CELPIP Reading Practice Test 59

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	Storm-Damaged Fence Cost Sharing	1–11	about 11 minutes
Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram	Winter Swim Lessons for Two Children	12–19	about 9 minutes
Part 3: Reading for Information	Banff Highway Wildlife Crossings	20–28	about 10 minutes
Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints	Westbrook Four-Day Work Week Trial	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/59, 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

Storm-Damaged Fence Cost Sharing

Dear Mr. Okafor,

I hope you and your family came through last weekend's windstorm without too much trouble. As you have probably noticed, the cedar fence that runs between our backyards did not fare so well. Two sections near the lilac bush have blown down completely, and several of the remaining posts are leaning badly enough that I doubt they will survive the winter. Since the fence belongs to both of us, I thought I would put my thoughts in writing so that you have time to consider them before we sit down together.

My first call was to my insurance company, but unfortunately my policy does not cover fences damaged by wind, only those struck by falling trees. You may want to check your own policy, as coverage varies. In the meantime, I have collected three quotes from local contractors. Prairie Post & Rail would repair the two fallen sections for $1,400, but they warned that the rest of the fence is nearly twenty years old and would likely need work within a year or two. Kowalski Fencing quoted $5,800 to replace the entire fence with pressure-treated wood, and a third company, Northgate Builders, offered vinyl for $7,900. Vinyl lasts longer and never needs staining, but I find it looks rather artificial next to our gardens.

In my view, replacing the whole fence with wood makes the most sense. Patching it would only postpone the inevitable, and we would end up paying for labour twice. I propose that we split the Kowalski quote equally, which comes to $2,900 each. I realize that is a significant amount to spend all at once, so if it would help, I am happy to pay the $1,000 deposit myself now, and you could pay me back your share by the end of March.

There is one more thing I wanted to raise. Kowalski has offered to build the new fence 30 centimetres taller than the current one at no extra cost if we sign before November 15, when their fall schedule fills up. As you know, my grandchildren's dog has a habit of leaping over the old fence into your vegetable garden, so I would welcome the extra height. The city requires a permit for fences over two metres, but the taller design would still fall just under that limit.

I will be away visiting my sister in Regina until next Thursday, but please feel free to leave a note in my mailbox or call me at 306-555-0148 once I'm back. If you have a contractor you prefer, I would be glad to hear about it, too.

Warm regards,

Margaret Lindqvist

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1. What is the main purpose of Margaret's letter?

A to complain about damage caused by a dog
B to propose a plan for replacing a shared fence
C to ask her neighbour to recommend a contractor
D to explain an insurance claim she has filed

2. Why will Margaret's insurance not pay for the fence?

A She had not renewed her policy in time.
B The fence was too old to be covered.
C Her policy excludes damage caused by wind.
D Only her neighbour's policy covers the fence.

3. What did Prairie Post & Rail point out?

A Vinyl would be a better long-term choice.
B The posts must be replaced before winter.
C The fallen sections cannot be repaired.
D The rest of the fence will soon need work.

4. Margaret prefers wood to vinyl mainly because she feels that

A vinyl does not look as natural.
B vinyl requires more upkeep.
C vinyl costs twice as much.
D vinyl takes longer to install.

5. Why does Margaret offer to pay the deposit herself?

A She wants the work done before her trip.
B She hopes to make the cost easier to manage.
C She feels responsible for the storm damage.
D The contractor requires one person to pay.

6. One reason Margaret would like a taller fence is that

A it would give her more privacy.
B the city requires a minimum height.
C it would block wind in future storms.
D it would keep a dog out of a garden.

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 Margaret,
>
> Thank you for your thoughtful letter, and I'm sorry it has taken me a few days to reply. I agree that simply **(7)** _____ would be a waste of money, since we would only be calling a contractor back

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again in a year or two.

I also checked my own insurance, and it turns out my policy **(8)** _____, so I'm afraid it won't help us either.

