CELPIP Reading Practice Test 46

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 parent emailing a local theater group about their child joining the upcoming holiday play production	1–11	about 11 minutes
Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram	International Volunteer Programs Comparison	12–19	about 9 minutes
Part 3: Reading for Information	The Intricate World of Violin Making: Craftsmanship and Tradition	20–28	about 10 minutes
Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints	The Ethics of Gene Editing: Medical Breakthrough or Playing God?	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/46, 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 parent emailing a local theater group about their child joining the upcoming holiday play production

> Dear Ms. Thompson,
>
> I am writing to inquire about the upcoming holiday production of 'The Nutcracker' at the Riverside Community Theater. My daughter Emma, who is 12 years old, is very interested in auditioning for a role in the play. She has been taking dance lessons for the past five years and recently participated in her school's spring musical, where she had a supporting role.
>
> I attended last year's production with Emma, and she was absolutely mesmerized by the performance. Since then, she has been constantly practicing her ballet moves and even memorized some of the dialogue from the play. When we saw the announcement about this year's auditions on the community board, she couldn't contain her excitement.
>
> However, I do have some questions about the commitment required. As Emma is still in middle school, I want to ensure that the rehearsal schedule won't interfere too much with her academic responsibilities. Could you please provide information about the rehearsal schedule, including how many days per week and the duration of each session? Also, I understand that parent volunteers are needed for various aspects of the production, and I would be happy to help with costumes, as I have experience in sewing and design.
>
> Additionally, I noticed that the audition information packet mentions a production fee, but the amount wasn't specified. Could you please let me know the cost involved? Also, will the children need to provide their own costumes, or will these be supplied by the theater? Emma has some basic dance wear, but I want to make sure we're prepared for any additional requirements.
>
> One more question: the announcement mentioned that all cast members must be available for the entire run of the show from December 15th to December 30th. Unfortunately, we have a family wedding to attend on December 18th. Would this absence disqualify Emma from participating, or is there some flexibility with the schedule, perhaps with an understudy system in place?
>
> I appreciate your time in addressing these questions. Emma is very eager to be part of this production, and I want to make sure we understand all the requirements before making this commitment.
>
> Best regards,Sarah Mitchell

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1. What motivated Emma to audition for the play?

A Her dance teacher's recommendation
B Her previous role in a school musical
C Watching last year's performance
D Her friends' participation in the show

2. Sarah's main concern about the production is …

A the cost of participation
B the impact on Emma's studies
C the quality of the production
D Emma's dancing abilities

3. Sarah offers to help with …

A choreography
B stage management
C costume preparation
D ticket sales

4. The production fee …

A is too expensive
B hasn't been announced
C includes costumes
D can be paid in installments

5. Sarah mentions the family wedding because …

A it might prevent Emma from participating
B they need to adjust the show dates
C Emma needs time to prepare for it
D it conflicts with the audition date

6. Emma has been dancing for …

A twelve years
B two years
C five years
D one year

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

> Dear Mrs. Mitchell, Thank you for your interest in our production of 'The Nutcracker'. We're delighted to hear that Emma is **(7)** _____. Regarding rehearsals, we meet three times a week after school, and we try to be **(8)** _____. The production fee is $250, which covers costumes and materials.

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> We do ask that participants **(9)** _____, but all special costumes are provided by the theater. As for the December 18th absence, while we prefer full attendance, we do have **(10)** _____. However, this would depend on the role Emma is cast in. We encourage parent involvement and would be very grateful for your help with **(11)** _____. Best regards, Linda Thompson

Choose the best option for each gap.

7. **A** interested in dancing **B** eager to audition **C** taking dance lessons **D** watching the show

8. **A** flexible with scheduling **B** strict about attendance **C** done by dinner time **D** finished before dark

9. **A** bring their own dance shoes **B** provide basic dance wear **C** buy their own costumes **D** make their own props

10. **A** extra rehearsal times **B** understudies available **C** alternate show dates **D** makeup performances

11. **A** ticket sales **B** choreography **C** costumes **D** stage setup

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Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram

Time: about 9 minutes

International Volunteer Programs Comparison

Wildlife Conservation:

- Location: South Africa
- Duration: 4-12 weeks
- Cost: $2,500 per month
- Accommodation: Shared dormitory
- Skills required: Basic animal handling
- Language: English

Teaching English:

- Location: Thailand
- Duration: 3-6 months
- Cost: $1,800 per month
- Accommodation: Homestay
- Skills required: TEFL certification
- Language: Basic Thai helpful

Marine Conservation:

- Location: Belize
- Duration: 2-8 weeks
- Cost: $3,000 per month
- Accommodation: Beachfront cabins
- Skills required: SCUBA certification
- Language: English

Community Development:

- Location: Peru
- Duration: 1-3 months
- Cost: $1,500 per month
- Accommodation: Local family homestay
- Skills required: None specific
- Language: Basic Spanish recommended

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Choose the best option.

