CELPIP Reading Practice Test 42

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 resident emailing a cooking club about joining their monthly potluck dinners	1–11	about 11 minutes
Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram	Smart Home Security Systems	12–19	about 9 minutes
Part 3: Reading for Information	The Fascinating World of Ants: Nature's Tiny Architects	20–28	about 10 minutes
Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints	Requiring public schools to provide universal free breakfast programs	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/42, 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 resident emailing a cooking club about joining their monthly potluck dinners

> Dear Ms. Anderson,
>
> I am writing to express my interest in joining the Riverside Community Cooking Club's monthly potluck dinners. I recently moved to the neighborhood and noticed your flyer at the community center. As someone who loves both cooking and meeting new people, I believe this would be a wonderful opportunity to become more involved in our community.
>
> I understand from the flyer that the club meets on the last Saturday of each month, and each member brings a dish to share. I was particularly intrigued by your themed dinner nights - the idea of exploring different cuisines from around the world sounds fascinating! The upcoming Italian night caught my attention, as I have a treasured family recipe for homemade gnocchi that has been passed down through generations.
>
> While I wouldn't consider myself a professional chef, I've been cooking actively for over fifteen years and have taken several cooking classes. I especially enjoy preparing Mediterranean and Asian dishes, though I'm always eager to learn new cuisines and techniques. Last year, I won second place in our previous neighborhood's chili cook-off, which was quite exciting!
>
> I noticed that the flyer mentioned certain guidelines for new members. Could you please provide more information about the membership process? I'm also curious about the typical number of attendees at these gatherings and any specific dietary considerations I should be aware of. For instance, should we prepare dishes that accommodate common allergies or restrictions?
>
> Additionally, I saw that members occasionally participate in cooking demonstrations. I would love to learn more about this aspect of the club. While I might be too nervous to lead a demonstration right away, I would definitely enjoy learning from others' expertise and perhaps sharing my own knowledge once I'm more comfortable with the group.
>
> I'm happy to provide any additional information you might need, and I can certainly understand if there's a waiting list for new members. If possible, I would love to attend the next gathering as a guest to get a feel for the group dynamics and perhaps contribute a dish of my own.
>
> Thank you for considering my request to join your cooking club. I look forward to hearing from you and hopefully meeting fellow cooking enthusiasts soon.
>
> Best regards,Sarah Mitchell

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1. Sarah is interested in joining the club because she …

A wants to become a professional chef
B won a cooking competition recently
C wants to meet people in her new area
D needs to improve her cooking skills

2. According to the letter, the cooking club …

A meets every Saturday
B focuses only on Italian cuisine
C requires professional experience
D organizes themed dinner events

3. Sarah mentions her chili cook-off experience to …

A prove she's better than other members
B demonstrate her cooking ability
C suggest a future competition
D request a cooking demonstration

4. Regarding cooking demonstrations, Sarah …

A wants to lead one immediately
B feels hesitant about presenting initially
C has extensive experience leading them
D thinks they are unnecessary

5. Sarah's letter suggests she …

A has already attended a meeting
B knows several current members
C is uncertain about membership requirements
D has confirmed her attendance

6. Sarah's specialty appears to be …

A Italian cuisine
B Asian dishes
C Mediterranean food
D both Mediterranean and Asian cuisines

Here is a response to the message. Complete the response by filling in the blanks. Select the best choice for each blank.

> Dear Sarah Mitchell, Thank you for your interest in the Riverside Community Cooking Club. We're always excited to **(7)** _____. Our monthly gatherings typically attract between 15-20 members, and we do indeed **(8)** _____. Regarding dietary restrictions, we ask members to **(9)** _____

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> with their dishes. As for membership, we have a simple process where new members **(10)** _____ before becoming full members. We would be delighted to have you join us for our upcoming Italian night, and your family gnocchi recipe sounds wonderful! Please note that **(11)** _____ to accommodate everyone comfortably. Best regards, Linda Anderson

Choose the best option for each gap.

7. **A** teach cooking classes **B** welcome new members **C** organize competitions **D** share recipes

8. **A** require professional experience **B** focus on Italian cuisine **C** explore various cuisines **D** hold weekly meetings

9. **A** provide ingredient lists **B** bring multiple dishes **C** avoid common allergens **D** prepare extra portions

10. **A** must pass a cooking test **B** attend as guests first **C** pay annual dues **D** demonstrate their skills

11. **A** we limit attendance numbers **B** cooking experience is required **C** members must bring their own utensils **D** demonstrations are mandatory

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Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram

Time: about 9 minutes

Smart Home Security Systems

Basic Package:

- 2 door/window sensors
- 1 motion detector
- Mobile app control
- Price: $199 upfront + $20/month
- DIY installation

Standard Package:

- 4 door/window sensors
- 2 motion detectors
- 1 indoor camera
- Smart doorbell
- Mobile app control
- Price: $349 upfront + $30/month
- Professional installation included

Premium Package:

- 6 door/window sensors
- 3 motion detectors
- 2 indoor cameras
- 1 outdoor camera
- Smart doorbell
- Smart lock
- Mobile app control
- Price: $549 upfront + $45/month
- Professional installation included

Custom Package:

- Unlimited sensors and cameras
- Smart home integration
- 24/7 professional monitoring
- Mobile app control

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- Price: Varies based on components
- Professional installation included

Read the following email message. Complete the email by filling in the blanks. Select the best choice for each blank.

