CELPIP Reading Practice Test 130

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 Smaller Part in the Spring Play	1–11	about 11 minutes
Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram	Cutting a Christmas Tree Near Harlan Corners	12–19	about 9 minutes
Part 3: Reading for Information	The Trans-Canada Highway	20–28	about 10 minutes
Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints	The Future of Brennock's Old Town Hall 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/130, 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 Smaller Part in the Spring Play

> Dear Abena,
>
> I have been putting off this letter for more than a week, which probably tells you how hard it has been to write. When you offered me the role of Thomas in The Lighthouse Keeper's Daughter, I was thrilled. In twelve years with the Harbourside Players, this is the first time I have been asked to carry a whole show, and I am grateful for your confidence in me.
>
> Unfortunately, my circumstances have changed since the auditions. My daughter has started a new job with evening shifts, and I have agreed to look after my two granddaughters on Tuesday and Thursday nights until the end of May. As you know, those are exactly the nights we rehearse. I could probably manage one rehearsal a week, but Thomas is on stage in almost every scene, and it wouldn't be fair to the rest of the cast to keep them waiting while I caught up.
>
> I should also admit something I didn't mention at the audition. Learning lines has become harder for me over the past few years. Last spring, when I played the mayor, I had perhaps forty lines and still needed a prompt on opening night. Thomas has several long speeches in the second act alone.
>
> So I would like to ask whether I might play the ferry captain instead. He appears in only two scenes, both in the first act, so I could rehearse them on weekends if necessary. If you agree, I think Raj Sandhu would make a wonderful Thomas. He read for the part at the auditions, and last year I watched him learn his lines in about half the time it took the rest of us.
>
> Whatever you decide, I have no intention of disappearing. I'm still happy to build and paint sets on Saturday mornings, and I can bring my truck to pick up the lumber from the building supply store, as I did last year.
>
> I am truly sorry to cause you extra work so close to the start of rehearsals. I would be glad to talk it over in person whenever it suits you.
>
> Warm regards,
>
> Gordon Pelletier

1. Gordon is writing mainly to

A withdraw from the theatre group.
B complain about the rehearsal schedule.
C ask to switch to a smaller role.
D offer to direct next year's show.

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2. Why will Gordon be unable to attend most rehearsals?

A He will be caring for children in his family.
B He has just taken a new job with evening shifts.
C He will be building sets on those nights.
D He has a health problem that tires him.

3. What does Gordon reveal about his role last spring?

A It was the first leading role he had played.
B He missed several rehearsals because of it.
C His long speeches were praised by the audience.
D Even a small part was hard for him to memorize.

4. Why does Gordon think he could manage the ferry captain's part?

A He played the same character years ago.
B Its scenes could be rehearsed on weekends.
C Raj has offered to help him with the lines.
D The captain has no lines to learn.

5. According to Gordon, Raj Sandhu

A learns his lines unusually fast.
B is Abena's first choice for Thomas.
C has never acted in a play before.
D would rather play the ferry captain.

6. We can reasonably conclude that Gordon

A has already told Raj about the change.
B will play the mayor again this year.
C wants to keep helping the group.
D plans to leave town at the end of May.

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 Gordon,
>
> Thank you for being so honest with me. I'll admit I was disappointed at first, but family comes first, and I know how much your **(7)** _____ will enjoy having you on those evenings.
>
> I spoke to Raj yesterday, and he was delighted. As you said, he **(8)** _____, so I'm not worried about him catching up. The ferry captain is yours. Since both of his scenes are **(9)** _____, we can work on them together on a couple of Sunday afternoons.
>
> And please stop worrying about your memory. You were a wonderful **(10)** _____ last spring, prompt or no prompt, and I doubt anyone in the audience noticed.

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> I'll gladly take you up on your offer of the truck. We'll need **(11)** _____ for the lighthouse by the end of March.
>
> See you on Saturday,
>
> Abena

Choose the best option for each gap.

