CELPIP Reading Practice Test 118

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 Bookshop Dream in Nelson	1–11	about 11 minutes
Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram	Holiday Lights Without the Ladder	12–19	about 9 minutes
Part 3: Reading for Information	The Canada Jay: Ready for Winter	20–28	about 10 minutes
Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints	Ostley's Streetlights After Midnight 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/118, marked as you go, with an estimated CLB. More free tests: celpass.com/celpip/practice-tests-pdf

CELPIP-format practice material from CELPass.com. Not official CELPIP material and not affiliated with Paragon Testing Enterprises. Free to download and print for your own practice; please do not resell it or remove the CELPass.com marks.

Part 1: Reading Correspondence

Time: about 11 minutes

A Bookshop Dream in Nelson

> Dear Farid,
>
> You'll never guess what I've done. After twenty-two years of teaching Grade 8 science, I handed in my resignation in June, and last week I signed a five-year lease on a little storefront on the main street in Nelson. By the end of November, it will be a second-hand bookshop with a small corner for coffee. I've been dreaming about this since we were roommates at university, so you may be less surprised than everyone else.
>
> The building needs work. The floors are being sanded this week, and my brother-in-law is building shelves out of wood from an old barn on his property. What I'm missing is everything that would make the place look like a real business: a name on the window, a sign over the door, and some kind of logo for bags and bookmarks. You are the only designer I know whose work I truly love, and I'm hoping you might help.
>
> I know I can't pay what your clients in Vancouver pay. What I can offer is a modest fee of $800, free coffee for life, and first pick of anything that comes through the door. I haven't forgotten your weakness for old maps and travel guides, and I've already put aside a box of 1960s road atlases with your name on it.
>
> I'm afraid there's some urgency. The sign maker in town needs the final design by October 20 if the sign is to be up in time for the opening on November 28. As for the name, I'm torn. My daughter likes "The Second Chapter," which suits my own change of career, but my partner says it sounds like a self-help book. I'm leaning toward "Kootenay Pages," but I'd trust your eye more than anyone's.
>
> If you're too busy, please just say so. I know autumn is your busiest season, and I would hate for you to lose sleep over my little project. You could always point me toward one of the students from your evening design class instead.
>
> Either way, I hope you'll come for the opening. There's a spare room above the shop, and you would be my very first guest.
>
> Warmly,
>
> Gwen

1. Gwen is writing mainly

A to invite Farid to put money into her new business.
B to offer Farid a room to rent.
C to ask Farid to create the look of her shop.
D to ask Farid to help build her shelves.

CELPass.com

2. What can we infer about Gwen and Farid?

A They shared a home as students.
B They taught at the same school.
C They are related by marriage.
D They met through his clients in Vancouver.

3. Why has Gwen put aside the road atlases?

A She could not sell them in her shop.
B Her brother-in-law found them in a barn.
C She plans to use them to decorate the shop.
D She knows Farid loves that kind of book.

4. Why does Gwen need the final design by October 20?

A Her lease on the storefront begins on that date.
B The sign must be ready for the opening.
C Farid's busy season starts then.
D The floors will be finished that week.

5. What does Gwen's partner think of the name "The Second Chapter"?

A It is too much like another shop's name.
B It would suit a café better than a bookshop.
C It sounds like a different kind of book.
D It describes Gwen's change of career well.

6. If Farid is too busy, Gwen suggests that he

A design the sign but leave the logo for later.
B send her a bill once the shop starts earning.
C visit her after the opening.
D put her in touch with someone he teaches.

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 Gwen,
>
> A bookshop! I'm thrilled, though not at all surprised. You talked about it **(7)** _____, and I always hoped you would do it one day.
>
> Of course I'll help, and please keep your money. **(8)** _____ is all the payment I need.
>
> As for the name, I'm afraid I have to side with **(9)** _____. "The Second Chapter" does sound like something you would find next to the diet books. I have a few other ideas, too.
>
> I'll send you three logo sketches by the end of next week, which still gives us time to agree on a final version before **(10)** _____.