Your offer to **(9)** _____ is very generous, but I would rather pay my half of it now so that neither of us has to keep track of who owes what.

As for the height, I would be delighted to have a taller fence. My tomatoes have suffered enough from **(10)** _____ visits this summer! Since Kowalski's offer is only good **(11)** _____, why don't we sign the contract as soon as you get back from Regina?

I'll keep an eye on your house while you're away.

Best regards,

Daniel Okafor

Choose the best option for each gap.

7. **A** patching the damaged sections **B** replacing the whole fence **C** choosing a vinyl fence **D** waiting until the spring

8. **A** covers only vinyl fencing **B** would pay for the whole fence **C** does not include storm damage **D** requires a city permit first

9. **A** pay for the whole fence **B** cover the deposit for now **C** speak to the contractor **D** apply for the permit

10. **A** your grandchildren's **B** the city inspector's **C** the contractor's **D** the dog's

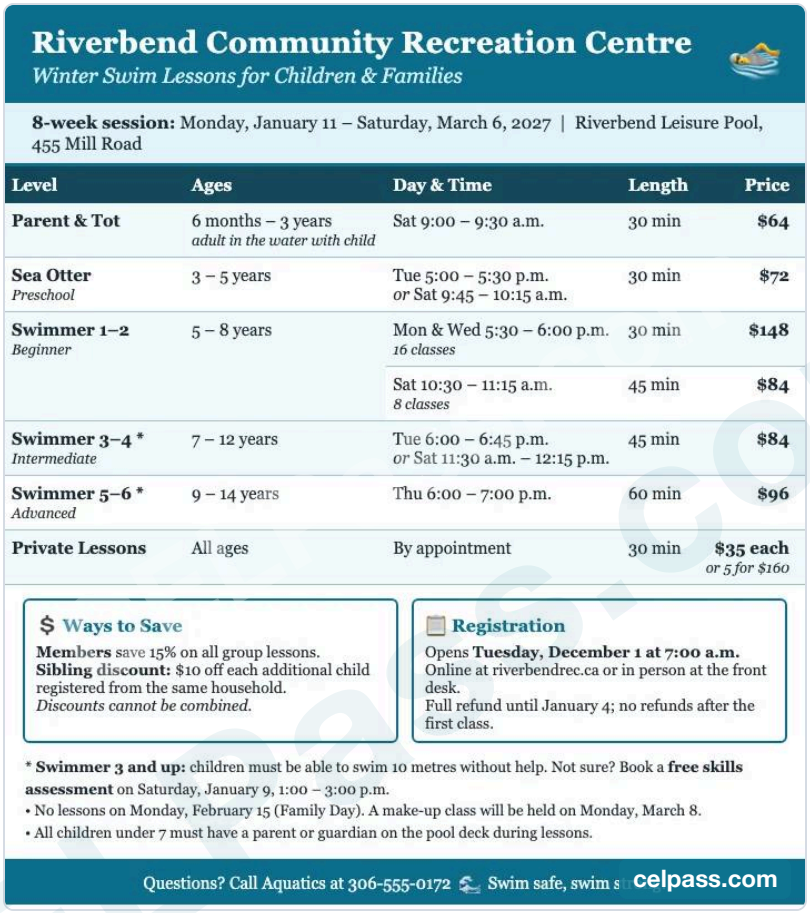
11. **A** until mid-November **B** until next Thursday **C** until the end of March **D** until the spring rush

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Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram

Time: about 9 minutes

Winter Swim Lessons for Two Children



Riverbend Community Recreation Centre

Winter Swim Lessons for Children & Families

8-week session: Monday, January 11 – Saturday, March 6, 2027 | Riverbend Leisure Pool, 455 Mill Road

