CELPIP Reading Practice Test 60

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	Farah's First Month in Halifax	1–11	about 11 minutes
Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram	Niagara Falls Staff Outing Tour Choice	12–19	about 9 minutes
Part 3: Reading for Information	Quebec Maple Syrup History And Reserve	20–28	about 10 minutes
Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints	Cashless Retailers And The Right To Pay Cash	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/60, 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

Farah's First Month in Halifax

> Hi Marcus,
>
> I'm so sorry it has taken me this long to write. You were the first person I meant to tell when I got here, but the past month has been such a whirlwind that I've barely had time to unpack, let alone answer emails. Yes, I really did it: I packed up my life in Winnipeg and moved to Halifax to start my new job as a communications officer at the Atlantic Ocean Research Institute.
>
> The job itself has been everything I hoped for. My team is small but incredibly welcoming, and on my second day they took me out for fish and chips on the waterfront. My manager, Bernadette, has already handed me my first big project: helping the scientists explain their work on right whales to the public. I spend half my day turning complicated research into plain language, which is exactly the kind of challenge I was missing in my old job.
>
> Outside of work, things have been bumpier. The apartment I had arranged online fell through two days before I arrived, when the landlord decided to rent it to his nephew instead. I've been staying in a furnished basement suite in Dartmouth ever since, which is fine for now but costs nearly twice what I paid in Winnipeg. On the bright side, it means I take the ferry across the harbour every morning. Fifteen minutes on the water with a coffee in hand is the best commute I've ever had, even on foggy days, and there have been plenty of those.
>
> The weather is the other big adjustment. Everyone warned me about the rain, but nobody mentioned that it can change four times in a single afternoon. I left my umbrella at home exactly once and learned my lesson. I also miss you and the rest of the gang more than I expected. Thursday trivia nights just aren't the same over a video call.
>
> Which brings me to my question. Didn't you say you had some vacation time saved up? The busker festival takes over the waterfront in August, and I would love to show you around. By then I should be in a proper apartment with a spare room, fingers crossed! Let me know what you think, and say hi to Priya for me.
>
> Take care,
>
> Farah

1. Why did Farah move to Halifax?

A to be closer to her family
B to study marine biology
C to take up a new position
D to find cheaper housing

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2. What does Farah seem to value most about her new job?

A making research easy to understand
B going out for meals with her team
C studying whales in the harbour
D having fewer responsibilities

3. What happened to the apartment Farah had arranged?

A It was much smaller than advertised.
B It cost twice as much as expected.
C It was too far from her workplace.
D It was rented to someone else.

4. How does Farah feel about her trip to work?

A She dislikes it when it is foggy.
B She enjoys it despite the weather.
C She finds it long and expensive.
D She plans to start driving instead.

5. When Farah says she “learned my lesson,” she means that she

A now always takes an umbrella with her.
B bought a stronger umbrella.
C learned to predict the local weather.
D stopped walking to the ferry.

6. What does Farah ask Marcus to do?

A join trivia nights by video call
B help her look for an apartment
C come and visit her in August
D send her news about the gang

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.

> Hi Farah,
>
> It was so good to hear from you! We’ve all been wondering how you were settling in. I’m sorry about the apartment. What a stressful way to **(7)** _____! Still, a ferry ride to work sounds a lot better than sitting in traffic on Portage Avenue.
>
> I’m not surprised you love the new job. You were always the one who could **(8)** _____, so it sounds like a perfect fit. As for the rain, you’ll just have to **(9)** _____ like the locals do. I hear they never let a little weather stop them!

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> Now, about your invitation: I do have two weeks saved up, and I've always wanted to see the ocean. Count me in for **(10)** _____! I'll even bring my own umbrella. Just promise me you'll have **(11)** _____ by then, because I'm not sleeping on a basement floor.
>
> Priya says hi and wants a postcard.
>
> Talk soon,
>
> Marcus

Choose the best option for each gap.