> Sam and Alex are **(12)** _____.
>
> The main purpose of the email is to **(13)** _____.
>
> Sam's tone in the email is **(14)** _____

Choose the best option for each gap.

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

13. **A** convince Alex to choose a specific program.
B provide information about volunteer programs. **C** discourage Alex from volunteering abroad.
D share personal volunteering experiences.

14. **A** formal and distant. **B** informative and helpful. **C** critical and judgmental.
D urgent and pressuring.

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

> Subject: International Volunteer Opportunities
>
> To: Alex Chen
>
> From: Sam Taylor
>
> Hi Alex,
>
> I've done some research on international volunteer programs as we discussed. There are several interesting options, but they vary in terms of commitment and requirements. The wildlife conservation program in South Africa seems exciting, but it's **(15)** _____ of all the options. If you're looking for a longer-term commitment, the teaching program in Thailand might be suitable, plus it **(16)** _____ The marine conservation project in Belize looks amazing, but keep in mind that it **(17)** _____ The community development program in Peru appears to be the most **(18)** _____ in terms of skills needed, and it's also the **(19)** _____ I think it could be a great way to improve your Spanish too.
>
> Let me know what you think!
>
> Best,
>
> Sam

Choose the best option for each gap.

15. **A** the longest **B** the most expensive **C** the most challenging **D** the most popular

16. **A** requires the least preparation. **B** offers the most diverse experience.
C provides valuable teaching experience. **D** is the shortest program available.

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17. **A** requires specific certification. **B** is the most remote location. **C** has the strictest age limit. **D** offers the least comfortable accommodation.

18. **A** expensive **B** flexible **C** demanding **D** popular

19. **A** shortest option available. **B** most culturally immersive. **C** least expensive option. **D** most physically challenging.

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Part 3: Reading for Information

Time: about 10 minutes

The Intricate World of Violin Making: Craftsmanship and Tradition

Read the following passage:

Paragraph A

Violin making, also known as lutherie, is a centuries-old craft that combines artistry, science, and tradition. The process of creating a violin requires meticulous attention to detail, extensive knowledge of wood properties, and a deep understanding of acoustics. Violin makers, or luthiers, typically spend years honing their skills before they can produce instruments of the highest quality. The art of violin making reached its pinnacle in the 17th and 18th centuries in Cremona, Italy, where legendary luthiers like Antonio Stradivari and Giuseppe Guarneri created instruments that are still revered today.

Paragraph B

The creation of a violin begins with the selection of wood. Spruce is typically used for the top of the instrument, while maple is chosen for the back, sides, and neck. The wood must be carefully aged and dried to ensure stability and optimal sound quality. Luthiers often stockpile wood for years, allowing it to naturally age and develop the desired tonal qualities. The top and back plates of the violin are then carved to precise thicknesses, with variations of less than a millimeter potentially affecting the instrument's sound. The violin's distinctive f-holes are cut into the top plate, playing a crucial role in the instrument's acoustics.

Paragraph C

One of the most challenging aspects of violin making is the creation of the scroll, the decorative spiral at the end of the pegbox. Carving the scroll requires exceptional skill and artistry, and it often serves as a signature of the luthier's craftsmanship. The neck and fingerboard are then attached to the body, followed by the fitting of the bridge, which transmits the vibrations of the strings to the body of the instrument. The positioning of the bridge is critical for achieving the proper sound and playability.

Paragraph D

The final stages of violin making involve applying varnish to the instrument. This process not only enhances the violin's appearance but also affects its tonal qualities. The composition and application of varnish remain subjects of much debate and experimentation among luthiers. Some believe that the secret to the exceptional sound of Stradivarius violins lies in their varnish, though this theory remains unproven. After the varnish has cured, the violin is fitted with strings and fine-tuners, and then undergoes a period of adjustment and playing to reach its full tonal potential.

Paragraph E

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> 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.

20. The choice of wood is crucial in violin making. _____

21. Violin making reached its peak during a specific historical period. _____

22. The scroll of a violin is considered a challenging part to create. _____

23. Varnish application is a contentious topic among violin makers. _____

24. Modern technology has significantly altered traditional violin making techniques. _____

25. The positioning of certain parts affects the violin's sound quality. _____

26. Violin making requires a combination of artistic and scientific knowledge. _____

27. The aging process of wood influences the sound of the violin. _____

28. There is a specific country known for producing the best violins today. _____

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Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

Time: about 13 minutes

The Ethics of Gene Editing: Medical Breakthrough or Playing God?