Level	Ages	Day & Time	Length	Price
Parent & Tot	6 months – 3 years *adult in the water with child*	Sat 9:00 – 9:30 a.m.	30 min	**$64**
Sea Otter *Preschool*	3 – 5 years	Tue 5:00 – 5:30 p.m. *or* Sat 9:45 – 10:15 a.m.	30 min	**$72**
Swimmer 1–2 *Beginner*	5 – 8 years	Mon & Wed 5:30 – 6:00 p.m. *16 classes*	30 min	**$148**
		Sat 10:30 – 11:15 a.m. *8 classes*	45 min	**$84**
Swimmer 3–4 * *Intermediate*	7 – 12 years	Tue 6:00 – 6:45 p.m. *or* Sat 11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.	45 min	**$84**
Swimmer 5–6 * *Advanced*	9 – 14 years	Thu 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.	60 min	**$96**
Private Lessons	All ages	By appointment	30 min	**$35 each** *or 5 for $160*

$ Ways to Save

Members save 15% on all group lessons.
Sibling discount: $10 off each additional child registered from the same household.
Discounts cannot be combined.

Registration

Opens **Tuesday, December 1 at 7:00 a.m.**
Online at riverbendrec.ca or in person at the front desk.
Full refund until January 4; no refunds after the first class.

* **Swimmer 3 and up:** children must be able to swim 10 metres without help. Not sure? Book a **free skills assessment** on Saturday, January 9, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.
• No lessons on Monday, February 15 (Family Day). A make-up class will be held on Monday, March 8.
• All children under 7 must have a parent or guardian on the pool deck during lessons.

Questions? Call Aquatics at 306-555-0172 Swim safe, swim s celpass.com

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: Swim lessons this winter
>
> To: Tomás Reyes
>
> From: Lisa Ferreira
>
> •
>
> Hi Tomás,
>
> I finally sat down with the Riverbend swim schedule last night, and I think I've worked out a plan for my two. Since Noah just turned six and finished Sea Otter last fall, he'll move up to **(12)** _____. The Monday and Wednesday option would give him twice as many lessons, but I don't finish work until 5:15, so getting there by 5:30 would be cutting it close. I'll sign him up for **(13)** _____ instead.

> Ella is ten and can easily swim the length of the pool, so she won't need **(14)** _____. I'm putting her in the 11:30 class so that I can bring both kids at once and just wait at the centre between lessons. We aren't members, but I was glad to see that **(15)** _____, which helps a little. All in all, the two of them will cost **(16)** _____ for the session.
>
> Since Mateo and Ella are in the same class at school, would you like to carpool? If you register him for Ella's class, I could drive them on alternate Saturdays. Registration opens December 1 at 7 a.m., and the Saturday spots always fill up fast, so I'll be online the minute it opens.
>
> Talk soon,
>
> Lisa

Choose the best option for each gap.

12. **A** Parent & Tot **B** Sea Otter **C** Swimmer 3–4 **D** Swimmer 1–2

13. **A** the Tuesday 5:00 class **B** the Saturday 10:30 class **C** the Saturday 9:45 class **D** the Thursday 6:00 class

14. **A** the free skills assessment **B** an adult in the water **C** a private lesson first **D** the members' discount

15. **A** members save 15% on lessons **B** Saturday lessons are longer **C** there's a sibling discount **D** private lessons are cheaper

16. **A** $168 **B** $142.80 **C** $158 **D** $222

17. How do Lisa and Tomás most likely know each other?

A Their children go to the same school.
B They work for the same company.
C They met at the recreation centre.
D They are members of the same family.

18. When Lisa says that getting to the class by 5:30 would be "cutting it close," she means that

A the class is too short for Noah.
B the drive is too expensive.
C the class is too late for Noah.
D she might not arrive in time.

19. Why does Lisa plan to register as soon as registration opens?

A She wants the members' price.
B Saturday spaces fill up quickly.
C The sibling discount ends that day.
D She must book an assessment first.

