CELPIP Reading Practice Test 74

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	Finding a Home for Grandma's Piano	1–11	about 11 minutes
Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram	Storage Unit for a Summer Abroad	12–19	about 9 minutes
Part 3: Reading for Information	Canadian Ice Wine and the Winter Harvest	20–28	about 10 minutes
Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints	Backyard Chickens Bylaw Debate	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/74, 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

Finding a Home for Grandma's Piano

Dear Adam,

I hope you, Jen and the kids are all well and that Halifax hasn't been buried in snow yet this winter. I'm writing with some family news and a question I'd like you to think about.

As you may have heard from your mom, Grandma has finally decided to leave the house on Church Street. After her fall in November, she admitted that the stairs had become too much for her, and she has taken a one-bedroom apartment at a seniors' residence here in Moncton. She moves in on March 15. The buyers don't take possession of the house until April 1, so we will have a couple of weeks after that to empty it.

Most of the furniture has already found new homes, but there is one thing Grandma can't bear to part with: her old upright piano. As you know, she bought it in 1962 with her first paycheques as a music teacher, and she taught half the neighbourhood to play on it. Unfortunately, her new apartment is barely big enough for her bed and an armchair.

A dealer told us the piano would sell for only a few hundred dollars, but money isn't the point. Grandma would much rather give it to someone in the family than see it go to a stranger. I would take it in a heartbeat, but my apartment is on the third floor of a building with no elevator, and the movers I called just laughed. Luc, of course, is all the way out in Vancouver.

That's where you come in. Your mom mentioned that Nora started piano lessons last fall and has been practising on a small electronic keyboard. Would you like the piano for her? Grandma has insisted on paying the movers herself, and she already has a quote of $650 to bring it to Halifax. I should warn you that it hasn't been tuned in about four years, and one of the low keys sticks. The movers also told us that a long trip almost always puts a piano out of tune, so you would want a tuner to look at it once it has settled in.

Grandma has only one request: that she be allowed to sit down and play it whenever she visits you.

The movers are booked weeks ahead, so could you let me know by the end of February? If you can't take it, the choir director at Grandma's church has said they would be happy to have it.

Love,

Sophie

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

A to ask Adam to find a buyer for the house
B to offer Grandma's piano to Adam's daughter
C to invite Adam to see Grandma's new apartment
D to ask Adam to sell the piano to a dealer

2. Why doesn't Sophie take the piano herself?

A She has never been interested in playing the piano.
B She already has a piano of her own in her apartment.
C It would be very hard to get it into her home.
D She lives too far away from Grandma.

3. What can we conclude about the piano?

A It means more to Grandma than its price suggests.
B It was given to Grandma by one of her former students.
C It has been kept in excellent condition for years.
D It could be sold for a great deal of money.

4. Who will pay to move the piano to Halifax?

A Adam
B Sophie
C Adam and Sophie together
D Grandma

5. Before he decides, Sophie wants Adam to know that the piano

A is worth more than the dealer said.
B needs some work before it will play well.
C will cost him $650 to move to Halifax.
D must be moved before Grandma's March 15 move.

6. If Adam cannot take the piano, it will most likely

A be stored in Sophie's apartment.
B move with Grandma to her new home.
C be shipped to Luc in Vancouver.
D be given to Grandma's church.

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 Sophie,
>
> Thank you for your letter, and please tell Grandma how sorry we were to hear about her fall. Nora has been making do with **(7)** _____ since she started lessons, so when I read your letter out at

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dinner, she nearly jumped out of her chair.

We would love to take the piano. I've already found a tuner here in Halifax, and I'll book him for a couple of weeks after it arrives, since I understand the trip **(8)** _____. I'll also ask him to have a look at **(9)** _____ while he's here.

Please tell Grandma that we accept her one condition with pleasure: she can **(10)** _____. Nora is already practising a duet for her first visit.

As for timing, the movers can come on any day that suits them, as long as the piano is out of the house before **(11)** _____.

With love to you both,

Adam

Choose the best option for each gap.

