CELPIP Reading Practice Test 43

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 local model train club about joining their weekend workshop sessions	1–11	about 11 minutes
Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram	Global Cuisine Cooking Classes	12–19	about 9 minutes
Part 3: Reading for Information	The Fascinating World of Bioluminescence in the Deep Sea	20–28	about 10 minutes
Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints	Should Artificial Intelligence Be Used in Hiring Decisions?	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/43, 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 local model train club about joining their weekend workshop sessions

> Dear Model Train Enthusiasts,
>
> I am writing to express my interest in joining your weekend workshop sessions at the Valley Model Train Club. I recently moved to the area and was thrilled to discover your club through the community bulletin board at the local hobby shop. I've been a model train enthusiast for over five years, primarily working with HO scale trains, and I'm eager to connect with fellow hobbyists.
>
> I attended your open house event last Saturday and was thoroughly impressed by the extensive layout in your clubhouse. The attention to detail in the mountain scenery and the miniature town was remarkable. I particularly enjoyed watching the automated switching system in action and would love to learn more about how it was designed and implemented. During my visit, I had a brief conversation with Tom, one of your members, who mentioned the weekend workshops but couldn't provide specific details about joining.
>
> In my previous hometown, I was part of a similar club where I helped maintain the N-scale display and assisted with our annual exhibition. I have experience in track laying, basic electrical work, and landscape creation. However, I'm still learning about digital control systems and would greatly benefit from the expertise of your members. I noticed your club uses more advanced DCC systems than I'm familiar with, which is one of the main reasons I'm interested in joining your workshops.
>
> I understand from your website that the weekend sessions run every Saturday from 9 AM to 2 PM. Could you please provide information about membership requirements and any associated fees? Also, I'd like to know if there's a waiting list for new members and whether I need to bring my own tools and materials to the workshops. I'm particularly interested in the upcoming session about weathering techniques that was mentioned on your bulletin board.
>
> Additionally, I saw that your club participates in the annual Regional Model Railroad Show. If possible, I'd love to contribute to this year's exhibition preparations. In my previous club, I helped organize similar events and found it to be an excellent way to learn from more experienced members while giving back to the hobby community.
>
> I look forward to hearing from you about the next steps to join your weekend workshops and becoming part of your model railroad community.
>
> Best regards,Marcus Chen

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1. What prompted Marcus to contact the club?

A A newspaper advertisement
B A community bulletin board notice
C A recommendation from Tom
D The annual railroad show

2. During his visit to the club, Marcus was most impressed by the …

A digital control systems
B switching mechanism
C N-scale display
D weathering techniques

3. In his previous club, Marcus …

A organized all the exhibitions
B specialized in digital systems
C worked with smaller scale trains
D taught weathering techniques

4. Marcus is particularly interested in learning about …

A landscape creation
B track laying
C basic electrical work
D digital control systems

5. Marcus wants to know …

A if he can join immediately
B what equipment he needs
C when the sessions start
D who will be his instructor

6. Marcus mentions the Regional Model Railroad Show because he …

A wants to display his own models
B has experience organizing shows
C wishes to help with the event
D plans to attend as a visitor

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

> Dear Mr. Chen, Thank you for your interest in our club. We're always excited to **(7)** _____ who share our passion for model trains. Your experience with HO scale trains and **(8)** _____ would be valuable to our group. Regarding the weekend workshops, there is currently no waiting list, and the

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> annual membership fee is $120. While we provide most equipment, we recommend members **(9)** _____ for personal projects. The weathering techniques workshop you mentioned is scheduled for next month, and we'd be **(10)** _____ to have you join us. As for the Regional Show, we definitely **(11)** _____ and will discuss this further when you visit. Best regards, Robert Wilson, Club Secretary

Choose the best option for each gap.

7. **A** meet new members **B** train beginners **C** host exhibitions **D** organize events

8. **A** digital systems **B** exhibition planning **C** previous club work **D** teaching skills

9. **A** attend all sessions **B** bring basic tools **C** pay extra fees **D** register early

10. **A** required **B** surprised **C** delighted **D** prepared

11. **A** need experienced help **B** are fully staffed **C** cancel this year **D** require registration

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Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram

Time: about 9 minutes

Global Cuisine Cooking Classes

Italian Cuisine:

- 6-week course
- Includes pasta making
- Wine pairing lessons
- Price: $450
- Class size: 12 students

Japanese Cuisine:

- 8-week course
- Sushi and sashimi techniques
- Tea ceremony included
- Price: $550
- Class size: 10 students

Indian Cuisine:

- 5-week course
- Spice blending workshop
- Vegetarian options available
- Price: $400
- Class size: 15 students

Mexican Cuisine:

- 7-week course
- Salsa making competition
- Tequila tasting session
- Price: $500
- Class size: 14 students

Choose the best option.

Sam and Alex are **(12)** _____.

The main purpose of the email is to **(13)** _____.

The courses generally last between **(14)** _____

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Choose the best option for each gap.

12. **A** colleagues. **B** family members. **C** strangers. **D** competitors.