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Part 3: Reading for Information

Time: about 10 minutes

Banff Highway Wildlife Crossings

Paragraph A

Every year, millions of vehicles travel the section of the Trans-Canada Highway that passes through Banff National Park, Canada's oldest national park. For the elk, bears, wolves, and other animals of the Bow Valley, this busy road was once a serious hazard. As traffic grew in the 1970s and 1980s, so did the number of animals killed by cars and trucks, and collisions with large animals such as elk put drivers at risk as well. When Parks Canada began widening the highway from two lanes to four, it decided to tackle the problem directly. The result is one of the most extensive networks of wildlife crossings in the world: six overpasses and 38 underpasses spread along roughly 80 kilometres of highway.

Paragraph B

The crossings come in a range of designs because no single structure suits every species. The overpasses, the first of which opened in 1997, are bridges about 50 metres wide, covered with soil and planted with native grasses, shrubs, and young trees so that, to an animal, they look like a continuation of the forest. Earth banks along their edges block the noise and headlights of the traffic below. The underpasses range from large open-span bridges to narrow metal culverts. None of these structures would work without fencing, however. A wire fence about 2.4 metres high runs along both sides of the highway, keeping animals off the pavement and guiding them toward the nearest crossing.

Paragraph C

Since the first structures opened, researchers have kept a close watch on how animals use them. With motion-triggered cameras, beds of raked sand that record footprints, and strands of barbed wire that snag a few hairs for DNA testing, they have documented hundreds of thousands of crossings. The data reveal clear preferences. Grizzly bears, wolves, and elk favour the wide, open overpasses, while cougars and black bears are more comfortable in narrower underpasses with cover nearby. Some animals also needed time to adjust: grizzlies took about five years to use the structures regularly, and scientists believe mothers then passed the habit on to their cubs. The hair samples revealed an even more important benefit. Bears from opposite sides of the highway are now breeding with one another, which keeps the population genetically healthy.

Paragraph D

Together, the crossings and fencing have cut collisions between vehicles and large animals by more than 80 percent, a result that benefits motorists as much as wildlife. Not everyone was convinced at first. Each overpass cost several million dollars, and some critics argued that the money would be better spent elsewhere in the park. Supporters respond that the savings in vehicle repairs, medical

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> bills, and lost wildlife add up quickly. Today, the Banff crossings are studied by transportation engineers and conservation groups from around the globe, and similar projects in British Columbia, Alberta, and the western United States have drawn directly on lessons learned in the Bow Valley.

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. Animals are steered toward safe crossing points by a barrier along the road. _____

21. Some species needed several years before they used the structures with confidence. _____

22. The crossing network was created as part of a project to expand the highway. _____

23. Elk prefer crossings that are wide and open. _____

24. People on the road have also become safer since the crossings were built. _____

25. Vegetation helps the overpasses blend into the landscape. _____

26. Genetic evidence shows that the road no longer separates bear groups. _____

27. The expense of the overpasses was initially questioned. _____

28. Wildlife deaths on the highway rose along with the volume of traffic. _____

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Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

Time: about 13 minutes

Westbrook Four-Day Work Week Trial

When the City of Westbrook, Ontario, announced last winter that some employees would work four days a week for five days' pay, reactions ranged from envy to indignation. Six months into the year-long pilot, the quarrel persists.

Roughly 400 of the city's 1,600 employees, mostly in planning, finance, licensing and other administrative departments, are participating. They work 32 hours at full salary, provided their output does not decline, and days off are staggered so that municipal offices remain open Monday to Friday. Transit operators, road crews and water treatment staff were excluded because, the city maintains, their shifts cannot easily be reorganized.

Mayor Diane Tremblay, who championed the experiment, frames it as a matter of competition. Westbrook has long struggled to keep engineers, planners and IT specialists, who routinely defect to larger cities. "We will never outbid Toronto on pay," she acknowledges, "but we can offer something Toronto doesn't." Applications for posted positions have nearly doubled, and sick days among participants have fallen by about a fifth.