7. **A** the piano Grandma taught on **B** a rented upright from a local dealer **C** a lightweight plug-in instrument **D** the old piano at Grandma's church

8. **A** will take several weeks **B** may scratch the piano's wooden case **C** is not insured **D** will probably put it out of tune

9. **A** Nora's small electronic keyboard **B** one bass key that gets stuck **C** the movers' $650 quote **D** the stairs on Church Street

10. **A** take it back whenever she likes **B** choose Nora's next piano teacher **C** play it every time she visits **D** sell it if she ever needs money

11. **A** April 1 **B** March 15 **C** the end of February **D** Easter

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Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram

Time: about 9 minutes

Storage Unit for a Summer Abroad



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Choose Your Unit

Unit	Holds about…	Type	Per month
Locker 5′ × 5′	Up to 10 boxes, seasonal items, sports gear	**Indoor** Climate control included	**$59**
Small 5′ × 10′	A studio apartment: single or double mattress, desk and chair, bicycle, up to 20 boxes	**Indoor** Climate control available: +$20/month	**$95**
Medium 10′ × 10′	A one-bedroom apartment, including sofa, bed and major appliances	**Drive-up** No climate control	**$149**
Large 10′ × 20′	A two- or three-bedroom home, or a car	**Drive-up** No climate control	**$239**

Why climate control? Our climate-controlled units stay between 15°C and 25°C all year. Recommended for vinyl records, musical instruments, electronics, photos, wooden furniture and important papers.

Save More

- **Prepay 3 months or more:** save 10% on unit rent (not on protection plan or add-ons).
- **Students** with valid ID: first month for $1 on Lockers and Small units. Minimum 3-month rental. Cannot be combined with other offers.
- **FREE moving truck** on move-in day with Medium and Large units. All other rentals: $49/day.

Good to Know

- **Protection plan required:** $12/month, or show proof of your own home or tenant insurance.
- **Gate access:** 6:00 a.m.–10:00 p.m., 7 days a week.
- **Rental office:** Mon–Fri 9–6, Sat 9–5. **Closed Sundays and holidays.** New customers must sign their agreement at the office before moving in.
- Please give **14 days' notice** before moving out.

Reserve online or call 780-555-0193 • Padlocks and moving boxes sold at the office

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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: My stuff for the summer
>
> To: Marcus Bell
>
> From: Jun Park
>
> Hi Marcus,
>
> Since our lease is up at the end of April and you're moving in with Dana, I've been looking for somewhere to keep my things while I'm in Seoul until the end of August. I found a place on 97 Street called Prairie Keep. I don't have much: my mattress, my desk and chair, my bike and about fifteen boxes. The one thing I'm nervous about is my record collection. It's my pride and joy, and I don't want it warping in a hot metal box all summer. So I think **(12)** _____ is the best choice for me.

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> With the extra charge for that, plus the protection plan (my tenant insurance ends with our lease), I'll be paying **(13)** _____ a month. I finished my program in December, so the student deal is out, but if I pay for all four months at once, I can **(14)** _____.
>
> The only catch is that the free truck is just for **(15)** _____, so could I borrow your van? I fly out early on Sunday, April 30, and because the office **(16)** _____, we'd have to do it the day before. Pizza is on me!
>
> Thanks,
>
> Jun

Choose the best option for each gap.

12. **A** the Medium unit **B** the Locker **C** the Small unit **D** the Large unit

13. **A** $127 **B** $95 **C** $115 **D** $161

14. **A** get the first month for $1 **B** skip the protection plan **C** get a free moving truck **D** save 10% on the rent

15. **A** students with valid ID **B** Medium and Large units **C** customers who prepay **D** rentals of six months or more

16. **A** needs 14 days' notice **B** opens at 6:00 a.m. **C** is closed on Sundays **D** closes early on Fridays

17. Jun and Marcus are most likely

A co-workers at the same company.
B brothers who grew up in Seoul.
C classmates in the same college program.
D roommates whose lease is ending.

18. What is the main purpose of Jun's email?

A to suggest that the two of them share a storage unit
B to ask for help moving his things into storage
C to invite Marcus to visit him in Seoul
D to ask Marcus to keep his records this summer

19. When Jun calls his record collection his "pride and joy," he means that

A he plans to sell it soon.
B it was a gift from a friend.
C he values it very highly.
D it is too heavy to move.