7. **A** fellow cast members **B** granddaughters **C** daughter's co-workers **D** friends at the theatre

8. **A** has already played Thomas **B** knows the captain's lines **C** is free on weekends **D** picks up lines quickly

9. **A** in the first act **B** in the second act **C** on Thursday nights **D** full of long speeches

10. **A** ferry captain **B** Thomas **C** mayor **D** lighthouse keeper

11. **A** the costumes sewn by hand **B** the scripts printed **C** the tickets sold **D** the lumber collected

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Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram

Time: about 9 minutes

Cutting a Christmas Tree Near Harlan Corners



Cedar Lane Tree Farm

Family-grown Christmas trees since 1978 · 2260 Concession Road 4, Harlan Corners

OPEN NOV. 21 – DEC. 22 · FRIDAYS NOON–5 · SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS 9–5

Cut Your Own

We lend saws and shake, net and tie your tree to your car for free.

Tree	Why choose it?	Up to 7 ft	Over 7 ft
Balsam Fir	The classic Christmas scent	$65	$80
Fraser Fir	Holds its needles longest	$85	$110
Scotch Pine	Stiff branches hold heavy ornaments	$55	$70
Blue Spruce	Silvery-blue colour; sharp needles	$75	$90

No time to cut? **Pre-cut trees** in the barn are $10 more than the prices above.

Extras

- **Fresh wreaths:** 20" $35 · 30" $50
- **Tree stands:** $40
- **Wagon ride** to the back field: free with a tree, otherwise $5 per person
- **Hot chocolate** in the barn: $3
- **Delivery** within 25 km, carried to your door: **$30 per tree**

Good to Know

- **Santa** visits the barn every Saturday in December, 11 a.m.–2 p.m.
- **Tag your tree early** (Nov. 21–30) with a $20 deposit and take it home any day before Dec. 22.
- Leashed dogs welcome in the fields, but not in the barn.
- Cash, debit and credit accepted.

Cedar Lane Tree Farm · Harlan Corners, Ontario
cedarlanetrees.ca · 519-555-0193

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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: Tree trip on Saturday?
>
> To: Hana Petrov
>
> From: Owen Mercer
>
> Hi Hana,
>
> When we were chatting in the lobby last week, you mentioned that you'd never cut down your own Christmas tree. We're heading to Cedar Lane on Saturday, December 5, and you'd be very welcome to join us. I've attached their flyer.
>
> The kids chose a Saturday so they could **(12)** _____. For your place, I'd suggest the **(13)** _____. You said you didn't want needles all over your new carpet, and it's supposed to last

> the longest. The ceilings in our building are only about two and a half metres high, so you won't want anything over seven feet, which means you'd pay **(14)** _____.
>
> We need something sturdy, since Maya insists on hanging Grandma's heavy glass ornaments, so we'll probably go for a **(15)** _____.
>
> Since the elevator is still out of order, it might be worth paying the **(16)** _____ per tree to have them carried right to our doors. I'd rather not drag two trees up four flights of stairs!
>
> Let me know, and I'll knock on your door at nine.
>
> Owen

Choose the best option for each gap.

12. **A** ride the wagon for free **B** tag a tree for later **C** drink hot chocolate **D** visit Santa in the barn

13. **A** Balsam Fir **B** Fraser Fir **C** Scotch Pine **D** Blue Spruce

14. **A** $85 **B** $110 **C** $95 **D** $65

15. **A** Blue Spruce **B** Balsam Fir **C** Scotch Pine **D** Fraser Fir

16. **A** $40 **B** $30 **C** $35 **D** $5

17. Owen and Hana are

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

18. Why does Owen recommend a certain tree for Hana?

A It is the cheapest tree on the farm.
B Her ceilings are higher than his.
C It is less likely to make a mess.
D It has the strongest smell.

19. When Owen says that Maya "insists on" hanging the ornaments, he means that she

A is not sure she wants to do it.
B wants someone else to do it.
C has been told not to do it.
D won't accept not doing it.