Councillor Gord Pettigrew is decidedly unimpressed, noting that many of the taxpayers financing the arrangement work five or six days a week. Although he concedes that his office has fielded few complaints about municipal services, he warns of "a two-tier workforce" at city hall. Arjun Malhotra, whose union local represents many outdoor employees, endorses a shorter week in principle, yet considers it unjust that the people who plough the streets and drive the buses gain nothing. "If four days won't work for them, fine," he contends, "then the city owes them something of equal value, like more paid leave."

Hélène Côté, a labour economist at McMaster University, counsels patience. "Early figures tell you less about the schedule than about people who don't want to lose it," she explains, "and the real test is whether they're still this diligent in a second or third year." She favours an independent evaluation over the city's own reports.

Bakery owner Marjorie Klassen braced for interminable delays when she applied this spring to expand her shop. Her permit arrived within three weeks; the previous one took two months. Council is not scheduled to consider an extension until March.

29. For Tremblay, the pilot is mainly a way to

A lower office absenteeism.
B keep offices open all week.
C compete for specialists.
D answer the union's criticism.

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30. Malhotra's reservation most resembles that of

A Gord Pettigrew
B Diane Tremblay
C Hélène Côté
D Marjorie Klassen

31. How would Côté explain the drop in sick days?

A A shorter week leaves people better rested.
B The city's reports exaggerate it.
C Healthier recruits replaced departing staff.
D Staff fear losing the perk.

32. Which statement does the article support?

A Council has already agreed to an extension.
B Services seem not to have suffered.
C Most residents oppose the pilot.
D Malhotra wants the pilot cancelled.

33. Which headline best suits the article?

A "Shorter Week, Longer Waits at City Hall"
B "More Applicants, Fewer Permits in Westbrook"
C "Happy Staff, Angry Residents in Westbrook"
D "Shorter Week, Mixed Reviews at City 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 nineteen years in municipal government, I have no doubt the mayor means well, but six months is far too soon to **(34)** _____. As Dr. Côté implies, the early figures may say more about **(35)** _____ than about the four-day week itself, and before council commits to anything I would want them checked by **(36)** _____.
>
> My larger worry lies elsewhere. It is hard to defend a policy under which bus drivers and road crews **(37)** _____. Unless the city finds a fair way to include them, the pilot could end up **(38)** _____.

Choose the best option for each gap.

34. **A** pull the plug **B** pop the champagne **C** count the costs **D** raise property taxes

35. **A** staff on their best behaviour **B** the mayor's recruitment drive **C** the excluded outdoor crews **D** the staggered schedule

36. **A** the mayor's office **B** the participating departments **C** someone outside city hall **D** the union local

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37. **A** earn less for overtime **B** were promised paid leave instead **C** must cover for absent clerks **D** get nothing comparable

38. **A** breeding resentment **B** costing taxpayers more **C** slowing municipal services **D** losing the city its specialists

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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: Storm-Damaged Fence Cost Sharing

1 B to propose a plan for replacing a shared fence

2 C Her policy excludes damage caused by wind.

3 D The rest of the fence will soon need work.

4 A vinyl does not look as natural.

5 B She hopes to make the cost easier to manage.

6 D it would keep a dog out of a garden.

7 A patching the damaged sections

8 C does not include storm damage

9 B cover the deposit for now

10 D the dog's

11 A until mid-November

Part 2: Winter Swim Lessons for Two Children

12 D Swimmer 1–2

13 B the Saturday 10:30 class

14 A the free skills assessment

15 C there's a sibling discount

16 C $158

17 A Their children go to the same school.

18 D she might not arrive in time.

19 B Saturday spaces fill up quickly.

Part 3: Banff Highway Wildlife Crossings

20 B

21 C

22 A

23 C

24 D

25 B

26 C

27 D

28 A

Part 4: Westbrook Four-Day Work Week Trial

29 C compete for specialists.

30 A Gord Pettigrew

31 D Staff fear losing the perk.

32 B Services seem not to have suffered.

33 D "Shorter Week, Mixed Reviews at City Hall"

34 B pop the champagne

35 A staff on their best behaviour

36 C someone outside city hall

37 D get nothing comparable

38 A breeding resentment

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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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