CELPIP Reading Practice Test 108

A free full-length CELPIP-General Reading practice test from CELPass.com: all 4 parts and 38 questions in the real test order, an answer sheet, the answer key and a score chart.

Part	Topic	Questions	Time
Part 1: Reading Correspondence	A Retired Teacher's Idea for Community Radio	1–11	about 11 minutes
Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram	Planning a Summer Sealift Order	12–19	about 9 minutes
Part 3: Reading for Information	Prairie Grain Elevators	20–28	about 10 minutes
Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints	Car-Free Water Street Summer Trial Debate	29–38	about 13 minutes

How to take this test

1. Do all 4 parts in one sitting in about 55–60 minutes, timing each part.
2. Mark your answers on the answer sheet. Wrong answers lose no points, so answer every question.
3. Check your answers with the answer key and count your correct answers for an estimated CLB.

Prefer to take it on screen? The same test is free online at celpass.com/celpip/reading/practice-tests/108, marked as you go, with an estimated CLB. More free tests: celpass.com/celpip/practice-tests-pdf

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Part 1: Reading Correspondence

Time: about 11 minutes

A Retired Teacher's Idea for Community Radio

> Dear Ms. Ferreira,
>
> My name is Desmond Clarke, and I have been a faithful listener of Tidewater Community Radio since the station first went on the air. I am writing because I would like to offer my services as a volunteer and, if you would consider it, as the host of a weekly program.
>
> Some background may help. I taught music at Bayview High School here in Moncton for thirty-one years before retiring in June. Over those years I collected more than two thousand jazz and swing records, many of them by Maritime musicians whose work is rarely heard on the radio anymore. My idea is a one-hour Sunday morning show that would play a few of these recordings each week and tell the stories behind them. I have already sketched out the first eight episodes. One of my former students, Tomás Reyes, who reads the news on your station on Saturdays, told me that your Sunday morning slot has been filled with repeats since the summer, and he suggested I write to you.
>
> I should be honest about my weaknesses. I have never operated a sound board, and the last time I used anything more complicated than a record player was when the school bought its first computer. I understand from Tomás that all new hosts take a training course, and I am more than willing to do it. I am also available most weekday afternoons if you need help with tasks that don't involve a microphone, such as answering phones during your fundraising drive or sorting the music library. The only exception is Wednesdays, when I pick up my grandchildren from school.
>
> Of course, I don't expect to be handed a show straight away. If you would prefer that I first co-host with someone more experienced, or start by preparing short segments for an existing program, I would be glad to. I simply believe that this music deserves an audience, and that a community station is the right place for it.
>
> I have enclosed a list of the records I would like to start with, along with a sample segment I recorded at home. Please forgive the sound quality; my grandson tells me it sounds as if it was recorded in a tin can.
>
> Thank you for your time. I look forward to hearing from you.
>
> Yours sincerely,
>
> Desmond Clarke

1. Why is Desmond writing to Ms. Ferreira?

A to complain about the repeats on Sundays
B to sell part of his record collection
C to offer his time and suggest a program
D to ask for a job reading the news

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2. How did Desmond find out about the Sunday morning slot?

A A former pupil of his told him.
B He heard it announced on the air.
C Ms. Ferreira mentioned it to him.
D He read about it in the newspaper.

3. What does Desmond admit about himself?

A He has rarely listened to the station.
B He doesn't enjoy working with others.
C He is unavailable most afternoons.
D He is not used to technology.

4. Desmond is not free on Wednesdays because he

A still teaches music at Bayview High School.
B has to look after family members.
C is taking a course at the station.
D records his sample segments then.

5. What can be inferred about Desmond's attitude?

A He is willing to begin in a smaller role.
B He expects to host his own show right away.
C He thinks the station plays the wrong music.
D He is worried about the cost of training.

6. What does Desmond say about the sample he has enclosed?

A It was recorded in the station's studio.
B It includes music played by his grandson.
C Its audio is not of very good quality.
D It covers all of the first eight episodes.

Here is a response to the message. Complete the response by filling in the blanks. Select the best choice for each blank from the drop-down menu.

> Dear Mr. Clarke,
>
> Thank you for your kind letter, and for being such a loyal listener. Tomás was quite right that our Sunday mornings have been **(7)** _____ for months, so your proposal arrives at exactly the right moment.
>
> I listened to your sample segment twice. Your grandson is right that the sound **(8)** _____, but the content is wonderful. Your stories about those Maritime musicians are exactly the kind of local history we want on the air.

