CELPIP Reading Practice Test 76

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	Planning a Gradual Return from Parental Leave	1–11	about 11 minutes
Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram	Driving Lessons for a Teenage Nephew	12–19	about 9 minutes
Part 3: Reading for Information	The Great Canadian Flag Debate	20–28	about 10 minutes
Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints	Fine-Free Library 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/76, 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

Planning a Gradual Return from Parental Leave

> Dear Mr. Okafor,
>
> I hope things at the office have settled down since the move to the new floor. Benjamin is now ten months old, and I'm writing to confirm that I'll be returning to work on March 3, as we discussed before my leave began. I'm looking forward to it more than I expected, although I'll admit that the thought of leaving him for a full day still makes me a little anxious.
>
> That brings me to my main request. I was hoping to ease back in gradually by working three days a week, Tuesday to Thursday, for the month of March, before returning to my regular five-day schedule in April. Benjamin will be starting at a daycare near our home, and the director has recommended shorter weeks at first so that new children have time to adjust. My husband's employer can't offer him any flexibility until the spring, so this arrangement would make a real difference to our family. I understand that my pay for March would be reduced, and I'm comfortable with that.
>
> I realize the timing isn't ideal, since the quarterly reports are due at the end of March. To make the transition easier, I'd be glad to come in for a half-day in late February, unpaid, so that Priya can bring me up to speed on the Henley account before she hands it back. She has done a wonderful job of covering for me, and I don't want her to feel rushed.
>
> There's one more thing I should raise. The daycare closes at 5:30 sharp and charges parents a fee for every minute they are late, so I'll need to leave the office by 4:30 each day. I'd like to make up the hour by starting at 8:00 instead of 9:00. I know the front doors aren't unlocked until 8:30, so my key card may need to be set up to work earlier.
>
> Finally, please thank everyone for the lovely card and the gift basket they sent when Benjamin was born. I still use the baby carrier that was tucked inside it almost every day.
>
> Please let me know whether this plan works for you, or if you'd prefer to meet and discuss it. I could come by any afternoon next week, as long as you don't mind Benjamin coming along.
>
> Kind regards,
>
> Daniela Ruiz

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

A to ask for a longer leave before she comes back
B to propose an arrangement for her first weeks back
C to complain about changes made while she was on leave
D to recommend a colleague for a permanent position

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2. Why does Daniela want to work only three days a week at first?

A Her husband can look after Benjamin on the other days.
B The quarterly reports are not due until April.
C Her son's daycare has advised a gentler start.
D The daycare is open just three days a week.

3. What can we conclude about Priya?

A She has been looking after some of Daniela's work.
B She will be leaving the company in late February.
C She is in charge of preparing the quarterly reports.
D She chose the gift that the team sent Daniela.

4. Daniela offers to come in for a half-day in February so that she can

A help her colleagues finish the quarterly reports.
B introduce Benjamin to the people on her team.
C find out where her desk is on the new floor.
D be briefed on a client before taking it back.

5. Why does Daniela want to begin her workday at 8:00?

A to avoid the morning rush
B to be able to collect her son on time
C because the office doors now open earlier
D because the quarterly reports need extra time

6. How does Daniela seem to feel about going back to work?

A keen, although somewhat uneasy
B reluctant, and hoping to delay it
C worried mainly about pay
D unsure if she still wants the job

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 Daniela,
>
> What lovely news! It's hard to believe Benjamin is already ten months old. We have all missed you, and I'm delighted that you'll be back on March 3.
>
> HR has approved your request to **(7)** _____, and the change to your March pay will be handled automatically. I'll also gladly take you up on your offer of a half-day in late February. Priya is eager to **(8)** _____ before she hands it back to you, and I know she'll appreciate having the time.
>
> An 8:00 start is no problem at all. I've asked building security to **(9)** _____, so you won't be left waiting outside. I understand how important that 4:30 departure is when **(10)** _____.

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> Finally, I'll pass your thanks along to the team. They'll be thrilled to hear that **(11)** _____ is getting so much use.
>
> See you soon,
>
> Samuel Okafor

Choose the best option for each gap.

