CELPIP Reading Practice Test 77

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	Organizing a Twenty-Year Class Reunion	1–11	about 11 minutes
Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram	Booking a Room for a Retirement Party	12–19	about 9 minutes
Part 3: Reading for Information	The Canadarm and Canada's Role in Space	20–28	about 10 minutes
Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints	Housing on a City Golf Course 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/77, 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

Organizing a Twenty-Year Class Reunion

Dear Kevin,

It was such a surprise to run into your sister at the grocery store last month. She gave me your email address, and I was thrilled to hear that you've moved back to the area after all those years in Halifax. I hope the new job at the hospital is treating you well.

I'm actually writing with a proposal. Next June marks twenty years since our class graduated from Harwood Secondary, and as far as I can tell, nobody has organized anything. You may remember that our ten-year reunion fell apart when the hotel cancelled our booking two weeks before the date. People were so disappointed that no one wanted to try again. I'd like to change that, but I know I can't do it alone.

You were always the one who knew everybody, from the hockey team to the drama club, so I immediately thought of you. What I'm hoping is that you could take charge of tracking people down. I've already set up a group page online, and about forty of our classmates have joined, but that leaves well over a hundred we haven't found. Many people in our year have changed their names since high school, which makes searching more difficult. I suspect a few phone calls from you would do more than all my posts combined.

I would handle the venue and the budget. My first choice is the old curling club on Water Street, which has a kitchen and holds about two hundred people. The manager has told me that a $500 deposit would hold the date, and I'm willing to put that down myself so we don't lose it to a wedding. We could then set the ticket price so that I'm paid back once people start buying.

I've also had an idea I'd love your opinion on. Instead of a formal dinner, which always ends up costing a fortune, what about a barbecue with a slideshow of old photos? Mr. Lindqvist, our former yearbook adviser, still has boxes of pictures that never made it into print, and he's offered to lend them to us. I think more people would come if they didn't have to buy a new outfit and pay eighty dollars a plate.

There's no pressure at all, of course. I know you're still settling in, and if you don't have the time, I completely understand. Either way, it would be lovely to meet for coffee and catch up properly.

Warmly,

Marisol Ferreira

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

A to invite Kevin to a dinner she has already booked
B to apologize for an event that was called off
C to seek Kevin's help in planning a class event
D to ask Kevin to lend her money for a deposit

2. According to Marisol, why did the ten-year reunion not take place?

A The venue backed out just before the date.
B Too few classmates could be found in time.
C Nobody was willing to take on the planning.
D Tickets cost more than most people could pay.

3. Why does Marisol want Kevin to look for their former classmates?

A He has more free time than she does.
B He was friendly with many different groups.
C He works with a lot of people at the hospital.
D He created the group page she mentions.

4. What can we conclude about the curling club?

A It is too small for the whole graduating class.
B It requires full payment several months early.
C It was meant to host the ten-year reunion.
D It might be booked by others if she waits.

5. Marisol suggests a barbecue instead of a formal dinner because

A guests would spend far less on it.
B the curling club lacks a kitchen.
C Mr. Lindqvist dislikes formal events.
D slideshows don't suit formal dinners.

6. How does Marisol seem to feel about asking Kevin for help?

A sure he will agree because he owes her a favour
B worried he is still upset about the last reunion
C hopeful, but careful not to make him feel obliged
D doubtful that he still cares about old classmates

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 Marisol,
>
> It was great to hear from you! My sister told me she'd bumped into you, and I'm glad she passed along my address. I can hardly believe it's been twenty years.

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> Count me in. I still remember how let down everyone felt when the hotel **(7)** _____, so I'd love to help make this one happen. Tracking people down sounds like a fun challenge, and I already have a head start: I'm still in touch with **(8)** _____, and I'm sure they can help me reach a lot of people.
>
> I'm happy to leave the venue to you, but please don't pay the deposit on your own. Let's split it, and we can both **(9)** _____ once tickets go on sale.
>
> I love the barbecue idea. Nobody wants to spend a fortune, and **(10)** _____ would be the perfect way to get everyone talking. Do you think Mr. Lindqvist would **(11)** _____? It would be nice to thank him in person.
>
> Coffee next Saturday?
>
> Kevin

Choose the best option for each gap.