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> Before you can go on the air, you will need to **(9)** _____. Our next session starts on October 4 and meets on Wednesday evenings, so it shouldn't **(10)** _____. Once you have finished, we can talk about a start date for the show, perhaps with Tomás joining you for the first few weeks.
>
> In the meantime, we would be glad of your help **(11)** _____ during our fundraising drive in November.
>
> Best regards,
>
> Natalie Ferreira
>
> Volunteer Coordinator

Choose the best option for each gap.

7. **A** our busiest time of the week **B** running old programs again **C** hosted by our news team **D** set aside for fundraising

8. **A** was made in a real studio **B** is perfect as it is **C** runs far too long for a radio slot **D** leaves something to be desired

9. **A** learn how to run the sound board **B** co-host the Saturday news **C** donate part of your collection **D** sort our music library first

10. **A** require you to buy equipment at home **B** cost you anything at all **C** clash with your Wednesday pickups **D** need any musical knowledge

11. **A** reading the news on air **B** taking calls from donors **C** sorting records at home **D** hosting a Sunday program

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Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram

Time: about 9 minutes

Planning a Summer Sealift Order



Northstar Sealift Supply

Dry cargo for Iqaluit households · 2027 shipping season

ORDER ONCE · STOCK UP FOR THE WHOLE YEAR

Sailings

Sailing	Order deadline	Expected arrival in Iqaluit
First sailing	**May 15**	mid-July
Second sailing	**June 20**	late August
Final sailing	**July 25**	late September *

* Weather and ice permitting. All orders load at our Montreal warehouse.

Shipping Rates (per kilogram, based on total order weight)

Under 200 kg	200 – 499 kg	500 – 999 kg	1,000 kg and over
$3.10	$2.60	$2.20	$1.95

Share an order! Two households may combine their orders to reach a lower rate. **Both names must appear on the order form.** Combined orders arrive together and are delivered to one address.

What We Ship

- ✔ Canned & dry food
- ✔ Cleaning & paper products
- ✔ Household goods & small furniture
- ✘ Frozen or fresh food ✘ Fuel

Vehicles & ATVs: separate booking, from **$1,450**

Payment & Pickup

Deposit with your order	**25%**
Balance due	**2 weeks before sailing**
Late changes to an order	**$50**
Warehouse pickup: free for 5 days after arrival, then storage	**$20 / day**
Delivery in Iqaluit (per address)	**$75**
Delivery to Apex or outside town limits	**$95**

Northstar Sealift Supply · Iqaluit, Nunavut · ☎ 867-555-01

Order forms at our office or orders@northstarsealift.

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Read the following email message about the diagram on the left. Complete the email by filling in the blanks. Select the best choice for each blank from the drop-down menu.

> Subject: Sealift order
>
> To: Paul Tessier
>
> From: Megan Fitzgerald
>
> Hi Paul,
>
> After Tuesday's staff meeting, you mentioned placing a sealift order this year. I'm planning one too, and I picked up this flyer from Northstar. Last winter the price of a case of pop at the store made my eyes water, so I'm stocking up this time.
>
> My list comes to about 320 kg, and you said yours would be around 250, so if we put our orders together, we'd pay **(12)** _____ per kilogram for shipping. The flyer says **(13)** _____, so I'll

need your full name for the form. Nothing frozen, of course, so it's mostly canned goods, flour and paper towels.

My parents are flying up at the start of August, and I'd like everything here before they arrive, so we'd need to order by **(14)** _____. We'll have to pay **(15)** _____ when we place the order, and the rest a couple of weeks before the ship sails.

Since neither of us has a truck and you live across town, I think it's worth paying **(16)** _____ to have the whole order brought to my apartment building in town. You can pick up your boxes from my storage room whenever it suits you.

I'll leave the order form in your mailbox in the staff room on Monday. Let me know what you think!

Megan

Choose the best option for each gap.

12. **A** $2.20 **B** $2.60 **C** $3.10 **D** $1.95

13. **A** a deposit is required **B** orders load in Montreal **C** both households must be named **D** frozen food can't be shipped

14. **A** June 20 **B** mid-July **C** July 25 **D** May 15

15. **A** the full amount **B** a quarter of the cost **C** half of the total cost **D** $75 for delivery

16. **A** $20 a day **B** $95 **C** $50 **D** $75

17. Megan and Paul are most likely

A neighbours.
B co-workers.
C cousins.
D roommates.

18. Why does Megan want to combine the two orders?

A to qualify for a lower shipping rate
B to avoid paying the deposit
C to have the goods arrive sooner
D to share the cost of a truck

19. When Megan says the price of pop "made my eyes water," she means she was

A sad to be living so far from home.
B unable to find any at the store.
C shocked at how expensive it was.
D made ill by drinking too much of it.