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Part 3: Reading for Information

Time: about 10 minutes

Canadian Ice Wine and the Winter Harvest

Paragraph A

Canada is one of the world's leading producers of ice wine, a sweet dessert wine made from grapes that have frozen naturally while still on the vine. The drink is not a Canadian invention. It is said to have been discovered in Germany in the late 1700s, when an early frost caught growers by surprise and they pressed their frozen grapes rather than lose the harvest. For centuries afterward, European winemakers could produce it only in the occasional year when the weather happened to cooperate. What Canada offers is reliability. In southern Ontario and in parts of British Columbia, winters are cold enough almost every year for the grapes to freeze solid, while the summers are warm enough to ripen them properly first.

Paragraph B

Making ice wine requires patience and nerve. Healthy grapes are left hanging long after the regular harvest in the fall, often into December or January. During those extra weeks, growers stretch nets over the vines to keep hungry birds away, and they risk losing the whole crop to rot, hail or a sudden thaw. Under Canadian rules, the grapes may be picked only once the temperature has dropped to −8°C or lower, so crews are often called out in the middle of the night, when it is coldest. The frozen grapes are pressed immediately, before they can soften. Because most of the water stays behind as ice, each grape gives up only a few drops of thick, very sweet juice.

Paragraph C

These conditions explain why ice wine is so expensive. A vineyard that would normally produce many bottles of table wine yields only a small fraction of that amount as ice wine. For this reason, it is usually sold in slim 375 mL bottles, half the size of a standard wine bottle, and a single bottle can easily cost $50 or more. A large share of Canada's production is exported, especially to Asia, where it is a popular gift. Its success abroad has also attracted fraud. Fake bottles, sometimes made by adding sugar to ordinary wine, have been discovered in several countries, and Canadian producers have called for stricter labelling to protect their reputation.

Paragraph D

In recent years, ice wine has also become a reason to visit wine country in the off-season. Each January, wineries in Ontario hold festivals where visitors sample ice wine at outdoor bars carved from ice and taste it alongside foods ranging from cheese to chocolate. A few wineries even invite guests to join a night-time harvest. Growers, however, are increasingly worried about milder winters. Some have had to wait until February for a cold enough night, and in a few seasons certain vineyards could not harvest at all. Some researchers expect that the best places for ice wine may gradually move northward or to higher ground as the climate warms.

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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 first ice wine is said to have resulted from unexpected weather. _____

21. Workers often pick the grapes at an hour chosen for its temperature. _____

22. Some products sold abroad as Canadian ice wine are not genuine. _____

23. Guests are sometimes given the chance to help with the harvest. _____

24. Ice wine costs less in Canada than in the countries that import it. _____

25. Growers must protect the fruit from wildlife while they wait for the cold. _____

26. Ice wine is usually sold in a smaller container than most other wines. _____

27. The regions best suited to making ice wine may shift in the future. _____

28. Canada's weather allows ice wine to be made far more regularly than in Europe. _____

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Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

Time: about 13 minutes

Backyard Chickens Bylaw Debate

> Elmdale, Saskatchewan, is considering a bylaw amendment allowing residents to keep up to four hens in their backyards; roosters would remain prohibited. Owners would register their birds for $25 annually, house them in a coop at least three metres from any property line, and refrain from selling the eggs. The amendment follows an eighteen-month pilot involving 40 households in two neighbourhoods.
>
> Councillor Dana Whitford, the amendment's author, deems the pilot a success. "We had three complaints in eighteen months, and two concerned a single coop that's since been relocated. Parents tell me their kids finally understand where food comes from." With grocery bills soaring, hens offer families a modest measure of control.
>
> "The hens are tolerably quiet," says Gerald Haines, who lives beside a pilot household. "It's what they attract." Since his neighbour acquired chickens, rats have colonized his garage for the first time in twenty years. He professes no hostility toward hens as such. "But who'll enforce these rules? We're a city of 60,000 with two bylaw officers."
>
> Dr. Anita Sharma, a local veterinarian, has mixed feelings. Hens can be rewarding, but newcomers underestimate the work. The rats are drawn not to the birds but to spilled grain and open feed bags, the owner's responsibility. A coop must stay above freezing throughout a prairie winter, and although hens can live eight years or more, laying declines sharply after the third or fourth. Each spring, shelters in cities permitting backyard flocks absorb birds whose owners have lost interest. She wants new owners to complete a short course before registering.
>
> Ben Toews, whose family has operated an egg farm outside Elmdale for three generations, laughs when asked about backyard competition. Four hens yield perhaps two dozen eggs weekly in summer and scarcely any in winter. "Tally up feed, a heated coop and the registration fee, and those are the costliest eggs in town." Few enthusiasts, he adds, picture cleaning a coop at twenty below. His genuine concern is disease: careless hygiene could transmit illnesses such as avian influenza to wild birds and eventually to commercial farms.
>
> A public hearing is set for May 14.

