CELPIP Reading Practice Test 53

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	Quebec Trip Plans	1–11	about 11 minutes
Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram	Tea Order	12–19	about 9 minutes
Part 3: Reading for Information	How Bees And Beekeepers Produce Honey	20–28	about 10 minutes
Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints	Kingston Building Heights	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/53, 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

Quebec Trip Plans

> Dear Tom,
>
> I have a few questions about my trip, and I'm hoping you can help. My cousin Nadine is getting married in Montreal on October 11, and my manager has approved 2 weeks of unpaid leave for me! That is more time off than I have had in years. My aunt has offered me her spare room for the days around the wedding, so that part is sorted. Once the leave was approved, I moved my return flight to the end of the following week, which leaves me 5 free days in between. I'd like to visit Quebec City and some of the pretty river towns before coming back to Montreal for my flight home, and since I was only ten the last time I was in Quebec, I'm really excited.
>
> You did your master's in Quebec City, and you visit your sister Claire in Montreal every holiday, so you know both ends of this trip far better than I do. Could you suggest a place to stay in Quebec City for a night that's comfortable and not too expensive? I'd also like to know whether I should buy the train tickets now or wait until I get there. When I checked the website on Sunday, there were only a few discounted seats left on that line for the week I want, although I have no idea whether that is normal for October.
>
> Then there's the rental car. Some of the villages I want to see get only one bus a day, and a car would get me there whenever I liked. Still, renting with insurance costs a lot, and Northway Rentals charges $150 extra if I leave the car in a different city. Parking inside the old walls sounds like a headache too, so I'm leaning towards the train. If the 5 days become 4, though, I don't know which part to give up: Quebec City, the river towns, or extra time in Montreal.
>
> Let me know what you think whenever you get a chance. I finally painted the kitchen last weekend and the smell still hasn't gone away, so I'll be glad to get out of here for a while! Say hi to Claire for me.
>
> Ruth

1. Why did Ruth write this letter?

A to get advice on her free days
B to share news about Nadine's wedding
C to ask Tom to join her in Quebec City
D to explain why she moved her flight

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2. Ruth has 5 free days because

A she changed the date of her flight home.
B the wedding lasts most of a week.
C her aunt has room for only a week.
D Nadine asked her to stay longer.

3. Ruth probably asks Tom for help because he

A works for the train company.
B knows both cities well.
C is also going to the wedding.
D has rented cars in Quebec before.

4. Why is Ruth leaning towards the train?

A The train ride is quicker than driving.
B The buses run to every village daily.
C Renting a car would be costly and awkward.
D The train is cheaper than the bus.

5. A car from Montreal would cost Ruth $150 more if she

A kept it for all 5 days.
B drove it out to the river towns.
C parked it inside the old walls.
D left it in Quebec City.

6. The letter mainly expresses

A disappointment.
B impatience.
C excitement.
D gratitude.

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 Ruth,
>
> Two weeks off is fantastic, though I'm **(7)** _____ it's unpaid. For your night in Quebec City, try Maison Laurier, a small guesthouse just outside the old walls. It's **(8)** _____, and the owner makes a great breakfast. You were **(9)** _____ about the train seats, since the cheap ones always sell out in the fall, so buy your tickets now. I think you're **(10)** _____ to take the train, as the drop-off fee alone would cost more than your ticket and parking in the old town is a nightmare. If the trip does get cut to four days, I would give up **(11)** _____, because you'll already have a few days at your aunt's. I've just started a new job at the college, so things are busy here, but I'll be at Claire's that week. Let's have dinner!

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> All the best,
>
> Tom

Choose the best option for each gap.

7. **A** delighted to hear **B** sorry to hear **C** relieved **D** proud that

8. **A** cheap but comfortable **B** the priciest place in town **C** far from comfortable **D** closed in October

9. **A** worrying for nothing **B** right to be concerned **C** given the wrong information **D** a little too relaxed

10. **A** quite right **B** making a mistake **C** a little too careful **D** brave

11. **A** a day of the wedding **B** the river towns **C** the extra time in Montreal **D** your night in Quebec City

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Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram

Time: about 9 minutes

Tea Order



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.

> Hi Maya!
>
> You were right that the tea place is worth the detour, but their menu is a proper maze. We're all skint until Friday, and the cheapest thing on there, **(12)** _____, can sit in the middle of the table. I'd rather not order something nobody touches.
>
> Only one calls itself an everyday favourite, so **(13)** _____ is the easy call, and the turmeric one would have worked if the three milks printed under it included **(14)** _____. That's two down and too many to go.
>
> I'd have gone for the chai, but there's **(15)** _____, right before the clove I skip. Whatever's left goes on **(16)** _____, the other one at the top of their price range. Also, the parking meter outside eats coins and gives absolutely nothing back. You should just bring a card!
>
> Cheers,

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> Olivia

Choose the best option for each gap.