7. **A** end a long vacation **B** start your new life there **C** spend your savings **D** meet a new landlord

8. **A** organize our trivia nights **B** find the best fish and chips **C** cope with any kind of weather **D** explain things clearly to anyone

9. **A** get used to it **B** complain about it **C** stay indoors more **D** move somewhere drier

10. **A** the first week of July **B** a Thursday trivia night **C** the festival in August **D** your first day of work

11. **A** a car of your own **B** a spare room for me **C** a new job lined up **D** a better ferry pass

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Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram

Time: about 9 minutes

Niagara Falls Staff Outing Tour Choice



Great Lakes Coachlines

Niagara Falls Day Trips from Toronto · 2027 Season (May 1 – October 31)

	Falls Express	Niagara Explorer	Wine Country & Falls
Price per adult	$79	$109	$139
Departs / Returns	8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Union Station	7:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. Union Station	9:30 a.m. – 8:00 p.m. Union Station
Boat cruise to the base of the Falls	✔ Included	✔ Included	✘ Not included
Lunch	✘ Not included food court stop available	✔ Buffet lunch with a view of the Falls	✔ 3-course lunch at a winery
Also includes	2 hours of free time at the Falls	Behind the Falls tunnel tour† 1-hour stop in Niagara-on-the-Lake	Tastings at 3 wineries 90 minutes of free time at the Falls
Group savings	10% off for groups of 10 or more	1 free ticket for every 15 paid tickets	$119 per person for groups of 20 or more
Children (4–11)	25% off	25% off	Adults 19+ only‡

† The Behind the Falls tunnel tour is **not wheelchair accessible**. All our coaches are equipped with wheelchair lifts.
‡ Valid photo ID showing age 19 or older is required for every guest on the Wine Country & Falls tour. No exceptions.
• Bookings must be made at least **7 days** before departure. Free cancellation up to **72 hours** before departure.
• Tours run rain or shine. Boat cruise rain ponchos provided.

Book online at greatlakescoach.ca or call 1-888-555-0193

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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: Niagara staff outing
>
> To: Omar Haddad
>
> From: Rachel Huang
>
> Hi Omar,
>
> Thanks again for helping me organize this year's staff outing. Two heads are better than one! I've gone through the Great Lakes Coachlines brochure, and here's where I've landed.
>
> First, the Wine Country & Falls tour is out of the question, since **(12)** _____. That leaves the Falls Express and the Niagara Explorer. With 18 of us going, **(13)** _____, which brings the Explorer's total down nicely. The Express is cheaper, but lunch isn't included, so everyone would have to **(14)** _____, and I know people won't want to spend their own money on the day.

> Since the social committee is paying for everything and our budget is $2,000, I think we should book **(15)** _____. It even includes a stop in Niagara-on-the-Lake, which several people asked for. One thing to keep in mind: Yasmin uses a wheelchair, and **(16)** _____, so let's plan something fun for her and a friend during that part of the day.
>
> Could you send out a quick poll to confirm numbers? We have to book at least a week ahead, and I'd like to lock it in by the end of the month. The free cancellation policy gives us some breathing room if a couple of people drop out.
>
> Thanks,
>
> Rachel

Choose the best option for each gap.

12. **A** it doesn't stop at the Falls **B** our two co-op students are 17
C it leaves from a different station **D** it has no group discount

13. **A** we qualify for 10% off **B** we pay the children's rate **C** we get the $119 group rate
D one of our tickets is free

14. **A** skip the boat cruise **B** leave at 7:30 a.m. **C** buy their own meal
D bring their photo ID

15. **A** the Niagara Explorer **B** the Falls Express **C** the Wine Country tour
D two separate tours

16. **A** the boat cruise ends in October **B** the coach has no wheelchair lift
C lunch is served on an upper floor **D** the tunnel tour isn't accessible

17. Rachel and Omar are most likely

A a tour guide and a customer
B a manager and a new hire
C colleagues sharing a task
D two friends planning a holiday

18. Rachel wants Omar to send a poll in order to

A confirm how many people are coming
B choose between the two tours
C collect money from the staff
D find out about food allergies

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19. When Rachel says the cancellation policy gives them “some breathing room,” she means that

A the bus will be less crowded.

B they can adjust if plans change.

C staff can rest during the trip.

D they will save money on tickets.

