CELPIP Reading Practice Test 65

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	Conference Shift Coverage Request	1–11	about 11 minutes
Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram	Weekend Farmers' Market Shopping Plan	12–19	about 9 minutes
Part 3: Reading for Information	Hudson's Bay Company From Fur Trade To Retail	20–28	about 10 minutes
Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints	Permanent Daylight Time Debate In Manitoba	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/65, 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

Conference Shift Coverage Request

Dear Marcus,

I hope your week is off to a better start than mine! I'm writing to ask a rather large favour. As you may have heard at Monday's staff meeting, my request to attend the Prairie Libraries Conference in Saskatoon was finally approved. The conference runs from Wednesday, March 11, to Friday, March 13, and I'll be flying out on the Tuesday evening, so I'll miss three working days. Denise suggested I ask you first, since you've filled in for me at the front desk before and know the branch's routines better than anyone.

My regular shifts on those days are 9:00 to 5:00 on Wednesday and Thursday, and 12:00 to 8:00 on Friday. I realize Friday would mean a late night for you, so if that doesn't work, Denise said she could ask Tomás from the Eastview branch to cover that one shift. Please don't feel obliged to say yes to all three days.

Beyond the desk hours, there are two duties that can't wait until I'm back. The first is Thursday morning's Storytime for preschoolers at 10:30. The books are already chosen and sitting in the blue bin under my desk, along with the song sheets, so you would only need to read aloud and keep about fifteen energetic four-year-olds reasonably seated. Honestly, the parents do most of the crowd control. The second is the delivery of new materials arriving Wednesday afternoon. The boxes just need to be checked against the packing list and signed for; the actual cataloguing can wait for me.

I'm also expecting a call from the school board about the summer reading partnership. If they call, please just take a message and let them know I'll be in touch the following Monday. There's no need to discuss any details with them, since nothing has been agreed yet.

I know this is a lot to ask during what is already a busy month for you. To make it up to you, I'd be happy to take your Saturday shift on the 28th, which I know you were hoping to have off for your sister's wedding. I'll also bring back notes from the sessions on digital literacy programs, since you mentioned wanting to start a workshop for seniors.

Could you let me know by Friday whether this works for you? I need to confirm the arrangements with Denise before I book my flight.

Thanks so much,

Priya Desai

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1. What is the main purpose of Priya's email?

A to invite Marcus to attend a conference with her
B to ask Marcus to fill in for her while she is away
C to complain about her heavy workload this month
D to inform Marcus of a change to the branch schedule

2. Denise suggested that Priya ask Marcus because

A he is in charge of staff scheduling
B he works at the Eastview branch
C he has led Storytime many times
D he has covered for Priya in the past

3. What does Priya say about her Friday shift?

A Another employee might be able to cover it.
B It is shorter than her other two shifts.
C Marcus has already agreed to work it.
D It will be cancelled while she is away.

4. What does Priya suggest about Storytime?

A It is usually cancelled when she is away.
B Marcus will need to choose the books.
C The parents help to keep the children in order.
D It takes place every weekday morning.

5. If the school board calls, Marcus should

A discuss the details of the summer reading partnership
B say that Priya will contact them after she returns
C pass the call along to Denise
D agree to the terms the board proposes

6. What does Priya offer Marcus in return?

A to pay for Marcus's trip to the wedding
B to run a seniors' workshop on his behalf
C to cover his desk hours for a whole week
D to work one of Marcus's weekend shifts

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 Priya,
>
> Congratulations on getting approved for the conference! You've earned it. I'm happy to cover your Wednesday and Thursday shifts, but I'm afraid **(7)** _____ would be difficult, since I have my

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evening course on Fridays. Please let Denise know so she can get in touch with Tomás.

As for Storytime, I'll do my best, although I'm a little **(8)** _____ about keeping fifteen preschoolers entertained. I'll practise the songs beforehand! I'll also make sure the new materials are **(9)** _____ when they arrive, and I'll leave the rest for you.

If the school board calls, I'll simply **(10)** _____ without getting into any details.

Your offer to take my Saturday shift is very kind, and it means I can go to the wedding after all. I'd also really appreciate the **(11)** _____, since I'm hoping to start the seniors' workshop this spring.

Have a great trip,

Marcus

Choose the best option for each gap.

7. **A** the late shift on Friday **B** the Thursday morning shift **C** the Tuesday evening shift **D** the Saturday shift on the 28th

8. **A** confident **B** annoyed **C** nervous **D** bored

9. **A** fully catalogued and labelled **B** returned to the supplier **C** placed on the shelves right away **D** checked against the packing list

10. **A** confirm the partnership **B** take a message for you **C** pass the call to Denise **D** give them your cell number

11. **A** notes from the conference sessions **B** tickets to the conference **C** song sheets for Storytime **D** extra hours at the desk

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Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram

Time: about 9 minutes

Weekend Farmers' Market Shopping Plan



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: Market run this weekend?
>
> To: Gord Bellamy
>
> From: Helen Okafor
>
> Hi Gord,
>
> Thanks again for clearing my driveway all last winter. I still owe you one! I picked up the new map for the Riverside Junction Farmers' Market and thought we could go together this weekend. Saturday morning is out for me because of Amara's swimming lesson, so how about **(12)** _____?
>
> That works out well anyway, since you mentioned you're out of eggs and cheese, and **(13)** _____ only comes on Sundays. I'd like to pick up a loaf for my son-in-law, who can't eat wheat, so I'll head straight to stall **(14)** _____ before they sell out.