7. **A** gave our date to a wedding party **B** said it could not hold everyone
C doubled the price of the dinner **D** pulled the plug two weeks ahead

8. **A** my old co-workers in Halifax **B** old teammates and drama friends
C the manager of the curling club **D** our former yearbook adviser

9. **A** recover what we put in **B** ask the club for a refund **C** lower the price of tickets
D pay for the old photos

10. **A** a friendly game on the curling ice **B** an eighty-dollar sit-down meal
C pictures nobody has seen before **D** a dance with a live local band

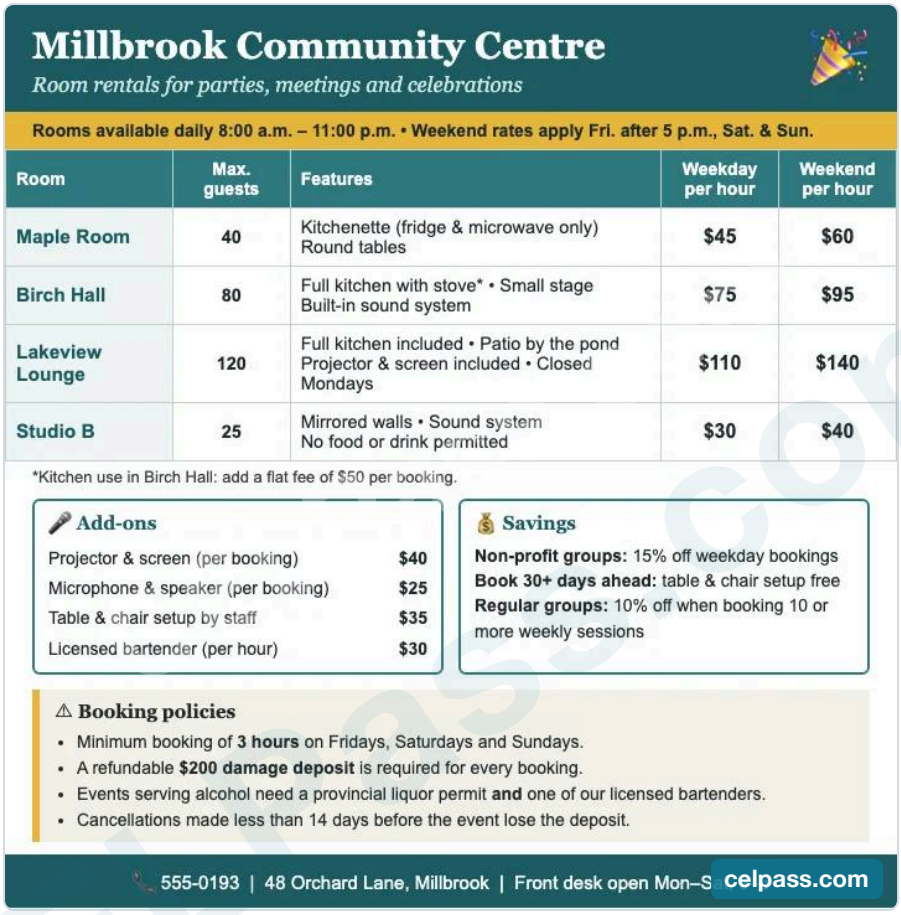
11. **A** give a speech at the formal dinner **B** come and see his photos on screen
C cover the club's deposit for us **D** help me find our missing classmates

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Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram

Time: about 9 minutes

Booking a Room for a Retirement Party



Millbrook Community Centre

Room rentals for parties, meetings and celebrations

Rooms available daily 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m. • Weekend rates apply Fri. after 5 p.m., Sat. & Sun.

Room	Max. guests	Features	Weekday per hour	Weekend per hour
Maple Room	40	Kitchenette (fridge & microwave only) Round tables	$45	$60
Birch Hall	80	Full kitchen with stove* • Small stage Built-in sound system	$75	$95
Lakeview Lounge	120	Full kitchen included • Patio by the pond Projector & screen included • Closed Mondays	$110	$140
Studio B	25	Mirrored walls • Sound system No food or drink permitted	$30	$40

*Kitchen use in Birch Hall: add a flat fee of $50 per booking.

Add-ons

Projector & screen (per booking)	$40
Microphone & speaker (per booking)	$25
Table & chair setup by staff	$35
Licensed bartender (per hour)	$30

Savings

Non-profit groups: 15% off weekday bookings
Book 30+ days ahead: table & chair setup free
Regular groups: 10% off when booking 10 or more weekly sessions

⚠ Booking policies

- Minimum booking of **3 hours** on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.
- A refundable **$200 damage deposit** is required for every booking.
- Events serving alcohol need a provincial liquor permit **and** one of our licensed bartenders.
- Cancellations made less than 14 days before the event lose the deposit.

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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: Gloria's retirement party – room booking
>
> To: Hannah Kowal
>
> From: Derek Osei
>
> Hi Hannah,
>
> I finally got the rental sheet from the Millbrook Community Centre, and I think I've found the right space for Gloria's send-off. With the whole department and partners, we're looking at about 45 people. Our caterer has told me she needs a proper stove to keep the dishes hot, so I'm leaning toward **(12)** _____. The Lakeview Lounge would be lovely, but it's simply out of our price range.
>
> The party is on Friday, June 19, from 6:00 to 10:00, so we'll be charged **(13)** _____. Ahmed has really gone above and beyond with his slideshow of Gloria's thirty years here. The room already has

its own speakers, so the only extra we'll need is **(14)** _____. With the kitchen fee, that brings us to **(15)** _____, which keeps us under the $500 we were given. We'll also have to leave a damage deposit, but we'll get that back.