> Subject: Home Security System Recommendation
>
> To: Sarah Johnson
>
> From: Mike Thompson
>
> Dear Sarah,
>
> Thank you for your inquiry about our home security systems. Based on your needs, I've reviewed our packages and have some recommendations. The Basic Package is **(12)** _____ as it doesn't include cameras or professional installation. The Standard Package offers a good balance of features and affordability, including a smart doorbell which **(13)** _____. If you're looking for comprehensive coverage, the Premium Package **(14)** _____ and includes both indoor and outdoor cameras. For those wanting maximum flexibility, the Custom Package allows you to **(15)** _____, but keep in mind that the cost can vary significantly depending on your choices.
>
> Considering your three-bedroom home and desire for both indoor and outdoor monitoring, I would recommend the **(16)** _____. It provides robust coverage without being overly complex or expensive.
>
> Please let me know if you have any questions or if you'd like to proceed with an installation.
>
> Best regards,
>
> Mike Thompson

Choose the best option for each gap.

12. **A** the most comprehensive **B** the most expensive **C** the most popular **D** the least suitable

13. **A** requires professional installation **B** is an optional add-on **C** comes as a standard feature **D** is not available

14. **A** is the most basic option **B** offers the most features **C** is the cheapest option **D** requires DIY installation

15. **A** choose any features you want **B** only select from pre-set options **C** install the system yourself **D** avoid professional monitoring

16. **A** Basic Package **B** Standard Package **C** Premium Package **D** Custom Package

Choose the best option.

> The email is primarily about **(17)** _____.

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> Mike Thompson is **(18)** _____.
>
> The recommended package for Sarah **(19)** _____.

Choose the best option for each gap.

17. **A** scheduling an installation **B** comparing security system packages **C** discussing payment options **D** troubleshooting existing systems

18. **A** a potential customer **B** a security system installer **C** a sales representative **D** Sarah's neighbor

19. **A** is the cheapest option **B** requires DIY installation **C** includes both indoor and outdoor cameras **D** has unlimited sensors

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Part 3: Reading for Information

Time: about 10 minutes

The Fascinating World of Ants: Nature's Tiny Architects

Read the following passage:

Paragraph A

Ants are among the most successful and diverse insect species on Earth, with over 12,000 known species. These tiny creatures have inhabited our planet for more than 100 million years, evolving into highly organized societies. Ants can be found in almost every terrestrial ecosystem, from tropical rainforests to arid deserts. Their success is largely attributed to their complex social structure, division of labor, and remarkable ability to adapt to various environments.

Paragraph B

The social structure of ant colonies is fascinatingly complex. Most ant species are eusocial, meaning they live in colonies with a reproductive queen and sterile worker ants. The queen's primary role is to lay eggs, while workers are responsible for tasks such as foraging, caring for the young, and defending the colony. Some species even have specialized castes, like soldier ants with enlarged mandibles for defense, or honeypot ants that store food in their swollen abdomens.

Paragraph C

Ants are renowned for their incredible strength and building capabilities. Despite their small size, they can lift up to 50 times their own body weight. This strength, combined with their cooperative nature, allows them to construct elaborate nests and tunnels. Some species, like leaf-cutter ants, create vast underground chambers to cultivate fungus gardens for food. Others, such as weaver ants, use larval silk to bind leaves together, forming intricate arboreal nests.

Paragraph D

Communication is key to the ants' social structure and survival. They primarily communicate through chemical signals called pheromones. These chemical messages can convey information about food sources, danger, and even the social status of individual ants. Some species also use tactile communication, such as antennation, where ants touch antennae to exchange information. Researchers have even discovered that certain ant species produce sounds by rubbing body parts together, although the full extent of acoustic communication in ants is still being studied.

Paragraph E

Not given in any of the above paragraphs.

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.

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20. Ants have existed on Earth for a considerable period. _____

21. There are different roles within an ant colony. _____

22. Ants possess extraordinary physical abilities relative to their size. _____

23. Ants use multiple methods to exchange information. _____

24. Some ant species engage in agricultural practices. _____

25. Ants play a crucial role in pollination. _____

26. Certain ants have the ability to produce sounds. _____

27. The queen ant is responsible for reproduction in the colony. _____

28. Ants can be found in various habitats around the world. _____

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Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

Time: about 13 minutes

Requiring public schools to provide universal free breakfast programs

The debate over whether public schools should provide universal free breakfast programs has intensified in the Wellington School District, with educators and community members expressing divergent views on the initiative's value and feasibility.