12. **A** Berry Hibiscus Cooler **B** Golden Turmeric Latte **C** Peach Oolong Bliss **D** Spiced Chai Supreme

13. **A** Spiced Chai Supreme **B** Peach Oolong Bliss **C** Jasmine Pearl Green **D** Berry Hibiscus Cooler

14. **A** whole milk **B** soy milk **C** oat milk **D** almond milk

15. **A** cinnamon **B** ginger **C** cardamom **D** turmeric

16. **A** Peach Oolong Bliss **B** Jasmine Pearl Green **C** Golden Turmeric Latte **D** Spiced Chai Supreme

17. Maya and the writer habitually …

A own the tea house
B have never met
C trade recommendations
D work opposite shifts

18. The writer's main point here is to …

A complain about a menu
B ask for a lift
C settle a drinks order
D cancel a booking

19. The writer's approach to the menu is …

A interested
B precise
C practical
D systematic

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Part 3: Reading for Information

Time: about 10 minutes

How Bees And Beekeepers Produce Honey

Paragraph A

Honey begins as nectar, a dilute sugar solution produced by flowers; a foraging worker draws it into a honey stomach separate from the digestive stomach used for the bee's own nourishment. Enzymes begin changing complex sugars while the forager returns to the colony. The bee transfers the liquid to house bees, which may pass it among themselves and expose it repeatedly to air. Flower species influence the nectar's sugar balance and aromatic compounds, so colonies using identical equipment can produce honey with different colour and flavour. Weather also affects which plants secrete nectar and whether bees can fly, making harvest volume and character partly agricultural rather than solely a result of hive management. That boundary is important to the larger account.

Paragraph B

Fresh nectar contains too much water for long storage. House bees spread small quantities across the walls of wax cells, increasing surface area, and fan their wings to move humid air out of the hive. As evaporation proceeds, the liquid thickens and becomes less hospitable to yeasts and other microorganisms. Bees usually seal a sufficiently concentrated cell with wax, but a cap is a colony response rather than a laboratory measurement of every cell's moisture. If beekeepers remove frames too early, the extracted honey may ferment after packaging. A sweet taste or normal colour cannot reveal the excess water, so producers often confirm moisture with a refractometer. This framing connects the immediate facts without erasing the distinctions among them.

Paragraph C

Beekeepers remove mature frames and uncap the wax seals before placing combs in a centrifugal extractor. Rotation throws honey from the cells while leaving much of the comb intact. Returned comb saves the colony from rebuilding all of the wax, a task that would consume time and food energy. Extracted honey is strained to remove wax fragments and may be allowed to settle so air bubbles rise. Gentle warming can make dense honey easier to filter and bottle, but excessive heat may drive off volatile aromas or speed chemical changes. Extraction therefore separates honey from reusable structure; it does not determine which flowers supplied the nectar. Viewed together, the evidence connects immediate observations with the broader pattern they collectively produce.

Paragraph D

Honey naturally forms crystals when glucose molecules organize around small particles. The rate depends on sugar composition, temperature, and seed crystals, so crystallization is not evidence that honey is spoiled or artificial. Creamed honey is produced by controlling this process to create many fine crystals and a smooth texture. Honey can absorb moisture from humid air after extraction, which may raise fermentation risk if containers are poorly sealed. Heating can dissolve crystals

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temporarily, but the underlying sugar balance remains and crystals may return. Proper packaging protects the moisture level achieved by the bees and preserves flavour; it cannot make all floral varieties behave identically in storage. This synthesis links the separate points while preserving the conditions that qualify each one.

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.

20. Nectar spreading and ventilation jointly accelerate the same evaporation bottleneck. _____

21. Identical storage cannot erase varietal differences in honey crystallization. _____

22. Safe moisture readings also reveal which flowers supplied the nectar. _____

23. Expected glucose organization can be managed into a smooth texture. _____

24. Foragers separate transported nectar from food intended for their digestion. _____

25. Wax capping indicates concentration without measuring every cell's moisture. _____

26. Heating can improve filtration flow while sacrificing desired volatile compounds. _____

27. Floral chemistry and flight weather diversify output before extraction begins. _____

28. Centrifuging preserves reusable comb without revealing the honey's botanical origin. _____

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Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