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Part 3: Reading for Information

Time: about 10 minutes

The Trans-Canada Highway

Paragraph A

Few roads in the world can match the Trans-Canada Highway for sheer length. Running roughly 7,800 kilometres from Victoria, British Columbia, to St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador, it passes through all ten provinces and links many of the country's largest cities along the way. Because the route begins on Vancouver Island and ends on the island of Newfoundland, travellers must take a ferry at both ends of the journey. In Victoria, a "Mile 0" marker near Beacon Hill Park has become a popular place for photographs, especially among people who are starting or finishing a cross-country trip. Along its length, the highway is marked by signs showing a white maple leaf on a green background.

Paragraph B

The idea of a national highway was discussed as early as the beginning of the twentieth century, when cars were still a novelty. Progress was slow, however, partly because building roads was the responsibility of the provinces rather than the federal government. In 1949, Parliament passed the Trans-Canada Highway Act, under which Ottawa agreed to share the cost of construction with the provinces. Even then, the work took far longer than planned. The highway was officially opened in 1962 at a ceremony in Rogers Pass, British Columbia, although several sections were still unfinished. It was not until 1971 that the route was considered complete, and in the decades since, many sections have been widened or rebuilt.

Paragraph C

Rogers Pass, in the Selkirk Mountains of Glacier National Park, was one of the most difficult stretches to build and remains one of the hardest to maintain. The area receives enormous amounts of snow, and avalanches are a constant danger in winter. To protect drivers, engineers built concrete snow sheds that allow sliding snow to pass over the road rather than across it. In addition, Parks Canada works with the Canadian Armed Forces to set off controlled avalanches using artillery before dangerous amounts of snow can build up on the slopes. While this work is under way, the highway may be closed for several hours.

Paragraph D

For many Canadians, the highway is more than a way of getting from one place to another. Travelling it from end to end is seen as something of a national adventure, and people have crossed the country along its route by bicycle, on foot and in wheelchairs, often to raise money for charity. Many small towns along the way have built roadside attractions, such as giant statues, to persuade passing drivers to stop. At the same time, long sections still have only one lane in each direction, particularly in northern Ontario, where a single serious accident or forest fire can leave travellers with

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> no practical detour. Some communities along these stretches have called for the road to be widened, arguing that it would make travel safer.

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. Early progress on a national road was slowed by the way responsibility for roads was divided. _____

21. Some structures in the mountains were designed so that snow would travel above passing cars. _____

22. The federal government was at first unwilling to help pay for a national highway. _____

23. Boats are needed to complete the highway's full length. _____

24. In some areas, a single incident can leave drivers with few other routes. _____

25. Driving through Rogers Pass can be delayed by work done to prevent danger. _____

26. The highway was in use before every part of it had been built. _____

27. Charity events along the highway must be approved by each province they pass through. _____

28. The highway connects many of Canada's major urban centres. _____

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Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

Time: about 13 minutes

The Future of Brennock's Old Town Hall Debate

For over a century, Brennock's old town hall has anchored the corner of King and Water Streets, its red-brick clock tower visible throughout downtown. Since municipal offices relocated eight years ago, the building has stood largely vacant, and Mayor Colette Durand's suggestion that it be sold to a private developer has polarized the community.

Durand insists that arithmetic, not nostalgia, should govern the decision. An engineering report estimates repairs, including a roof and complete rewiring, at $4.2 million, a figure that escalates annually. That money, she maintains, would accomplish more at the arena, which residents use daily, than at a building employed "twice a year as a backdrop for photographs." A sale would also restore the property to the tax roll.

Bernard Yee, president of the Brennock Heritage Society, dismisses the plan as short-sighted. "Council permitted the hall to deteriorate through years of neglect, then brandished the repair bill as evidence of its hopelessness," he charges. Provincial heritage grants and a community campaign could, in his estimation, raise the necessary funds, as comparable towns have done in converting their halls into museums and event venues. "Our great-grandparents built this hall in hard times," he reminds critics.