Sarah Martinez, principal of Roosevelt Elementary, strongly advocates for implementing a universal free breakfast program. 'Students who come to school hungry struggle to concentrate and often exhibit behavioral issues,' Martinez explains. 'Our current pay-for-meal system, even with subsidies for low-income families, leaves too many children starting their day without proper nutrition.' She points to a pilot program at her school that showed improved attendance and academic performance among participating students.

However, District Financial Officer Robert Chen expresses concerns about the economic implications. 'While the goal is admirable, implementing a universal free breakfast program would cost the district approximately $2.3 million annually,' Chen states. 'This would require either significant budget cuts in other areas or increased local taxes. We already have an effective reduced-price meal program for families who demonstrate financial need.'

Local nutritionist Dr. Amanda Wong supports the universal program from a public health perspective. 'The stigma associated with receiving free or reduced-price meals prevents many eligible students from participating,' she argues. 'A universal program would eliminate this barrier and ensure all students have access to a nutritious breakfast, regardless of their family's economic status.'

School board member James Thompson offers a different perspective, suggesting a middle-ground approach. 'Instead of a universal program, we should focus on improving our existing system,' Thompson says. 'We could expand eligibility criteria for reduced-price meals and implement better outreach to ensure all families who need assistance are aware of available programs.' He maintains that this targeted approach would be more fiscally responsible while still addressing student hunger.

Parent advocate Lisa Ramirez disagrees with Thompson's suggestion. 'A two-tier system will always create division and shame,' she argues. 'We've seen in other districts that universal programs actually save money in the long run through reduced administrative costs and increased federal reimbursements. This isn't just about feeding hungry kids; it's about creating an equitable learning environment.'

Choose the best option according to the information.

The main argument Sarah Martinez makes for the breakfast program is that **(29)** _____. Robert Chen's primary concern about the program is **(30)** _____. Dr. Amanda Wong's support for the universal program is mainly based on **(31)** _____. James Thompson's proposed solution involves **(32)** _____. Lisa Ramirez challenges Thompson's view by arguing that **(33)** _____.

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Choose the best option for each gap.

29. **A** it would increase school attendance rates
B it would improve student behavior and learning **C** it would reduce administrative costs
D it would help low-income families save money

30. **A** the lack of nutritional value in school meals **B** the inefficiency of the current system
C the significant financial burden on the district **D** the potential increase in administrative work

31. **A** its potential to improve academic performance **B** its ability to eliminate social stigma
C its cost-effectiveness for the district **D** its nutritional benefits for students

32. **A** implementing a completely new system **B** eliminating the current meal program
C enhancing the existing targeted approach **D** reducing the cost of all school meals

33. **A** universal programs are more cost-effective **B** targeted programs create social inequality
C federal funding would increase significantly **D** administrative costs would be eliminated

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

> The debate over school breakfast programs reflects a broader issue of **(34)** _____. While Martinez presents compelling evidence from her pilot program, **(35)** _____. Chen's financial concerns might be addressed by **(36)** _____. The most significant difference between Thompson's and Ramirez's positions is their **(37)** _____. Based on the various perspectives presented, it seems the ideal solution would need to **(38)** _____.

Choose the best option for each gap.

34. **A** educational funding priorities **B** student nutritional needs **C** administrative efficiency
D social equity in education

35. **A** the results may not be representative **B** the program was poorly implemented
C the costs were not considered **D** the timeline was too short

36. **A** increasing local taxes **B** seeking additional federal funding
C reducing other educational programs **D** implementing cost-saving measures

37. **A** view on program costs **B** approach to social equity **C** understanding of nutrition
D assessment of current needs

38. **A** focus solely on cost reduction **B** maintain the current system
C balance financial and social concerns **D** eliminate all meal programs

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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 resident emailing a cooking club about joining their monthly potluck dinners

1 C wants to meet people in her new area
2 D organizes themed dinner events
3 B demonstrate her cooking ability
4 B feels hesitant about presenting initially
5 C is uncertain about membership requirements
6 D both Mediterranean and Asian cuisines
7 B welcome new members
8 C explore various cuisines
9 A provide ingredient lists
10 B attend as guests first
11 A we limit attendance numbers

Part 2: Smart Home Security Systems

12 D the least suitable
13 C comes as a standard feature
14 B offers the most features
15 A choose any features you want
16 C Premium Package
17 B comparing security system packages
18 C a sales representative
19 C includes both indoor and outdoor cameras

Part 3: The Fascinating World of Ants: Nature's Tiny Architects

20 A
21 B
22 C
23 D
24 C
25 E
26 D
27 B
28 A

Part 4: Requiring public schools to provide universal free breakfast programs

29 B it would improve student behavior and learning
30 C the significant financial burden on the district
31 B its ability to eliminate social stigma
32 C enhancing the existing targeted approach
33 B targeted programs create social inequality
34 D social equity in education
35 A the results may not be representative
36 B seeking additional federal funding
37 B approach to social equity
38 C balance financial and social concerns

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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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