7. **A** start your leave a month later **B** keep to a shorter week until April **C** work from home on Mondays and Fridays **D** share your duties with Priya for good

8. **A** show you around the new office floor **B** go over the reports due in March **C** brief you on the account she ran **D** introduce you to the new intern

9. **A** give you a parking spot by the entrance **B** open the side door on weekends **C** move your desk closer to the front doors **D** make sure your pass works before 8:30

10. **A** your husband's hours are so flexible **B** the drive to the new office is so long **C** the daycare bills parents for lateness **D** Benjamin still naps every single afternoon

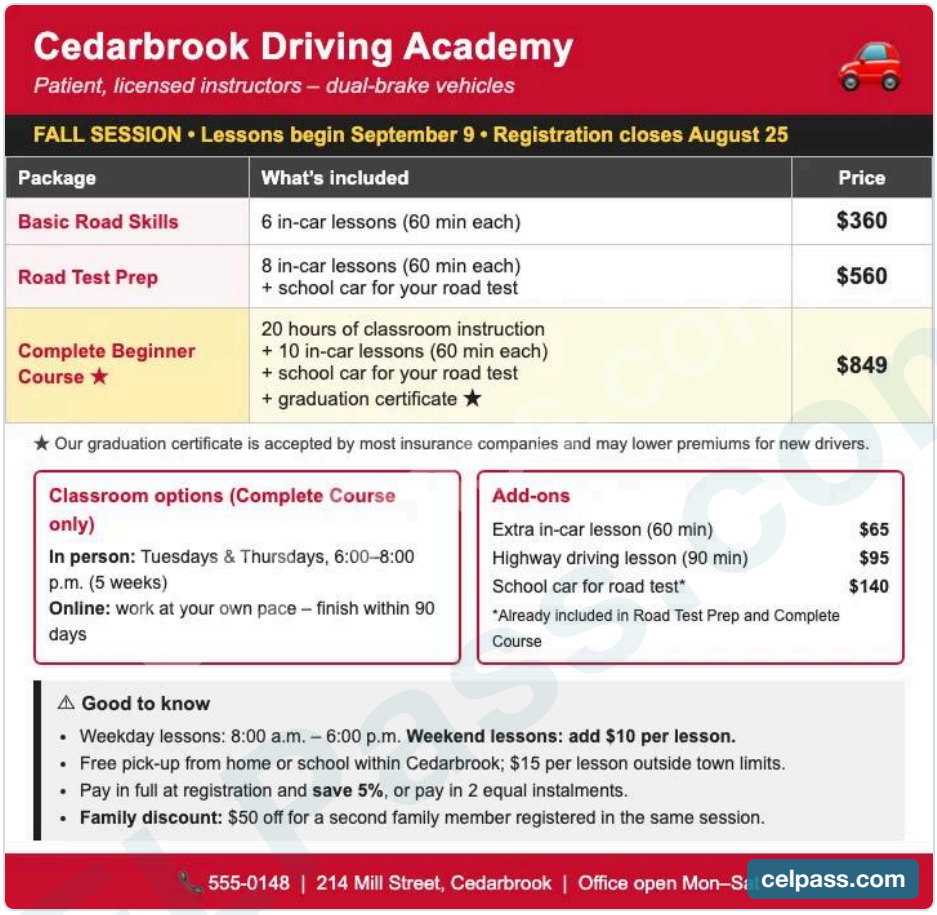
11. **A** the carrier from their basket **B** the card they all signed **C** the new office on their floor **D** the key card for the building

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Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram

Time: about 9 minutes

Driving Lessons for a Teenage Nephew



Cedarbrook Driving Academy

Patient, licensed instructors – dual-brake vehicles

FALL SESSION • Lessons begin September 9 • Registration closes August 25

Package	What's included	Price
Basic Road Skills	6 in-car lessons (60 min each)	$360
Road Test Prep	8 in-car lessons (60 min each) + school car for your road test	$560
Complete Beginner Course ★	20 hours of classroom instruction + 10 in-car lessons (60 min each) + school car for your road test + graduation certificate ★	$849

★ Our graduation certificate is accepted by most insurance companies and may lower premiums for new drivers.