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Part 3: Reading for Information

Time: about 10 minutes

Quebec Maple Syrup History And Reserve

Paragraph A

Long before Europeans arrived in North America, Indigenous peoples of the St. Lawrence and Great Lakes regions collected the sweet sap of maple trees each spring. They cut into the bark, gathered the sap in birchbark containers, and concentrated it by dropping hot stones into the liquid or by leaving it out to freeze overnight and removing the layer of ice in the morning. French settlers in the 1600s learned these techniques and adapted them using iron kettles brought from Europe. Because imported cane sugar was expensive and hard to obtain, maple sugar soon became the main sweetener on farms throughout rural Quebec, and the spring harvest became an important event in the farming year.

Paragraph B

Maple sap flows only under particular weather conditions: nights below freezing followed by days above it. In Quebec, this usually means a season of six to eight weeks between early March and late April. Fresh sap contains only two to three percent sugar, so roughly 40 litres are needed to make a single litre of syrup. For generations, producers hung a bucket on each tree, but most now use networks of plastic tubing connected to vacuum pumps. Many also pass the sap through reverse-osmosis machines, which remove much of the water before the sap is boiled in an evaporator, saving both time and fuel. The season has a social side as well: every spring, families flock to rural sugar shacks to enjoy hearty meals and roll maple taffy on fresh snow.

Paragraph C

Today Quebec produces roughly 70 percent of the world's maple syrup, and the industry supports thousands of family businesses. Most bulk syrup is sold through Quebec Maple Syrup Producers, an organization that negotiates prices on behalf of its members and limits how much each producer may sell through a quota system. In the early 2000s, after several years in which bumper crops caused prices to collapse, the organization created a strategic reserve. In good years, surplus syrup is stored in warehouses; in poor years, it is released to keep supply steady and prices stable for buyers around the world.

Paragraph D

The reserve has had its share of drama. Over several months in 2011 and 2012, thieves removed thousands of barrels of syrup worth roughly $18 million from a storage site. To avoid detection, they siphoned off the syrup and refilled many of the barrels with water. More recently, the reserve proved its worth when a short, warm spring in 2021 combined with rising demand left supplies tight. In 2022, the organization released about half of its stored syrup and then allowed producers to install millions

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> of additional taps. Critics, however, argue that the quota system makes it difficult for newcomers to enter the industry.

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. Early settlers depended on maple partly because other sweeteners were costly. _____

21. Modern equipment takes some of the water out of the sap before it is heated. _____

22. Quebec's share of global maple syrup production has been growing steadily. _____

23. Syrup is kept in storage during plentiful years to make up for shortfalls later. _____

24. The thieves tried to hide what they had done by refilling the containers. _____

25. Sap can only be collected when temperatures rise and fall around freezing. _____

26. The first people to make maple products used containers made of bark. _____

27. After one disappointing harvest, around half of the stored syrup was released. _____

28. Most of the stolen syrup was later found and returned to the reserve. _____

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Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

Time: about 13 minutes

Cashless Retailers And The Right To Pay Cash

> A discreet sign beside the till at Leah Dubois's Ottawa café reads: "We're card-only. Thanks for understanding." Two years ago Dubois stopped accepting bills and coins at both of her locations, and she harbours no regrets. The hours she once surrendered each week to counting the float and queuing at the bank now go elsewhere; break-ins, an occasional worry, rarely cross her mind, and her employees can concentrate on customers. Cafés, food trucks and even some chain stores have followed suit.
>
> Walter Fenwick, who volunteers with a seniors' advocacy group, finds the trend troubling. Many older people, he observes, rely on cash to monitor their spending and to shield themselves from fraud, as do residents without bank accounts. He still recalls the nationwide network outage of 2022, when card terminals fell silent for most of a day: neighbours with bills in their wallets walked out with groceries, while everyone else abandoned their carts.
>
> City councillor Teresa Morin has proposed a bylaw obliging most local businesses to accept cash, citing similar rules in Philadelphia and New York. "Cash is legal tender," she argues. "A store shouldn't be allowed to turn it away."
>
> Kyle Brandt, a spokesperson for an association of independent retailers, regards a mandate as an unwarranted burden on small enterprises, given the expense of security, insurance and staff time. "A family-run shop chooses its own hours. Why not how it gets paid? Unhappy customers can shop elsewhere." He also disputes Morin's legal reasoning: in Canada, legal tender applies chiefly to settling debts, not to purchases at a counter.
>
> Samuel Osei, a payment-systems researcher in Toronto, observes that cash now accounts for a small fraction of Canadian purchases, yet a few percent of adults depend on it almost exclusively. He advocates a compromise: require cash wherever people buy essentials such as groceries, medication and public transit, and let boutiques and coffee shops decide for themselves. "Otherwise banks will dismantle ATMs as demand dwindles," he cautions, "and still more merchants will refuse cash. That spiral's hard to reverse."
>
> Morin, who has lately been meeting retailers, calls her draft "a starting point" ahead of this fall's council debate.