CELPass.com

> And yes, I'll be there **(11)** _____. Please save that spare room for me!
>
> Warmly,
>
> Farid

Choose the best option for each gap.

7. **A** every time I visited Nelson **B** all through our university years **C** when you first started teaching **D** in your last letter in the spring

8. **A** That box you've set aside for me **B** A room above the shop **C** A share of the first year's sales **D** A set of those barn-wood shelves

9. **A** your daughter **B** your brother-in-law **C** your partner **D** the sign maker

10. **A** your lease begins **B** the floors have been sanded and sealed **C** my busy season starts **D** the sign maker's cut-off date

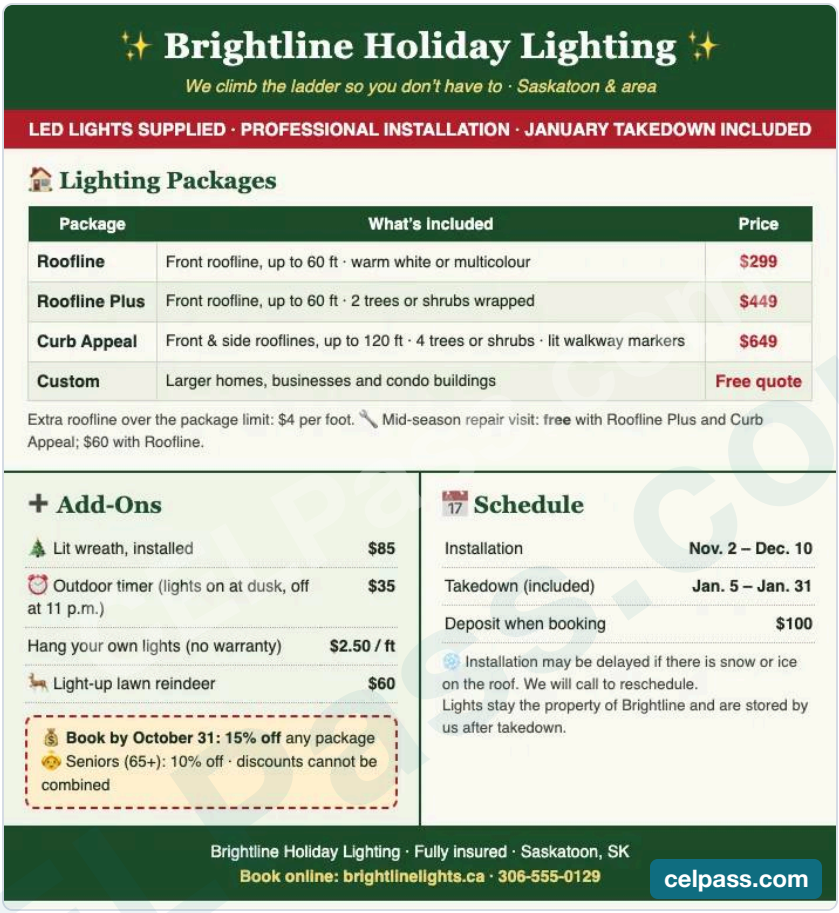
11. **A** the day the sign goes up **B** when the doors first open **C** on the last day of November **D** when the shelves arrive

CELPass.com

Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram

Time: about 9 minutes

Holiday Lights Without the Ladder



✨ Brightline Holiday Lighting ✨

We climb the ladder so you don't have to · Saskatoon & area

LED LIGHTS SUPPLIED · PROFESSIONAL INSTALLATION · JANUARY TAKEDOWN INCLUDED

🏠 Lighting Packages

Package	What's included	Price
Roofline	Front roofline, up to 60 ft · warm white or multicolour	$299
Roofline Plus	Front roofline, up to 60 ft · 2 trees or shrubs wrapped	$449
Curb Appeal	Front & side rooflines, up to 120 ft · 4 trees or shrubs · lit walkway markers	$649
Custom	Larger homes, businesses and condo buildings	Free quote

Extra roofline over the package limit: $4 per foot. 🔧 Mid-season repair visit: free with Roofline Plus and Curb Appeal; $60 with Roofline.