Classroom options (Complete Course only)

In person: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6:00–8:00 p.m. (5 weeks)

Online: work at your own pace – finish within 90 days

Add-ons

Extra in-car lesson (60 min)	$65
Highway driving lesson (90 min)	$95
School car for road test*	$140

*Already included in Road Test Prep and Complete Course

⚠ **Good to know**

- Weekday lessons: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. **Weekend lessons: add $10 per lesson.**
- Free pick-up from home or school within Cedarbrook; $15 per lesson outside town limits.
- Pay in full at registration and **save 5%**, or pay in 2 equal instalments.
- **Family discount:** $50 off for a second family member registered in the same session.

555-0148 | 214 Mill Street, Cedarbrook | Office open Mon–Sa

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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: Tyler's driving lessons
>
> To: Joanne Pires
>
> From: Angela Moretti
>
> Hi Jo,
>
> Thanks again for offering to put Tyler's birthday money toward driving lessons. Your nephew is over the moon! I picked up a flyer from Cedarbrook Driving Academy and wanted to run my plan by you before I sign him up.
>
> When I asked our insurance company what it would cost to add Tyler to our policy, the quote made my jaw drop. The agent told me that a certificate from a recognized driving course could bring it down considerably, so the sensible choice is **(12)** _____.

> Tyler has hockey practice on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, so he would have to do the classroom part **(13)** _____. He's in school until 3:30 and works at the arena snack bar on weekdays from 4:00 to 7:00, so his in-car lessons will have to be on Saturdays. That adds **(14)** _____. At least the instructor will pick him up from our place at no charge.
>
> Our mom has offered to cover the highway lesson. If you're still happy to put in $300, I can pay the rest at registration and **(15)** _____. It's a shame Maya won't be sixteen until the spring, or we could have used the family discount, too.
>
> Registration closes on **(16)** _____, so could you let me know by Sunday?
>
> Love,
>
> Angela

Choose the best option for each gap.

12. **A** the Basic Road Skills package **B** the Road Test Prep package **C** the Complete Beginner Course **D** a few extra in-car lessons

13. **A** in person at the school **B** online at his own pace **C** on Saturday mornings **D** during his lunch hour

14. **A** $15 to each lesson **B** $10 to each lesson **C** $65 to every lesson **D** $95 to the total

15. **A** take $50 off **B** spread it over two payments **C** have the test car added free **D** knock 5% off the total

16. **A** August 25 **B** September 9 **C** the last day of the session **D** Sunday

17. Angela and Joanne know each other because

A they work at the arena together.
B Joanne teaches at the driving school.
C they live in the same neighbourhood.
D they are members of the same family.

18. Why is Angela writing to Joanne?

A to ask her to pay for Tyler's whole course
B to get Joanne's view before registering Tyler
C to invite her to Tyler's next birthday party
D to ask her to teach Tyler on the weekends

19. When Angela says the insurance quote "made my jaw drop," she means that

A it was much more costly than she had expected.
B she could not follow the agent's explanation.
C she was relieved it was so reasonable.
D she was too upset to finish the call.

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Part 3: Reading for Information

Time: about 10 minutes

The Great Canadian Flag Debate

Paragraph A

For nearly a century after Confederation, Canada had no official flag of its own. The Royal Union Flag, commonly called the Union Jack, was still the country's official flag, while the Canadian Red Ensign, a red banner with the Union Jack in its upper corner and a shield bearing Canadian symbols, flew over federal buildings and was widely treated as the national emblem. Canadian soldiers had carried the Red Ensign in the later years of the Second World War, and many veterans were deeply attached to it. Others, however, felt that a flag dominated by British imagery spoke to only part of the population, particularly French Canadians and the growing number of immigrants from other countries. Calls for a distinctive design surfaced repeatedly, but successive governments judged the issue too divisive to take on.