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Part 3: Reading for Information

Time: about 10 minutes

Prairie Grain Elevators

Paragraph A

For much of the twentieth century, the tall wooden grain elevator was the most recognizable building on the Canadian Prairies. In most towns it was by far the tallest structure. Rising high above the flat landscape, usually with the name of a grain company and of the town painted in large letters on its side, an elevator could be seen from many kilometres away, and travellers often used the next one on the horizon to work out how far they still had to go. Some writers called them the "sentinels of the Prairies." Their purpose, however, was entirely practical. Farmers brought their harvest to the elevator, where it was weighed, graded and stored before being loaded into railway cars and sent on to ports for export.

Paragraph B

The elevators spread with the railways. As rail lines pushed across Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta in the late 1800s and early 1900s, elevators went up beside the tracks, often only 10 to 15 kilometres apart. That distance was no accident: a farmer hauling grain by horse and wagon needed to be able to reach an elevator, unload and return home in a single day. Small towns frequently grew up around these stops, with a general store, a post office and a school, and some of them disappeared again when their rail line later closed. By the 1930s, there were more than 5,000 elevators across the Prairies.

Paragraph C

Inside, the design was simple but clever. Grain tipped from a wagon fell into a pit, where a continuous belt fitted with small buckets, known as the "leg," carried it to the top of the building. From there, gravity did the rest: the grain slid down a spout into one of many separate bins, so that different kinds and grades never mixed. The walls were often made of wooden planks laid flat and nailed one on top of another, which made them remarkably strong. Running the elevator was a respected job, and the agent usually knew every farmer for miles around. Fire was a constant danger, because grain dust burns easily.

Paragraph D

The decline began in the second half of the twentieth century. Trucks replaced wagons, farms grew larger, and many rail branch lines were abandoned. The end of a long-standing federal subsidy on grain shipping in the 1990s sped up the change. Grain companies replaced hundreds of small wooden elevators with a smaller number of large concrete terminals, each able to load a long train quickly. Many of the old buildings were torn down or lost to fire, and only a small fraction survive today. Some communities, however, have saved theirs as museums or heritage sites, and in Inglis, Manitoba, a row of old elevators has been preserved as a national historic site.

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Decide which paragraph, A to D, has the information given in each statement below. Select E if the information is not given in any of the paragraphs.

20. Grain was kept sorted partly by letting it fall into different compartments. _____

21. The buildings helped people on the road estimate the distance ahead. _____

22. Fewer but bigger facilities eventually took over the elevators' work. _____

23. Government officials decided exactly where each elevator would stand. _____

24. Elevators were placed so that a farmer could make the round trip before nightfall. _____

25. The person who ran the elevator was a familiar figure in the area. _____

26. The elevator was where the quality of a farmer's crop was assessed. _____

27. Several surviving elevators have been rebuilt in concrete to preserve them. _____

28. A change in federal support for moving grain contributed to the elevators' decline. _____

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Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

Time: about 13 minutes

Car-Free Water Street Summer Trial Debate

> Water Street in Port Cullen, a Georgian Bay community of about 9,000, is an unremarkable main street: two lanes of traffic, angled parking and a row of storefronts facing the harbour. Next summer, a three-block stretch could be transformed. Under a scheme to be debated shortly, the street would be closed to cars from Victoria Day weekend to Labour Day. Restaurant patios would occupy former parking spaces, with benches and planters filling the roadway, all as a one-season experiment.
>
> Councillor Priya Raman, the scheme's sponsor, accuses Port Cullen of squandering its principal asset: visitors flock to the waterfront, whereupon "we hand the best view in town to parked cars." Comparable communities with pedestrian streets, she reports, have generally seen people linger downtown longer. "The downside's negligible, since the street could simply reopen in September," she says.
>
> Gord McAllister, whose family has operated the Water Street hardware store for three generations, remains unmoved. His ledger is built on contractors and cottage owners, not strolling tourists, and it records paint, lumber and forty-kilo bags of concrete; the nearest alternative parking would be the arena lot. "A bustling patio would be mistaken for overall success while retailers quietly bleed business," he fears. "A full patio on a sunny Saturday doesn't pay my rent in October."
>
> Yvonne Baptiste, a wheelchair user who chairs the accessibility advisory committee, has no objection to the idea; a traffic-free street can be easier to navigate than squeezing between parked vehicles. The obstacle is the distance from the nearest parking, and her committee's endorsement awaits a plan showing reserved drop-off spaces at both ends of the closed blocks, sufficiently close for people with limited mobility.
>
> Ethan Marsh, who opened a Water Street café two years ago, has already sketched his patio, yet he distrusts the evidence it would supply: "Crowded tables would settle nothing," he reasons. He therefore proposes that every business on the affected blocks disclose its summer sales, permitting comparison with previous years before any permanent closure. "If the hardware store suffers, we need to know that too."