+ Add-Ons

- 🎄 Lit wreath, installed — $85
- ⏰ Outdoor timer (lights on at dusk, off at 11 p.m.) — $35
- Hang your own lights (no warranty) — $2.50 / ft
- 🦌 Light-up lawn reindeer — $60

💰 **Book by October 31: 15% off** any package
🪪 Seniors (65+): 10% off · discounts cannot be combined

📅 Schedule

Installation	Nov. 2 – Dec. 10
Takedown (included)	Jan. 5 – Jan. 31
Deposit when booking	$100

❄️ Installation may be delayed if there is snow or ice on the roof. We will call to reschedule.
Lights stay the property of Brightline and are stored by us after takedown.

Brightline Holiday Lighting · Fully insured · Saskatoon, SK
Book online: brightlinelights.ca · 306-555-0129

celpass.com

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: Your Christmas lights this year
>
> To: Victor Lam
>
> From: Mei Lam
>
> Hi Dad,
>
> Please don't get the ladder out this year. Your physiotherapist was very clear that there's to be no climbing until your new hip has fully healed, and I know you, so I've found a company that will do the lights for you. Here's what I'm thinking.
>
> Nobody sees the sides of your house from the street, and your front roofline is only about fifty feet, but you'll want the two blue spruces lit up like always, so the **(12)** _____ package makes the most sense.

> Remember last year, when a whole string went dark the week before Christmas and you spent an evening in the cold fixing it? With this package, a repair visit would be **(13)** _____.
>
> I'd skip their wreath, since you'll want to hang Mom's, but I would add **(14)** _____ so you don't have to go outside to plug everything in every night.
>
> You'd qualify for the seniors' discount, but if we book by Halloween we'll get **(15)** _____ instead, which is better. I'll pay the deposit today.
>
> And the best part: they **(16)** _____, so you won't be up on the roof in January either.
>
> I'll call you tonight. Please don't say no just to be stubborn!
>
> Love,
>
> Mei

Choose the best option for each gap.

12. **A** Roofline **B** Curb Appeal **C** Roofline Plus **D** Custom

13. **A** $60 **B** free **C** $35 **D** $100

14. **A** a light-up reindeer **B** some extra roofline **C** the outdoor timer **D** a second wreath

15. **A** 10% off **B** $100 off **C** 25% off **D** 15% off

16. **A** take everything down at no extra charge **B** store your old lights in their warehouse **C** come back in January for $60 **D** replace any broken bulbs every spring

17. Mei is writing mainly

A to talk her father into hiring help.
B to ask her father to help her choose a wreath.
C to remind her father about his physiotherapy.
D to invite her father to Christmas at her house.

18. Why should Mei's father not put up the lights himself?

A The company will not supply the lights.
B His lights stopped working last year.
C The roof is usually covered in snow and ice by then.
D He has been told to avoid climbing for now.

19. When Mei writes "I know you," she suggests that her father

A will be pleased that she remembered his two blue spruces.
B might climb the ladder anyway if no one stepped in.
C would rather pay than do the work himself.
D always hangs Mom's wreath on the front door.

CELPass.com

Part 3: Reading for Information

Time: about 10 minutes

The Canada Jay: Ready for Winter

Paragraph A

Campers in Canada's northern forests sometimes find that they have company at breakfast. A grey bird slightly larger than a robin, with fluffy feathers and a short black bill, lands on a nearby branch, watches for a moment and then swoops down to snatch a piece of bannock or pancake, sometimes straight from a person's hand. This is the Canada jay, a bird known by many names. Generations of trappers and campers have called it the "camp robber," and another common name, "whisky jack," is an English version of a name used in Cree and related languages. For several decades its official English name was the gray jay, until scientists restored its older name, Canada jay, in 2018.