29. Which saying sums up Dubois's reasoning?

A "The customer is always right."
B "Better safe than sorry."
C "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."
D "Time is money."

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30. Whose outlook is closest to Dubois's?

A Walter Fenwick
B Kyle Brandt
C Teresa Morin
D Samuel Osei

31. By recalling the 2022 outage, Fenwick implies that

A there is no fallback without cash.
B older people use cash to track spending.
C cash helps to shield people from fraud.
D more stores have stopped taking cash.

32. Why might Osei reject Brandt's advice to shop elsewhere?

A Few purchases involve cash in any case.
B Legal tender applies chiefly to settling debts.
C Places accepting cash may grow scarcer.
D Boutiques should be free to choose.

33. Morin's remarks suggest that her bylaw

A will bind stores without exception.
B rests on settled Canadian law.
C has been endorsed by local retailers.
D may change before the vote.

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.

> Mr. Brandt's advice to unhappy customers sounds reasonable until you live where I do. When our only grocery store went card-only, his suggestion that people simply **(34)** _____ became meaningless. My eighty-year-old father, one of the older people Mr. Fenwick has in mind, **(35)** _____, and the change hit him hard.
>
> Ms. Dubois may see cash as a chore, but Mr. Fenwick's account of 2022 convinced me it is **(36)** _____.
>
> As for Councillor Morin's bylaw, I find it **(37)** _____; Dr. Osei draws the line more sensibly, at **(38)** _____. A rule that most owners can live with is likelier to survive council.

Choose the best option for each gap.

34. **A** pay with their phones instead **B** carry a little cash **C** take their custom down the road **D** ask the owner for an exception

35. **A** budgets in bills and coins **B** volunteers with an advocacy group **C** prefers the tills at chain stores **D** has given up on bank trips

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36. **A** a relic of the past **B** an invitation to thieves **C** a needless expense **D** cheap insurance

37. **A** too timid **B** heavy-handed **C** too narrow **D** a gift to retailers

38. **A** businesses above a certain size **B** neighbourhoods losing their ATMs **C** independent, family-run shops **D** what nobody can go without

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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: Farah's First Month in Halifax

1 C to take up a new position

2 A making research easy to understand

3 D It was rented to someone else.

4 B She enjoys it despite the weather.

5 A now always takes an umbrella with her.

6 C come and visit her in August

7 B start your new life there

8 D explain things clearly to anyone

9 A get used to it

10 C the festival in August

11 B a spare room for me

Part 2: Niagara Falls Staff Outing Tour Choice

12 B our two co-op students are 17

13 D one of our tickets is free

14 C buy their own meal

15 A the Niagara Explorer

16 D the tunnel tour isn't accessible

17 C colleagues sharing a task

18 A confirm how many people are coming

19 B they can adjust if plans change.

Part 3: Quebec Maple Syrup History And Reserve

20 A

21 B

22 E

23 C

24 D

25 B

26 A

27 D

28 E

Part 4: Cashless Retailers And The Right To Pay Cash

29 D "Time is money."

30 B Kyle Brandt

31 A there is no fallback without cash.

32 C Places accepting cash may grow scarcer.

33 D may change before the vote.

34 C take their custom down the road

35 A budgets in bills and coins

36 D cheap insurance

37 B heavy-handed

38 D what nobody can go without

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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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