13. **A** complain about cooking classes. **B** share information about cooking classes. **C** cancel a cooking class. **D** invite Alex to teach a cooking class.

14. **A** 3-4 weeks. **B** 5-8 weeks. **C** 9-12 weeks. **D** 13-16 weeks.

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

> Subject: Cooking Class Decision
>
> To: Alex Chen
>
> From: Sam Taylor
>
> Hi Alex,
>
> I've researched the global cuisine cooking classes we discussed. Here's what I found:
>
> The Italian course seems great, especially with the **(15)** _____ included. It's also the **(16)** _____ option. The Japanese course is the longest at **(17)** _____ and includes a unique tea ceremony experience. The Indian course is the shortest but offers a special **(18)** _____ which could be fun. Lastly, the Mexican course caught my eye with its **(19)** _____ I think that could be entertaining!
>
> Let me know which one you prefer, and we can sign up together.
>
> Best,
>
> Sam

Choose the best option for each gap.

15. **A** spice blending **B** sushi making **C** wine pairing **D** salsa competition

16. **A** most expensive **B** longest **C** most popular **D** most affordable

17. **A** 5 weeks **B** 6 weeks **C** 7 weeks **D** 8 weeks

18. **A** wine tasting **B** spice blending workshop **C** sushi rolling contest **D** tequila tasting

19. **A** pasta making workshop **B** tea ceremony **C** vegetarian options **D** salsa making competition

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Part 3: Reading for Information

Time: about 10 minutes

The Fascinating World of Bioluminescence in the Deep Sea

Read the following passage:

Paragraph A

Bioluminescence, the production and emission of light by living organisms, is a captivating phenomenon that occurs in various marine species inhabiting the deep sea. This natural light show is not merely a spectacle but serves crucial functions for the creatures that possess it. In the vast darkness of the deep ocean, where sunlight cannot penetrate, bioluminescence has evolved as an essential tool for survival, communication, and reproduction among diverse marine life forms.

Paragraph B

The mechanism behind bioluminescence involves a chemical reaction between a light-emitting molecule called luciferin and an enzyme called luciferase. When these two compounds interact in the presence of oxygen, they produce light. Some organisms, like certain species of fish, have specialized organs called photophores that contain bioluminescent bacteria. These symbiotic bacteria produce light continuously, which the host organism can control through various methods, such as covering the photophores or adjusting blood flow to the organs.

Paragraph C

Bioluminescence serves multiple purposes in the deep sea ecosystem. Many organisms use it as a form of camouflage, known as counterillumination. By producing light on their undersides that matches the faint sunlight filtering down from above, these creatures can blend in with their surroundings and avoid detection by predators below. Conversely, some predators use bioluminescence to attract prey, luring them closer with mesmerizing displays of light. The anglerfish, for instance, dangles a bioluminescent lure in front of its mouth to entice smaller fish.

Paragraph D

Communication is another vital function of bioluminescence in the deep sea. Many species use specific patterns or colors of light to recognize members of their own species, attract mates, or warn off potential predators. Some squid species engage in complex light displays during courtship rituals, while certain jellyfish use bioluminescent flashes to startle predators and escape danger. Scientists have also discovered that some marine organisms use bioluminescence to communicate with symbiotic bacteria, regulating their population within the host's body.

Paragraph E

Not given in any of the above paragraphs.

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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. Bioluminescence is a phenomenon exclusive to deep-sea creatures. _____

21. The chemical process behind bioluminescence is explained. _____

22. Some organisms use bioluminescence as a defensive mechanism. _____

23. Bioluminescence plays a role in mating behaviors of certain species. _____

24. The intensity of bioluminescent light can be controlled by some organisms. _____

25. Bioluminescence is used by some predators to catch prey. _____

26. Scientists fully understand all the purposes of bioluminescence in marine life. _____

27. Bioluminescence helps some organisms blend in with their environment. _____

28. Some marine animals use bioluminescence to interact with beneficial bacteria. _____

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Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

Time: about 13 minutes

Should Artificial Intelligence Be Used in Hiring Decisions?

The use of artificial intelligence in hiring processes has grown exponentially in recent years, with nearly 67% of large Canadian companies now using some form of AI screening in their recruitment according to a 2023 survey by the Canadian HR Technology Association. What was once a purely human-driven process has evolved into a technology-assisted system that promises efficiency and objectivity, but not everyone is convinced of its merits.

Melissa Chen, HR Director at TechNova Solutions in Vancouver, has embraced AI hiring tools wholeheartedly. "Our AI screening system has cut our hiring time by 40% while helping us identify candidates we might have overlooked using traditional methods," Chen explains. She points to the software's ability to scan thousands of resumes quickly, matching skills and experience to job requirements without human fatigue or bias. The system at TechNova also analyzes video interviews, assessing candidates' speech patterns, vocabulary, and facial expressions to predict job performance. "The data-driven approach removes the gut feelings that sometimes lead to poor hiring decisions," Chen adds.