29. Who, like Raman, seems ready for the trial?

A Gord McAllister
B Yvonne Baptiste
C contractors and cottage owners
D Ethan Marsh

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30. What does McAllister's list of goods imply?

A Tables would conceal his store.

B Customers couldn't easily carry such goods.

C Tourists would crowd out his regular customers.

D His October rent would rise.

31. Baptiste's attitude toward the trial is

A conditionally favourable

B firmly opposed

C resigned to exclusion

D eager without reservation

32. What do McAllister and Marsh both expect?

A that most merchants will embrace it

B that shoppers would stay later

C that restaurant patios would profit

D that reserved bays would end parking trouble

33. The most suitable title would be

A "Water Street Closure Delights Port Cullen's Merchants"

B "Port Cullen Puts Its Harbour View Ahead of Parking for Good"

C "Why Port Cullen Is Losing Its Downtown Visitors"

D "Water Street Without Cars: Worth One Summer's Try?"

The following is a comment by a visitor to the website page. Complete the comment by choosing the best option to fill in each blank.

> A lifelong Port Cullen resident, I cannot recall Water Street ever feeling like somewhere to spend an afternoon. Everyone I know loves that harbour view. Councillor Raman's assessment of the downside seems sound to me: **(34)** _____. Even so, the hardware merchant deserves a hearing. Having survived several home renovations, I know his customers won't **(35)** _____.
>
> The committee chair's condition, **(36)** _____, might help them as much as it helps people with limited mobility.
>
> My real misgiving is how council will **(37)** _____. Impressions gathered on a warm weekend make poor evidence. A decision grounded in figures from **(38)** _____ is one I could accept, whichever way it falls. Let it run for one summer.

Choose the best option for each gap.

34. **A** tables could pay their own way **B** only three blocks are involved **C** traffic can return by fall **D** crowds will stay until evening

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35. **A** lug bulky supplies a long way **B** pay to park for a quick errand **C** shop beside busy terraces **D** wait behind sightseers

36. **A** a shuttle from the arena **B** reserved drop-off bays **C** closer parking on side streets **D** wider sidewalks on Water Street

37. **A** protect the remaining parking **B** choose which blocks to reopen **C** pay for the street furniture **D** assess the experiment

38. **A** every shop there **B** the busiest patios **C** visitors surveyed on the street **D** the arena lot's parking records

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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 Retired Teacher's Idea for Community Radio

1 C to offer his time and suggest a program

2 A A former pupil of his told him.

3 D He is not used to technology.

4 B has to look after family members.

5 A He is willing to begin in a smaller role.

6 C Its audio is not of very good quality.

7 B running old programs again

8 D leaves something to be desired

9 A learn how to run the sound board

10 C clash with your Wednesday pickups

11 B taking calls from donors

Part 2: Planning a Summer Sealift Order

12 A $2.20

13 C both households must be named

14 D May 15

15 B a quarter of the cost

16 D $75

17 B co-workers.

18 A to qualify for a lower shipping rate

19 C shocked at how expensive it was.

Part 3: Prairie Grain Elevators

20 C

21 A

22 D

23 E

24 B

25 C

26 A

27 E

28 D

Part 4: Car-Free Water Street Summer Trial Debate

29 D Ethan Marsh

30 B Customers couldn't easily carry such goods.

31 A conditionally favourable

32 C that restaurant patios would profit

33 D "Water Street Without Cars: Worth One Summer's Try?"

34 C traffic can return by fall

35 A lug bulky supplies a long way

36 B reserved drop-off bays

37 D assess the experiment

38 A every shop there

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Your estimated CLB

Correct answers (of 38)	Estimated level
37–38	CLB 12
35–36	CLB 11
33–34	CLB 10
31–32	CLB 9
28–30	CLB 8
24–27	CLB 7
19–23	CLB 6
15–18	CLB 5
10–14	CLB 4

An estimate: CELPIP converts raw scores with a table for each test form, so the real cut-offs vary a little.

What is your level in all four skills? Create a free account at celpass.com for a free diagnostic with a predicted CLB in Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking, and AI scoring of your Speaking and Writing.

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