29. Sharma and Toews would both agree that

A hens are more work than expected.
B rats are drawn mainly to spilled grain.
C small flocks can spread avian influenza.
D the pilot drew too many complaints.

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30. Haines mentions “twenty years” to suggest that

A he has been a patient neighbour.

B bylaw officers have neglected his street.

C the hens brought the rats.

D the hens are quieter than expected.

31. Toews’s egg figures are meant to show that

A backyard flocks are no rivals.

B hens lay less after year three.

C disease could reach commercial farms.

D grocery bills are soaring.

32. Why does Dr. Sharma mention animal shelters?

A to argue hens make poor pets

B to praise adopters of retired birds

C to show that shelters lack space

D to warn of abandoned hens

33. The article could best be titled

A “Elmdale Farmers Fear Bird Flu”

B “Elmdale Weighs Letting Hens into Backyards”

C “Hen Pilot Ends in Flood of Complaints”

D “Egg Farm or Coop: Which Is Cheaper?”

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.

> Having kept three hens through the pilot, I find most of the worries in this article **(34)** _____. Mr. Haines blames chickens for his rats, yet as Dr. Sharma explains, the remedy is **(35)** _____, something any conscientious owner already practises.
>
> Mr. Toews is right about one thing: these are hardly bargain eggs. Between feed and **(36)** _____, my winter months cost more than any supermarket carton, and I pay gladly.
>
> I also endorse Dr. Sharma’s call for owners to **(37)** _____; my first winter taught me plenty the hard way. Above all, newcomers must accept that their birds **(38)** _____. A hen is a long commitment, not a breakfast plan.

Choose the best option for each gap.

34. **A** well founded **B** overblown **C** new to me **D** carefully researched

35. **A** more frequent coop inspections **B** tidy, sealed feed storage **C** registering every flock **D** setting coops three metres back

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36. **A** the annual registration fee **B** moving the coop back **C** keeping the coop above freezing **D** the course Dr. Sharma recommends

37. **A** pay a higher registration fee **B** move outside city limits **C** get their neighbours' consent **D** learn the basics first

38. **A** will outlive their laying years **B** may carry illnesses to farms **C** will draw rats to spilled feed **D** must stay three metres back

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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: Finding a Home for Grandma's Piano

1 B to offer Grandma's piano to Adam's daughter

2 C It would be very hard to get it into her home.

3 A It means more to Grandma than its price suggests.

4 D Grandma

5 B needs some work before it will play well.

6 D be given to Grandma's church.

7 C a lightweight plug-in instrument

8 D will probably put it out of tune

9 B one bass key that gets stuck

10 C play it every time she visits

11 A April 1

Part 2: Storage Unit for a Summer Abroad

12 C the Small unit

13 A $127

14 D save 10% on the rent

15 B Medium and Large units

16 C is closed on Sundays

17 D roommates whose lease is ending.

18 B to ask for help moving his things into storage

19 C he values it very highly.

Part 3: Canadian Ice Wine and the Winter Harvest

20 A

21 B

22 C

23 D

24 E

25 B

26 C

27 D

28 A

Part 4: Backyard Chickens Bylaw Debate

29 A hens are more work than expected.

30 C the hens brought the rats.

31 A backyard flocks are no rivals.

32 D to warn of abandoned hens

33 B "Elmdale Weighs Letting Hens into Backyards"

34 B overblown

35 B tidy, sealed feed storage

36 C keeping the coop above freezing

37 D learn the basics first

38 A will outlive their laying years

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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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