Since Gloria doesn't drink and most of the team prefers it that way, I suggest we skip the wine. That way, we won't have to arrange **(16)** _____.

Could you let me know by Thursday if you're happy with this? I'd like to book before someone else grabs the date.

Thanks,

Derek

Choose the best option for each gap.

12. **A** the Maple Room **B** Birch Hall **C** the Lakeview Lounge **D** Studio B

13. **A** the weekday rate **B** the non-profit rate **C** the regular-group rate **D** the weekend rate

14. **A** a projector and screen **B** a microphone and speaker **C** table setup by staff **D** a licensed bartender

15. **A** $380 **B** $430 **C** $470 **D** $560

16. **A** the refundable damage deposit **B** a permit or a bartender **C** a three-hour minimum **D** the kitchen fee

17. Derek and Hannah know each other because

A they both volunteer at the community centre.
B Hannah is the caterer Derek has hired.
C they work for the same insurance company.
D they are both retiring this June.

18. Why is Derek writing to Hannah?

A to ask her to pay the damage deposit
B to invite her to Gloria's retirement party
C to complain about the cost of the rooms
D to check that she agrees with his plan

19. When Derek says Ahmed has "gone above and beyond," he means that Ahmed

A has put in more effort than was expected.
B has finished the slideshow later than planned.
C has spent more money than he was given.
D has included too many photos of Gloria.

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Part 3: Reading for Information

Time: about 10 minutes

The Canadarm and Canada's Role in Space

Paragraph A

When the American space shuttle Columbia lifted off on its second flight in November 1981, it carried a piece of equipment that would make Canada a respected name in space exploration. The Shuttle Remote Manipulator System, better known as the Canadarm, was a robotic arm about fifteen metres long, designed and built in Canada. Mounted along the edge of the shuttle's cargo bay, it was controlled by an astronaut working from a station at the back of the cockpit. Its main tasks were to lift satellites out of the bay and release them into orbit, and to capture satellites in space so that they could be repaired or brought back to Earth. Although its official name was long and technical, the nickname quickly caught on.

Paragraph B

The arm grew out of an agreement reached between Canada and NASA in the mid-1970s, under which the Canadian government paid to develop it. A team of Canadian companies, led by Spar Aerospace, carried out the work. Building the arm posed an unusual challenge: because it had been designed for the weightlessness of space, it could not support its own weight on Earth. Engineers therefore had to rely on special supports and computer simulations to test it. Like a human arm, it had a shoulder, an elbow and a wrist, and its joints allowed operators to handle large objects with remarkable precision. The project also gave Canadian engineers valuable experience in space robotics that would prove useful for decades.

Paragraph C

Over the next three decades, the Canadarm flew on 90 shuttle missions. It was used to release the Hubble Space Telescope into orbit and later to grab hold of it during repair missions, and it played an important part in assembling the International Space Station. In 2001, a larger successor, Canadarm2, was attached to the station itself, and Canadian astronaut Chris Hadfield made spacewalks to help install it. Unlike the original, which stayed fixed to the shuttle, Canadarm2 can move from place to place on the station, flipping end over end between special fixtures. It has also been used to catch cargo spacecraft arriving from Earth and guide them into position.

Paragraph D

When the shuttle program ended in 2011, the Canadarm was retired, and one of the arms that flew in space is now on display at the Canada Aviation and Space Museum in Ottawa, where visitors can see it up close. Its influence reaches far beyond space, however. Technology developed for the arm has been adapted for uses on Earth, including robotic systems that assist surgeons. The arm has also become a national symbol: Canadarm2 and its robotic partner, Dextre, appear on Canada's

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> polymer five-dollar bill. The tradition is set to continue, as Canada is now contributing a new arm, Canadarm3, to a proposed space station that would orbit the Moon.

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. Because of what it was built for, the arm could not be tested in the usual way on the ground. _____

21. People preferred a simpler name for the arm to its formal title. _____

22. A Canadian astronaut operated the original arm on its first flight. _____

23. The original arm handled the same telescope on more than one occasion. _____

24. Canada's work in space robotics is expected to reach beyond Earth's orbit. _____

25. The arm was paid for by the country that built it rather than by the American space agency. _____

26. Unlike its predecessor, the later arm is not tied to a single attachment point. _____

27. The company that led work on the first arm also built its successor. _____

28. A flown arm can now be seen by the public in the national capital. _____

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Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

Time: about 13 minutes

Housing on a City Golf Course Debate

When the City of Port Ellery purchased the Cedar Hollow golf course in 1974, few residents imagined its fairways would one day anchor a housing debate. Yet with rental vacancies hovering below one percent and the course losing money for six consecutive seasons, councillors are contemplating a plan to rezone roughly half its 60 hectares for about 1,400 homes, a third renting below market rates. The remainder would become a public park with walking trails.