Paragraph B

Unlike most of the songbirds that nest in the boreal forest, the Canada jay does not fly south for the winter. Instead, it survives the cold by planning ahead. Through the summer and fall, a single bird may hide thousands of pieces of food, including berries, mushrooms, insects and scraps of meat. It coats each item in sticky saliva from its unusually large salivary glands, then wedges it behind loose bark, among needles or into clumps of lichen on branches well above the ground, where snow is less likely to bury it. Months later, the bird remembers where many of these stores are hidden and returns to them when other food is scarce.

Paragraph C

These stores make possible one of the most surprising habits of any Canadian bird. Canada jays begin nesting in late winter, and females often lay their eggs in February or March, when temperatures can still be well below freezing. The nest is a thick cup lined with feathers and fur, and the female stays on it almost constantly while her mate brings her food from their hidden supplies. By early summer, the young birds are strong enough to compete with one another, and usually only the most dominant one is allowed to stay with its parents for its first winter. Its brothers and sisters are driven away and must try to join other pairs or find a territory of their own.

Paragraph D

In 2016, after a public survey and a debate among experts, Canadian Geographic magazine named the Canada jay as its choice for Canada's national bird. Supporters pointed out that it lives in every province and territory, that it stays through the winter, and that, unlike the loon or the snowy owl, it is not already the official bird of any province. The federal government, however, has never officially adopted it. Meanwhile, researchers who have studied Canada jays in Ontario's Algonquin Park for decades have recorded a decline in the number of birds there. One explanation they have proposed is that warmer autumns may cause stored food to spoil before winter, leaving parents with less to feed their young.

CELPass.com

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. The bird chooses hiding places that help keep its food out of the snow. _____

21. Most young birds must leave their parents before their first winter. _____

22. Most people who took part in the public survey chose the Canada jay. _____

23. The bird's current official name is an earlier one brought back into use. _____

24. The male feeds his partner while she keeps the eggs warm. _____

25. The bird relies on its memory to find food in the cold months. _____

26. A changing climate may be making it harder for parents to raise their young. _____

27. Canada jays will sometimes take food directly from people. _____

28. Part of the bird's appeal was that no province had already chosen it. _____

CELPass.com

Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

Time: about 13 minutes

Ostley's Streetlights After Midnight Debate

> Ostley's council must soon decide whether to extinguish most residential streetlights between 1 and 5 a.m. Councillor Brenda Yuen's scheme would preserve illumination along main roads, at major intersections and around the hospital while darkening approximately 2,400 fixtures on quieter side streets for those four hours.
>
> Yuen regards the change as overdue. Powering and maintaining the lights consumes about $650,000 annually, and she projects savings of $90,000, enough to fund the crossing guards parents have requested near two elementary schools for years. "Illuminating empty streets for sleeping residents is indefensible," she says. Several smaller communities in the province have attempted similar schemes, she points out, none reporting increased crime.
>
> Staff Sergeant Lena Okoro insists that the police service has taken no position, while counselling caution about those precedents. "Early-morning break-ins and vehicle thefts on residential streets are so infrequent that a few quiet years in small towns don't reassure me much," she notes. Perceptions concern her more: whatever happens to crime, a community has forfeited something once residents stop walking home because a street feels threatening. Should the plan proceed, she recommends retaining lights at crosswalks and bus stops.
>
> Tom Barrette, a nurse whose evening shift at Ostley General concludes at 1 a.m., ordinarily walks the twenty minutes home and would no longer feel comfortable doing so. He also has elderly neighbours in mind, some of them up at night with the dog or heading to the all-night pharmacy. "A dark curb is how someone breaks a hip," he remarks. Council should hunt for savings elsewhere first, in his opinion. As he puts it, "$90,000 can't justify one serious injury," and his petition is circulating accordingly.
>
> Dr. Hélène Marchand, an ecologist with the Ostley Naturalists' Club, welcomes the scheme for reasons unrelated to the councillor's. Artificial light disorients migrating birds and disrupts insects, and residents have all but forfeited their view of the stars. The promised savings impress her less. "The lighting bill already fell once, when the old bulbs gave way to LEDs," she recalls. "There's little left to harvest." The genuine case for darkness, she suggests, lies beyond the electricity bill, and she would like dimming studied as an alternative.

