.

Gordon: My worry is the people who come in now. If they can do it in their pyjamas for less, why would they keep paying for the studio?

Laura: Hmm. Some would switch, sure. But the ones who come for the room, the people, the chat afterwards… they're not giving that up for a laptop.

Gordon: You'd be surprised what people give up to avoid parking downtown.

Priya: So what if it's members only? You can't buy the online classes by themselves. They just come with your membership, for the winter.

Laura: That I'd consider. A trial, January to March, two morning classes a week. If nobody logs on, we pack the camera away and sell it.

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Gordon: You make it sound so easy. Who's teaching them? Because it's not going to be me at six-thirty in the morning.

Priya: I'll take the mornings.

Laura: Then I'll ask our accountant what the equipment would really cost us, and we look at it properly next week.

Gordon: Fine. Look at it. I'm not saying yes.

Priya: You're not saying no, either.

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Part 6: Car-Free Weekends on Main Street

NARRATOR: Every summer, a familiar debate resurfaces in Canadian city halls: should a main commercial street be closed to cars on weekends and handed over to pedestrians? A growing number of municipalities have experimented with the idea, replacing parked vehicles with patios, buskers and children's chalk drawings from Friday evening until Sunday night. Supporters describe it as a modest, low-cost way of revitalizing tired downtowns; sceptics regard it as a fashionable gesture that inconveniences the very businesses it claims to help.

NARRATOR: Urban planner Natasha Kowalski has studied pilot closures in several mid-sized cities, and she is unequivocal about the results. Foot traffic, she reports, typically climbs by a third, and people on foot linger, browse and return in a way that drivers hunting for parking rarely do. Most shoppers on a typical main street, she points out, arrive by walking, cycling or transit, although merchants routinely overestimate how many come by car. Deliveries, in her experience, are the one genuine obstacle, and the most successful cities simply shift them to early mornings, before the barriers go up. She cites one Prairie city where several shop owners who had lobbied against a pilot closure later petitioned to extend it. Done properly, she contends, a car-free weekend costs a city remarkably little and returns a great deal in civic goodwill.

NARRATOR: Bernard Leclerc, who has run a hardware store on his city's main street for twenty-two years, sees things rather differently. His Saturday customers, he explains, are contractors and homeowners collecting lumber, paint and bags of soil, purchases nobody carries home on a bicycle. During last summer's trial, his weekend sales fell by nearly a quarter, while the café across the street, he notes ruefully, enjoyed its busiest season ever. Leclerc has no quarrel with festivals or patios; his objection is that one block's celebration is being paid for by its neighbours. He would rather the city close the street once a month, and set aside loading zones on side streets for businesses that depend on vehicles.

NARRATOR: Kowalski's research suggests that such losses frequently fade as customers adjust their habits, though that may be cold comfort to a merchant whose margins are already thin and who cannot simply wait for habits to change. A few councils have begun offering modest relief, such as reduced permit fees for affected shops, though critics call it a gesture rather than genuine compensation. Ultimately, the question may not be whether to close the street at all, but how to share both the benefits and the burdens more evenly.

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