> You said you wanted some smoked sausage for your barbecue. Just remember that Cedar Smokehouse **(15)** _____, so you might need to stop at the machine by the main entrance first.
>
> As for parking, Lot A is usually packed, so let's use Lot B, where we can **(16)** _____. That should give us plenty of time to browse.
>
> I'm happy to drive. I'll knock on your door at quarter to ten.
>
> Helen

Choose the best option for each gap.

12. **A** Sunday, as soon as it opens at 8 **B** Saturday, just before it closes at 1 **C** Sunday, right when the doors open at 10 **D** Sunday, after the live music at 11

13. **A** Maple Lane Dairy **B** Northfield Bison Ranch **C** Kowalski Family Farm **D** Cedar Smokehouse

14. **A** 2 **B** 5 **C** 12 **D** 9

15. **A** is open on Saturdays only **B** only accepts cash **C** sells only frozen products **D** requires orders in advance

16. **A** park for free for the whole day **B** use the accessible ramp entrance **C** park for free for the first two hours **D** pay a $3 flat rate for the day

17. Helen and Gord know each other because

A they work together at the market
B they are members of the same family
C they met at a swimming lesson
D they live close to each other

18. Why can't Helen go to the market on Saturday morning?

A She has a family commitment.
B She has to work at the market.
C She does not have a car that day.
D She prefers the Sunday events.

19. When Helen says "I still owe you one," she means that she

A borrowed money from him last winter
B wants to repay him for his help
C forgot to thank him at the time
D expects him to help her again soon

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Part 3: Reading for Information

Time: about 10 minutes

Hudson's Bay Company From Fur Trade To Retail

Paragraph A

Few companies can claim a history as long as that of the Hudson's Bay Company. On May 2, 1670, King Charles II of England granted a royal charter to a group of investors, giving them exclusive trading rights over all the lands whose rivers drained into Hudson Bay. This enormous territory, named Rupert's Land after the king's cousin, covered roughly a third of what is now Canada. Curiously, the idea for the venture came not from the English but from two French traders, Pierre-Esprit Radisson and Médard Chouart des Groseilliers, who had failed to win support for their plans in New France and took them to London instead.

Paragraph B

For nearly two centuries, the company's business was fur, above all beaver. In Europe, beaver fur was pressed into felt to make fashionable, waterproof hats, and demand seemed endless. Rather than sending its own men deep into the interior, the company built trading posts such as York Factory on the shores of the bay and waited for Indigenous trappers to paddle in with their furs. In exchange, the trappers received metal kettles, tools, firearms and the striped wool "point blankets" that are still associated with the company today. This approach was later challenged by the Montreal-based North West Company, whose traders travelled inland to meet suppliers directly. After years of bitter and sometimes violent competition, the two rivals merged in 1821 under the Hudson's Bay name. The combined company now controlled trade across a vast stretch of the continent.

Paragraph C

By the mid-nineteenth century, silk hats had replaced beaver in European fashion, and the fur trade began a slow decline. At the same time, the newly formed Dominion of Canada was eager to expand westward. In 1870, the company transferred Rupert's Land to Canada in return for £300,000, land around its trading posts and a share of the farmland in the West. Settlers soon followed, and the company adapted by turning its trading posts into general stores that sold groceries, clothing and hardware to new arrivals. In the early 1900s, it began opening large department stores in growing cities such as Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver.

Paragraph D

Throughout the twentieth century, retail became the heart of the business. The company bought rival chains, including Simpsons and Zellers, and in 1987 it sold off its remaining northern stores and fur-trading operations. Ownership changed hands several times, and in 2006 the company was purchased by an American businessman, ending more than three centuries of British and Canadian control. However, it struggled to compete with online shopping and large discount retailers. In 2025, after years of falling sales, the company sought protection from its creditors and closed its remaining

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> stores. Its name, coat of arms and famous multicoloured stripes were later sold to another Canadian retailer.

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 company's founding was inspired by people from outside England. _____

21. A change in fashion reduced the demand for the company's main product. _____

22. The company preferred to let suppliers come to it rather than travel inland. _____

23. The company's stores eventually could not keep up with changing shopping habits. _____

24. The original investors became very rich within the company's first ten years. _____

25. Competition between two trading firms ended when they joined together. _____

26. The company's original territory included all of present-day Canada. _____

27. The company changed the purpose of its posts to serve newcomers. _____

28. The company eventually gave up the line of business it was founded on. _____

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Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