Paragraph B

That changed after Lester B. Pearson became prime minister in 1963. Pearson wanted a new flag in place before the country's hundredth birthday in 1967, and in May 1964 he presented his plan to a convention of the Royal Canadian Legion, the country's largest veterans' organization. Many in the audience booed him. Undeterred, Pearson brought his favoured design to Parliament: three red maple leaves joined on a single stem against a white background, with a blue bar on each side. Critics soon nicknamed it the "Pearson Pennant." Opposition leader John Diefenbaker, a firm defender of the Red Ensign, led a fierce resistance, and the debate in the House of Commons dragged on for weeks without a resolution.

Paragraph C

To break the deadlock, Parliament handed the question to a special committee of fifteen members drawn from several parties. Over the following weeks, the committee examined thousands of suggestions sent in by the public, featuring everything from beavers to sheaves of wheat. The design that eventually won owed much to historian George Stanley, who pointed to the flag of the Royal Military College in Kingston, where he taught: red at either side with white in the middle. Stanley proposed placing a single red maple leaf in that white centre. The leaf itself was later simplified to eleven points so that it would remain recognizable even when the flag was whipping about in a strong wind. In the committee's final vote, the single-leaf design was chosen unanimously.

Paragraph D

The House of Commons approved the new flag in the early hours of December 15, 1964, and the Senate followed two days later. Queen Elizabeth II proclaimed it in January 1965, and on February 15 of that year the red-and-white Maple Leaf was raised over Parliament Hill for the first time. Not everyone let go of the old symbol: within about two years, Ontario and Manitoba had adopted

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> provincial flags based on the Red Ensign, and both still fly them today. Since 1996, February 15 has been marked as National Flag of Canada Day. The flag that once divided Parliament has become one of the most recognized national symbols in the world, often seen sewn onto the backpacks of Canadian travellers.

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. Canadian troops once served under a flag that featured British symbols. _____

21. The prime minister met with open hostility when he first explained his plan to former soldiers. _____

22. The winning design drew on a flag already used by a school. _____

23. Most Canadians who sent in ideas favoured a single maple leaf over Pearson's design. _____

24. Two provinces chose to keep part of the earlier flag in their own designs. _____

25. Some people felt that the existing flag did not represent all Canadians. _____

26. The appearance of the leaf was altered with weather conditions in mind. _____

27. There was a target date for introducing a new flag that was linked to a national celebration. _____

28. Each year, a particular date is set aside to honour the flag. _____

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Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

Time: about 13 minutes

Fine-Free Library Debate

A year after the Fernwood Public Library abolished overdue fines, a policy intended to welcome readers back quietly has become one of the more contentious items in the municipal budget. Borrowers formerly paid 25 cents a day per late item, and a balance exceeding $10 froze their cards. The fines yielded roughly $160,000 annually: modest, but not a sum that vanishes without consequences.

Chief librarian Simone Archambault considers abolition the best decision of her tenure. Within twelve months, more than 2,000 previously blocked cards were reactivated, many belonging to children whose families had stopped coming sooner than confront a debt. “Fines never taught responsibility,” she maintains. “They taught poorer households that the library wasn’t meant for them.” She is candid about one side effect: popular new releases return more slowly, and wait lists for some titles have roughly doubled.

Councillor Warren Fitzgerald is unmoved by circulation statistics. To offset the lost revenue, the library board eliminated Sunday hours at two of its four branches, a trade-off he deems indefensible. “A free service behind a locked door isn’t free,” he argues. Even so, he stops short of advocating a return to the old regime, proposing instead to reinstate daily charges only on high-demand items such as bestsellers and museum passes.

Economist Elspeth Morrow suspects both camps exaggerate the stakes. Her research indicates that fines barely influence how promptly materials come back, and the revenue figures, she cautions, are misleading: once staff time spent processing payments and adjudicating disputes is subtracted, the net gain was perhaps half what appeared on paper. “The Sunday closures reflect the board’s priorities more than any financial necessity.”