Not everyone shares Chen's enthusiasm. Dr. Rajiv Patel, a computer ethics researcher at the University of Toronto, has serious concerns about AI's role in hiring. "These systems are trained on historical hiring data that often contains embedded biases," Dr. Patel warns. "If your past successful employees were predominantly from certain demographics, the AI will learn to prefer those same patterns." His research has found that some AI hiring tools can disadvantage candidates with accents, gaps in employment history, or non-traditional career paths. A recent study from his department showed that candidates with foreign-sounding names were 28% less likely to be recommended by certain AI systems compared to identical resumes with anglicized names.

For job seekers like Aisha Mahmoud, a software developer in Montreal, the rise of AI in hiring has created new anxieties. "I spent hours researching how to optimize my resume for AI screening tools before applying to my last position," Mahmoud says. She invested in coaching to help her perform well in video interviews analyzed by algorithms. "It feels like I'm being evaluated by a black box that I don't understand. At least with human interviewers, you can build a connection and explain your unique situation." Mahmoud eventually found employment at a smaller firm that uses traditional hiring methods.

James Wilson, founder of Ethical AI Consulting, believes a balanced approach is possible. "AI can be valuable for initial screening of large applicant pools, but human judgment remains essential for final decisions," Wilson argues. He advises companies to regularly audit their AI hiring tools for bias and to maintain human oversight throughout the process. "The technology should support human decision-makers, not replace them. The most successful implementations I've seen use AI to expand

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> the candidate pool rather than narrow it," Wilson says. "After all, the goal should be finding the best person for the job, not just the person who best fits an algorithm."

Choose the best option according to the information.

> 1. The article mainly discusses the **(29)** _____.
> 2. Melissa Chen believes that AI hiring tools **(30)** _____.
> 3. According to Dr. Rajiv Patel, what is a significant concern with AI hiring systems? **(31)** _____.
> 4. Aisha Mahmoud's experience suggests that job candidates might **(32)** _____.
> 5. James Wilson would most likely support **(33)** _____.

Choose the best option for each gap.

29. **A** technical specifications of AI recruitment software.
B varying perspectives on AI's role in recruitment processes.
C financial benefits of implementing AI in human resources.
D legal regulations governing automated hiring systems.

30. **A** eliminate the need for human involvement in hiring.
B increase efficiency while reducing subjective decision-making.
C primarily benefit technology companies like hers.
D work best for entry-level positions rather than senior roles.

31. **A** They process applications too quickly to be thorough.
B They perpetuate existing patterns of discrimination.
C They lack the technical sophistication to evaluate qualifications.
D They are too expensive for smaller organizations to implement.

32. **A** prefer AI-based interviews over traditional ones.
B feel pressured to adapt to algorithmic evaluation methods.
C receive more personalized feedback from automated systems.
D have greater success with larger companies using AI screening.

33. **A** completely replacing human recruiters with AI systems.
B using AI exclusively for executive-level hiring decisions.
C combining AI screening with meaningful human assessment.
D abandoning AI recruitment tools due to inherent biases.

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

> This article **(34)** _____ the ongoing debate about AI in recruitment. While I understand Chen's enthusiasm for the **(35)** _____ that AI brings to hiring, I'm more aligned with Dr. Patel's concerns. The fact that these systems can **(36)** _____ certain candidates based on factors like

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> name origin or employment gaps is deeply troubling. Mahmoud's experience particularly resonated with me - the idea of having to optimize yourself for an algorithm rather than showcase your authentic qualifications seems **(37)** _____. I think Wilson offers the most sensible perspective here. AI should be a tool that expands opportunities rather than a gatekeeper that **(38)** _____ based on potentially flawed criteria.

Choose the best option for each gap.

34. **A** exaggerates **B** misrepresents **C** effectively captures **D** unnecessarily complicates

35. **A** complexity **B** streamlining **C** expense **D** unpredictability

36. **A** inadvertently penalize **B** appropriately evaluate **C** deliberately promote **D** accurately identify

37. **A** innovative **B** counterproductive **C** straightforward **D** inevitable

38. **A** selects candidates **B** enhances diversity **C** improves efficiency **D** reduces costs

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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 local model train club about joining their weekend workshop sessions

1 B A community bulletin board notice
2 B switching mechanism
3 C worked with smaller scale trains
4 D digital control systems
5 B what equipment he needs
6 C wishes to help with the event
7 A meet new members
8 C previous club work
9 B bring basic tools
10 C delighted
11 A need experienced help

Part 2: Global Cuisine Cooking Classes

12 A colleagues.
13 B share information about cooking classes.
14 B 5-8 weeks.
15 C wine pairing
16 D most affordable
17 D 8 weeks
18 B spice blending workshop
19 D salsa making competition

Part 3: The Fascinating World of Bioluminescence in the Deep Sea

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

Part 4: Should Artificial Intelligence Be Used in Hiring Decisions?

29 B varying perspectives on AI's role in recruitment processes.
30 B increase efficiency while reducing subjective decision-making.
31 B They perpetuate existing patterns of discrimination.
32 B feel pressured to adapt to algorithmic evaluation methods.
33 C combining AI screening with meaningful human assessment.
34 C effectively captures
35 B streamlining
36 A inadvertently penalize
37 B counterproductive
38 A selects candidates

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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.

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