Time: about 13 minutes

Permanent Daylight Time Debate In Manitoba

> Twice a year Manitobans grumble as they adjust their clocks. A private member's bill now before the legislature would eliminate the ritual by keeping Manitoba on daylight saving time permanently. Its sponsor, Brandon-area MLA Corinne Lavallée, considers the change overdue. "Each spring costs us an hour of sleep," she complains, "and each autumn an hour of afternoon sunshine." She cites studies documenting a temporary rise in traffic collisions after the spring change. An online survey by her office drew more than 40,000 responses, nearly three-quarters favouring an end to the switch.
>
> Consensus on abolishing the switch, however, is not consensus on which hour to retain. Dr. Anand Mehra, a Winnipeg sleep specialist, welcomes abolition but considers Lavallée's choice misguided. Under her proposal the sun would not rise in Winnipeg until almost 9:30 a.m. in late December, leaving bodies misaligned with daylight all winter. "Morning light calibrates our internal clocks," he explains. "Deprive people of it and you get groggy students and drowsy drivers." Standard time, in his judgment, is preferable.
>
> Marlene Gustafson, a school trustee in the Interlake region, observes that numerous pupils in her division board buses before 7:30 a.m. "Picture children waiting at the ends of country roads in pitch darkness, for months," she urges. Her board has asked the government to consider later school start times should the bill pass.
>
> Duncan Firth, who runs a golf course and patio restaurant near Selkirk, is ambivalent about the extra hour of winter light. What exasperates him is the disruption: staff rotas, tee times and deliveries are thrown into disarray twice yearly. "Either permanent option suits me," he shrugs, "as long as the government commits to it."
>
> Prairie Policy Institute economist Paul Okonjo stresses timing. Because time zones fall under provincial jurisdiction, not Ottawa's, Manitoba could move unilaterally, but it would then spend every winter an hour out of step with Minnesota and North Dakota, inconveniencing trucking firms, airlines and cross-border commerce. He recommends legislating now but delaying implementation until neighbours follow suit, as British Columbia and Ontario have done.
>
> Lavallée says she is receptive to amendments when the bill reaches committee this fall.

29. Mehra's worries are closest to those of

A Corinne Lavallée
B Duncan Firth
C Marlene Gustafson
D Paul Okonjo

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30. How did Lavallée's office gauge public opinion?

A by inviting residents to respond online
B by citing studies of traffic collisions
C through hearings at a legislative committee
D by consulting school boards and businesses

31. What matters most to Duncan Firth?

A more daylight on winter evenings
B staying in step with Minnesota
C keeping the current clock changes
D committing to one permanent option

32. We can infer that

A the bill will pass without changes.
B Manitoba can change its clocks without Ottawa.
C Interlake schools will start later this coming winter.
D most Manitobans prefer standard time.

33. An appropriate title would be "Ending the Clock Change:

A Manitobans Content to Keep the Old Routine."
B A Simple Fix Everyone Can Support."
C Agreed in Principle, Divided in Practice."
D Ottawa Stands in Manitoba's Way."

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 support ending the switch, but I think Ms. Lavallée is **(34)** _____. As a nurse on early shifts I already drive to work in darkness all winter; under her version I would still be **(35)** _____ at my mid-morning break. Dr. Mehra is right that **(36)** _____ is what keeps us alert, and I notice how hard it is to concentrate on those black December mornings.
>
> If the bill passes as written, the least the province can do for rural families is grant Ms. Gustafson's board its request to **(37)** _____. Finally, Mr. Okonjo is right that Manitoba shouldn't **(38)** _____; let's make the move together with our neighbours.

Choose the best option for each gap.

34. **A** moving far too slowly **B** ignoring her own survey **C** picking the wrong time to retain **D** right to put families' evenings first

35. **A** waiting for daybreak **B** missing the evening sun **C** short of an hour's sleep **D** stuck in rush-hour traffic

36. **A** evening sunshine **B** a regular bedtime **C** an extra hour of sleep **D** early daylight

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37. **A** add more bus routes **B** push back the school day **C** move stops closer to homes **D** cancel classes in midwinter

38. **A** wait for Ottawa **B** copy Ontario **C** go it alone **D** delay the change

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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: Conference Shift Coverage Request

1 B to ask Marcus to fill in for her while she is away

2 D he has covered for Priya in the past

3 A Another employee might be able to cover it.

4 C The parents help to keep the children in order.

5 B say that Priya will contact them after she returns

6 D to work one of Marcus's weekend shifts

7 A the late shift on Friday

8 C nervous

9 D checked against the packing list

10 B take a message for you

11 A notes from the conference sessions

Part 2: Weekend Farmers' Market Shopping Plan

12 C Sunday, right when the doors open at 10

13 A Maple Lane Dairy

14 D 9

15 B only accepts cash

16 C park for free for the first two hours

17 D they live close to each other

18 A She has a family commitment.

19 B wants to repay him for his help

Part 3: Hudson's Bay Company From Fur Trade To Retail

20 A

21 C

22 B

23 D

24 E

25 B

26 E

27 C

28 D

Part 4: Permanent Daylight Time Debate In Manitoba

29 C Marlene Gustafson

30 A by inviting residents to respond online

31 D committing to one permanent option

32 B Manitoba can change its clocks without Ottawa.

33 C Agreed in Principle, Divided in Practice."

34 C picking the wrong time to retain

35 A waiting for daybreak

36 D early daylight

37 B push back the school day

38 C go it alone

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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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