Fatima Rahimi, director of the Brennock Arts Council, grants the mayor's position more sympathy than many members would prefer. Local theatre groups and painters desperately need space, and the upper floor would provide an ideal studio. "Enthusiasm won't finance a roof," she acknowledges. "I've seen too many beautiful projects collapse when the grant money ran out." Preservation earns her support only if someone presents a realistic plan for the annual operating expenses, beyond the initial repairs.

Developer Kyle Mortensen, whose company has expressed interest, disputes that a sale means losing the building. His firm would retain the brick exterior and clock tower while converting the upper floors into apartments, with a café and small public gallery below. "People assume developers want to knock everything down. Old brick rents." Skeptics note that nothing obliges a buyer to honour such assurances once a transaction closes.

Council votes two months after the April public meetings, while the heritage society continues collecting signatures.

29. Which saying captures Rahimi's and Durand's shared view?

A "A stitch in time saves nine."
B "There's no such thing as a free lunch."
C "Once bitten, twice shy."
D "Don't judge a book by its cover."

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30. How would Yee explain the rising repair figure?

A Council's neglect drove it up.

B Annual expenses matter more than repairs.

C Rising costs make a sale urgent.

D A sale would restore tax revenue.

31. Why would Mortensen keep the clock tower?

A The heritage society has demanded it.

B Council made it a condition of sale.

C It spares him demolition costs.

D It helps fill the apartments.

32. What can we reasonably conclude about Mortensen's plan?

A It gives painters a studio.

B It answers the society's objection.

C Skeptics doubt its promises.

D It relies on provincial heritage grants.

33. The best title would be

A "Brennock Looks for Tenants for Its Old Hall"

B "What Next for Brennock's Empty Town Hall?"

C "Brennock Reviews Its Old Hall's Report"

D "Brennock Considers a Museum for Its Hall"

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.

> After forty years in Brennock, I find it hard to accept the mayor's claim that the hall is used only **(34)** _____. Our choir sang there for decades.
>
> Mr. Yee's bluntness is warranted: this hall was **(35)** _____ long before anyone spoke of selling it. A public gallery sounds lovely, yet such pledges **(36)** _____.
>
> The arts director's caution also deserves respect: rescues founder not on the first cheque but on **(37)** _____. So give the heritage society every remaining week to find the money, right up to the ballot itself in **(38)** _____. Many of us would gladly volunteer. Selling would be a mistake we could never undo.
>
> Eleanor Whitfield, Brennock

Choose the best option for each gap.

34. **A** for office work **B** by local artists **C** for rare ceremonies **D** for public gatherings

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35. **A** left to decay by its custodians **B** already beyond saving
C an obvious candidate for a museum **D** a needless drain on the arena's budget

36. **A** depend on outside funding **B** tend to raise repair costs **C** undercut local artists
D mean little once signed

37. **A** the arena's pressing repairs **B** the annual running costs
C studio rent for struggling painters **D** the first inspection

38. **A** April **B** June **C** May **D** the fall

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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 Smaller Part in the Spring Play

1 C ask to switch to a smaller role.

2 A He will be caring for children in his family.

3 D Even a small part was hard for him to memorize.

4 B Its scenes could be rehearsed on weekends.

5 A learns his lines unusually fast.

6 C wants to keep helping the group.

7 B granddaughters

8 D picks up lines quickly

9 A in the first act

10 C mayor

11 D the lumber collected

Part 2: Cutting a Christmas Tree Near Harlan Corners

12 D visit Santa in the barn

13 B Fraser Fir

14 A $85

15 C Scotch Pine

16 B $30

17 A neighbours.

18 C It is less likely to make a mess.

19 D won't accept not doing it.

Part 3: The Trans-Canada Highway

20 B

21 C

22 E

23 A

24 D

25 C

26 B

27 E

28 A

Part 4: The Future of Brennock's Old Town Hall Debate

29 B "There's no such thing as a free lunch."

30 A Council's neglect drove it up.

31 D It helps fill the apartments.

32 C Skeptics doubt its promises.

33 B "What Next for Brennock's Empty Town Hall?"

34 C for rare ceremonies

35 A left to decay by its custodians

36 D mean little once signed

37 B the annual running costs

38 B June

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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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