Time: about 13 minutes

Kingston Building Heights

> A provincial growth assessment published in June concluded that Kingston must accommodate thousands more dwellings within the decade. Councillors will vote in November on an amendment to the zoning bylaw permitting buildings of 6 to 12 storeys along transit corridors now restricted to detached houses. The corridors carry the city's most frequent bus routes, and the amendment would apply to properties within 200 metres of a stop. Public submissions closed in September, and the planning department has recommended approval in a report running to several dozen pages.
>
> Erin Delaney, the planner who drafted the amendment, has managed the city's residential intensification file for several years and is direct about the alternatives. "We can build upward along the bus routes, or we can pave the farmland past Westbrook," Delaney said. "There isn't a third option in this file." She points to a comparable rezoning in Guelph that produced thousands of apartments without a corresponding deterioration in traffic.
>
> Gordon Pike, a retired municipal engineer, has lived in Kingscourt for decades and chairs a neighbourhood association that meets monthly at the community centre. "Nobody here disputes that Kingston needs housing. I've said so at three meetings," Pike said. "What I dispute is the scale." The sewer mains beneath his street have not been enlarged in decades, and much of the neighbourhood has signed a petition requesting a capacity study before any approval.
>
> Rachel Boudreau, of the Kingston Housing Affordability Coalition, which assists tenants with applications for rent supplements, wants the additional storeys and a condition attached to them. She is asking councillors to require that 15% of apartments in any new mid-rise be offered below market, an arrangement that operates in several Ontario municipalities. "A tower of luxury rentals is still a tower the people I represent can't afford," Boudreau said. The coalition's written submission was filed in August, and Boudreau addressed the committee in person. The planning department has commissioned the capacity study and referred the affordability condition to a separate review. That review reports in the new year, and the vote on permitted heights proceeds in November.

29. Delaney's remark about a third option implies that refusing the amendment would

A protect the farmland past Westbrook.

B send building onto the farmland.

C satisfy the affordability coalition.

D reduce traffic on the bus routes.

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30. Pike's petition asks the city to

A reject the amendment outright.
B require below-market apartments.
C study sewer capacity first.
D rebuild the mains this year.

31. Boudreau and Pike would both agree that the amendment as drafted is

A certain to fail in November.
B the same as the Guelph rezoning.
C unnecessary given the assessment.
D incomplete on its own.

32. The article's closing lines make clear that the November vote will settle

A the heights and nothing else.
B corridor servicing.
C a below-market requirement.
D the provincial growth target.

33. What is the article mainly about?

A Kingscourt's aging mains.
B the terms attached to new height.
C results from a provincial assessment.
D how Guelph handled its rezoning.

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 rent on one of those corridors and I would be glad of a building I could actually get into. The part of Ms. Boudreau's case that persuaded me is that a tower on its own is **(34)** _____. Mr. Pike is not the obstacle he is made out to be either, since what he has actually asked for is. Mr. Pike is not the obstacle he is made out to be either, since what he has actually asked for is **(35)** _____. The department gave him that, which I did not expect. What worries me is the timing, because his study and her condition both land. The department gave him that, which I did not expect. What worries me is the timing, because his study and her condition both land **(36)** _____. Ms. Delaney is probably right that the alternative is. Ms. Delaney is probably right that the alternative is **(37)** _____, and on balance I would rather have the buildings. I would just rather have them, and on balance I would rather have the buildings. I would just rather have them **(38)** _____ as well.

Choose the best option for each gap.

34. **A** useless to tenants **B** cheaper than a house **C** against policy **D** much too tall

35. **A** a lower building height **B** a study before approval **C** bylaw rejection **D** planner meeting

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36. **A** before the November vote **B** after the vote **C** before the same committee **D** with the assessment

37. **A** more towers **B** fewer homes **C** pavement **D** resubmission

38. **A** much closer **B** much sooner **C** brick-built **D** affordable

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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: Quebec Trip Plans

1 A to get advice on her free days

2 A she changed the date of her flight home.

3 B knows both cities well.

4 C Renting a car would be costly and awkward.

5 D left it in Quebec City.

6 C excitement.

7 B sorry to hear

8 A cheap but comfortable

9 B right to be concerned

10 A quite right

11 C the extra time in Montreal

Part 2: Tea Order

12 A Berry Hibiscus Cooler

13 C Jasmine Pearl Green

14 B soy milk

15 C cardamom

16 A Peach Oolong Bliss

17 C trade recommendations

18 C settle a drinks order

19 C practical

Part 3: How Bees And Beekeepers Produce Honey

20 B

21 D

22 E

23 D

24 A

25 B

26 C

27 A

28 C

Part 4: Kingston Building Heights

29 B send building onto the farmland.

30 C study sewer capacity first.

31 D incomplete on its own.

32 A the heights and nothing else.

33 B the terms attached to new height.

34 A useless to tenants

35 B a study before approval

36 B after the vote

37 C pavement

38 D affordable

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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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