29. Barrette and Okoro would probably agree that

A people may fear walking home
B a few years' figures prove little
C the savings are overstated
D crime will climb

CELPass.com

30. Regarding Yuen's evidence, Okoro is

A dismissive of small-town policing
B persuaded by it
C skeptical of its weight
D sure it points to rising crime

31. Marchand doubts the savings because of

A upkeep the fixtures still need
B power main roads still use
C a dimming study's cost
D efficiency gains already banked

32. What can we gather about Barrette's walk home?

A It passes the all-night pharmacy.
B It falls in the dark hours.
C It follows the main road.
D It passes two elementary schools.

33. A suitable headline would be

A "Keep or Lose Ostley's Late-Night Lights?"
B "Ostley's Dark-Sky Plan Pits Naturalists Against Police"
C "Ostley's Lighting Savings Would Fund School Repairs"
D "Few in Ostley Object to Darker Streets"

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.

> I live on one of the side streets affected, and I was ready to sign Mr. Barrette's petition. Now I am less sure. Councillor Yuen's observation that **(34)** _____ strikes me as sensible at three in the morning.
>
> **(35)** _____. Dr. Marchand's reasoning moves me more than the councillor's, so for me the real prize is **(36)** _____.
>
> So by all means proceed, but follow the police recommendation and keep lights at **(37)** _____. Mr. Barrette's petition has a point too: he **(38)** _____, and lights on a few more routes would cost little. Either way, council should study dimming before anyone flips a switch.

Choose the best option for each gap.

34. **A** other towns saw crime drop **B** LEDs cost too much **C** residents prefer dark streets **D** nobody needs the lights then

CELPass.com

35. **A** Contrary to Sergeant Okoro, feeling safe matters
B As Sergeant Okoro argues, feeling safe matters
C As Dr. Marchand argues, feeling safe matters
D As Sergeant Okoro argues, statistics should decide

36. **A** a clearer night sky **B** extra school crossing guards **C** a smaller electricity bill
D safer walks home

37. **A** the main roads and hospital **B** every side-street corner **C** crosswalks and bus stops
D apartment doors

38. **A** works at the pharmacy **B** drives older neighbours about **C** walks his dog at night
D walks home after work

CELPass.com

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 _____		

CELPass.com

Answer key

Part 1: A Bookshop Dream in Nelson

1 C to ask Farid to create the look of her shop.

2 A They shared a home as students.

3 D She knows Farid loves that kind of book.

4 B The sign must be ready for the opening.

5 C It sounds like a different kind of book.

6 D put her in touch with someone he teaches.

7 B all through our university years

8 A That box you've set aside for me

9 C your partner

10 D the sign maker's cut-off date

11 B when the doors first open

Part 2: Holiday Lights Without the Ladder

12 C Roofline Plus

13 B free

14 C the outdoor timer

15 D 15% off

16 A take everything down at no extra charge

17 A to talk her father into hiring help.

18 D He has been told to avoid climbing for now.

19 B might climb the ladder anyway if no one stepped in.

Part 3: The Canada Jay: Ready for Winter

20 B

21 C

22 E

23 A

24 C

25 B

26 D

27 A

28 D

Part 4: Ostley's Streetlights After Midnight Debate

29 A people may fear walking home

30 C skeptical of its weight

31 D efficiency gains already banked

32 B It falls in the dark hours.

33 A "Keep or Lose Ostley's Late-Night Lights?"

34 D nobody needs the lights then

35 B As Sergeant Okoro argues, feeling safe matters

36 A a clearer night sky

37 C crosswalks and bus stops

38 D walks home after work

CELPass.com

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.

CELPass.com