At the main branch, circulation supervisor Nadia Kowalczyk has watched quarrels over a few dollars, once a drain on her staff’s day, all but disappear. Reverting to fining everyone holds no appeal for her. “But when forty patrons are queued for a single novel,” she allows, “a modest charge on that copy might be the lesser evil.”

Parent Omar Haddad, whose three children rejoined last spring, had simply stopped bringing them once the family owed $38. “Reintroduce fines on anything and the families who most need the library will assume they apply to everything,” he warns.

29. Fitzgerald’s closest ally would be

A Simone Archambault.

B Elspeth Morrow.

C Nadia Kowalczyk.

D Omar Haddad.

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30. What does Fitzgerald's "locked door" refer to?

A the Sunday closures

B cards frozen by unpaid balances

C wait lists for new releases

D charges on high-demand items

31. Elspeth Morrow implies that

A queues prove penalties worked.

B the Sunday closures were unavoidable.

C charges belong only on high-demand titles.

D fine revenue was overstated.

32. What do Archambault's figures and Haddad's story suggest?

A Late returns have fallen.

B Quarrels at the desk have nearly ended.

C Debts kept some families away.

D Wait lists have doubled.

33. The article could most aptly be titled

A "Fine-Free at Last: A Policy Everyone Loves"

B "The Fines Return: Why Fernwood's Experiment Failed"

C "Do Fines Work? An Economist's Evidence"

D "A Fine-Free Library, but at What Cost?"

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.

> As a volunteer with the library's homework club, I consider the fine-free policy a quiet triumph. Children who once hung back at the desk because they **(34)** _____ now borrow every week. Councillor Fitzgerald's compromise therefore worries me: Mr. Haddad is right that even a narrow charge would **(35)** _____. Still, the councillor's anger about Sundays is justified, since that is when working parents can actually **(36)** _____. And if Dr. Morrow is correct, half of what the fines brought in merely paid for **(37)** _____. As for the wait lists, Ms. Kowalczyk would charge for the queued copy; I would sooner **(38)** _____, at far less than the price of a locked branch.

Choose the best option for each gap.

34. **A** were queued for new releases **B** found their branch closed on Sundays **C** owed over the limit **D** had books still to return

35. **A** send families the wrong signal **B** reignite the quarrels at the desk **C** raise less than it costs to collect **D** lengthen the wait lists further

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36. **A** return books on time **B** bring their children along **C** beat the queue for new releases **D** settle old balances

37. **A** replacing worn books **B** weekend opening **C** special lending **D** collecting them

38. **A** restore the old $10 limit **B** reopen those branches on Sundays **C** stock up on what people want **D** freeze the cards of latecomers

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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: Planning a Gradual Return from Parental Leave

1 B to propose an arrangement for her first weeks back

2 C Her son's daycare has advised a gentler start.

3 A She has been looking after some of Daniela's work.

4 D be briefed on a client before taking it back.

5 B to be able to collect her son on time

6 A keen, although somewhat uneasy

7 B keep to a shorter week until April

8 C brief you on the account she ran

9 D make sure your pass works before 8:30

10 C the daycare bills parents for lateness

11 A the carrier from their basket

Part 2: Driving Lessons for a Teenage Nephew

12 C the Complete Beginner Course

13 B online at his own pace

14 B $10 to each lesson

15 D knock 5% off the total

16 A August 25

17 D they are members of the same family.

18 B to get Joanne's view before registering Tyler

19 A it was much more costly than she had expected.

Part 3: The Great Canadian Flag Debate

20 A

21 B

22 C

23 E

24 D

25 A

26 C

27 B

28 D

Part 4: Fine-Free Library Debate

29 C Nadia Kowalczyk.

30 A the Sunday closures

31 D fine revenue was overstated.

32 C Debts kept some families away.

33 D "A Fine-Free Library, but at What Cost?"

34 C owed over the limit

35 A send families the wrong signal

36 B bring their children along

37 D collecting them

38 C stock up on what people want

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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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