> Recent advancements in gene editing technology, particularly CRISPR-Cas9, have sparked a heated debate in the scientific community and beyond. While some hail it as a revolutionary tool that could eradicate genetic diseases, others worry about the ethical implications and potential misuse of such powerful technology.
>
> Proponents of gene editing argue that it offers unprecedented opportunities to prevent and cure genetic disorders. Dr. Jennifer Lee, a geneticist at Stanford University, states, "With CRISPR, we have the potential to eliminate devastating hereditary conditions like cystic fibrosis or Huntington's disease. It's a game-changer for medical research and treatment."
>
> However, critics raise concerns about the long-term consequences and ethical dilemmas associated with altering the human genome. Dr. Michael Chen, a bioethicist at Harvard University, warns, "We're treading on dangerous ground. Once we start editing genes, where do we draw the line? It could lead to designer babies and exacerbate existing social inequalities."
>
> The debate intensified in 2018 when Chinese scientist He Jiankui announced he had created the world's first gene-edited babies. This controversial experiment was widely condemned by the scientific community and raised questions about the regulation of gene editing research.
>
> Governments worldwide are grappling with how to regulate this emerging technology. Some countries, like the United Kingdom, have approved limited gene editing research, while others have imposed strict bans. The United States currently allows gene editing in laboratory settings but prohibits clinical applications in humans.
>
> As the technology continues to advance, the ethical debate shows no signs of slowing down. Dr. Sarah Thompson, a professor of bioethics at MIT, emphasizes the need for a global consensus: "We need an international framework to guide the responsible use of gene editing. It's crucial that we harness its potential benefits while safeguarding against potential abuses."
>
> Ultimately, the gene editing debate raises fundamental questions about the limits of scientific progress and human intervention in nature. As society grapples with these complex issues, the future of gene editing and its impact on humanity hangs in the balance.

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

> As someone who has followed the gene editing debate closely, I believe that **(29)** _____ While I understand the concerns about potential misuse, I think the benefits **(30)** _____ Just imagine a world where we could **(31)** _____ However, I do agree that strict regulations are necessary. We need to ensure that **(32)** _____ At the same time, we shouldn't let fear hold us back from

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> scientific progress. I believe that with proper oversight and ethical guidelines, gene editing could **(33)** _____

Choose the best option for each gap.

29. **A** we should completely ban all gene editing research.
B the technology holds immense promise for humanity.
C scientists are playing a dangerous game with nature.
D the risks of gene editing far outweigh any benefits.

30. **A** are insignificant compared to the ethical concerns.
B only apply to a small portion of the population. **C** far outweigh the potential risks.
D are being exaggerated by the scientific community.

31. **A** create perfect human beings without flaws.
B eliminate genetic diseases and reduce human suffering.
C completely redesign the human genome. **D** stop all natural evolution in humans.

32. **A** only the wealthy have access to gene editing technology.
B gene editing is only used for cosmetic purposes.
C the technology is not used for any medical purposes.
D the technology is not misused or applied irresponsibly.

33. **A** lead to a dystopian future of genetic discrimination.
B revolutionize medicine and improve countless lives.
C be restricted to only a few elite scientists. **D** remain a controversial topic for decades to come.

Choose the best option according to the information given.

> This article is about **(34)** _____
>
> Dr. Jennifer Lee believes that gene editing **(35)** _____
>
> The experiment by He Jiankui **(36)** _____
>
> The United States' stance on gene editing **(37)** _____
>
> Dr. Sarah Thompson argues that **(38)** _____

Choose the best option for each gap.

34. **A** the history of genetic research. **B** the controversy surrounding gene editing technology.
C the success of CRISPR in curing diseases. **D** the regulation of scientific research in China.

35. **A** should be banned due to ethical concerns. **B** is too dangerous to pursue further.
C could revolutionize medical treatments. **D** is only useful for creating designer babies.

36. **A** was widely praised by the scientific community. **B** led to stricter regulations worldwide.
C proved the safety of gene editing in humans. **D** was criticized and raised ethical concerns.

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37. **A** allows unrestricted use in all settings. **B** prohibits all forms of gene editing research.
C permits research but not clinical applications in humans.
D has no clear policy on gene editing.

38. **A** gene editing should be completely banned.
B an international framework is needed for responsible use.
C scientists should have complete freedom in gene editing research.
D the potential risks outweigh any possible benefits.

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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 parent emailing a local theater group about their child joining the upcoming holiday play production

1 C Watching last year's performance
2 B the impact on Emma's studies
3 C costume preparation
4 B hasn't been announced
5 A it might prevent Emma from participating
6 C five years
7 B eager to audition
8 A flexible with scheduling
9 B provide basic dance wear
10 B understudies available
11 C costumes

Part 2: International Volunteer Programs Comparison

12 C friends.
13 B provide information about volunteer programs.
14 B informative and helpful.
15 B the most expensive
16 C provides valuable teaching experience.
17 A requires specific certification.
18 B flexible
19 C least expensive option.

Part 3: The Intricate World of Violin Making: Craftsmanship and Tradition

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

Part 4: The Ethics of Gene Editing: Medical Breakthrough or Playing God?

29 B the technology holds immense promise for humanity.
30 C far outweigh the potential risks.
31 B eliminate genetic diseases and reduce human suffering.
32 D the technology is not misused or applied irresponsibly.
33 B revolutionize medicine and improve countless lives.
34 B the controversy surrounding gene editing technology.
35 C could revolutionize medical treatments.
36 D was criticized and raised ethical concerns.
37 C permits research but not clinical applications in humans.
38 B an international framework is needed for responsible use.

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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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