Mayor Léonie Dufresne, the plan's principal champion, frames it as a question of fairness: taxpayers are subsidizing a facility used by a few thousand members while young families abandon the city for want of affordable accommodation. "Golfers would forfeit something genuinely valuable, and I won't pretend otherwise," she grants. "But this land belongs to everyone, not merely club members." Covering the course's deficits has drained the general budget, money that might otherwise fund libraries or snow clearing.

Gordon Achterberg, who leads the Cedar Hollow Golfers' Association, disputes that characterization. "Those losses stem from years of postponed maintenance, not waning interest," he insists. Membership has actually grown since 2020. Nor does he reject construction outright. Vacant parking lots and half-empty office towers downtown, in his view, should be exhausted before any green space is paved.

Urban planner Ravindra Sandhu, who reviewed the scheme, accepts that homes are urgently needed but questions the location. The site lies at the municipal fringe, forty minutes by bus from most jobs, and without a new transit line the development could merely exchange a housing problem for a traffic one. "Density succeeds near where people already work and shop," he observes. "Otherwise, you're trading affordable rents for unaffordable car payments."

Ecologist Marguerite Oyelaran raises another objection. The course's creek and wetland absorb runoff during heavy storms and have spared neighbouring streets serious flooding. Redevelopment would not trouble her, provided the wetland survived intact, but she doubts a park consisting mostly of lawn could perform the same function.

For renter Tomasz Wiśniewski, three years into a waiting list, such arguments feel abstract. "Everybody endorses new homes, provided they go somewhere else," he remarks wryly. "Eventually, somewhere else has to be somewhere."

29. On location, Achterberg's thinking is closest to

A Léonie Dufresne.
B Marguerite Oyelaran.
C Ravindra Sandhu.
D Tomasz Wiśniewski.

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30. Why does Achterberg mention membership growth?

A to show golfers would pay more
B to blame maintenance, not interest
C to justify keeping the budget subsidy
D to prove the course has room

31. Oyelaran's attitude toward redevelopment is best described as

A flatly opposed.
B largely indifferent.
C quietly hopeful.
D conditionally accepting.

32. What can be inferred about the new residents?

A Most would be former golfers.
B Car costs could burden them.
C Most would pay reduced rents.
D They would be protected from floods.

33. Which headline would be best?

A "Homes or Fairways? The Fight Over Cedar Hollow"
B "Affordable at Last: A Golf Course Houses a City"
C "Cedar Hollow's Real Problem: Deficits, Not Housing"
D "Wetland or Lawn? An Ecologist's Question"

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 live two streets from Cedar Hollow, and I resent hearing that anyone who questions this plan simply dislikes neighbours. I know young people who left Port Ellery because **(34)** _____, so I want homes built. But the mayor's fairness argument overlooks the fact that **(35)** _____. On Birch Crescent, that creek is why our basements stay dry, and a lawn won't **(36)** _____. Nor can a course that has **(37)** _____ fairly be blamed for running a deficit. If council truly cares about affordability, it should heed Mr. Sandhu and **(38)** _____, or new tenants will spend their rent savings on gas. Build homes, by all means, but build them in the right place.

Choose the best option for each gap.

34. **A** rental vacancies had dried up **B** the bus to work took too long
C the city overspent on golf **D** downtown towers sat half empty

35. **A** young families are already leaving **B** golfers would lose something valuable
C the deficits drain the general budget **D** the fairways do more than host golf

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36. **A** give us anywhere to walk **B** perform the creek's function **C** keep the golfers happy **D** stop the traffic

37. **A** been owned by the city since 1974 **B** lost members since 2020 **C** been starved of maintenance **D** drained the general budget

38. **A** leave the wetland untouched **B** fund the overdue repairs **C** rezone all 60 hectares at once **D** put homes near existing jobs

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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: Organizing a Twenty-Year Class Reunion

1 C to seek Kevin's help in planning a class event

2 A The venue backed out just before the date.

3 B He was friendly with many different groups.

4 D It might be booked by others if she waits.

5 A guests would spend far less on it.

6 C hopeful, but careful not to make him feel obliged

7 D pulled the plug two weeks ahead

8 B old teammates and drama friends

9 A recover what we put in

10 C pictures nobody has seen before

11 B come and see his photos on screen

Part 2: Booking a Room for a Retirement Party

12 B Birch Hall

13 D the weekend rate

14 A a projector and screen

15 C $470

16 B a permit or a bartender

17 C they work for the same insurance company.

18 D to check that she agrees with his plan

19 A has put in more effort than was expected.

Part 3: The Canadarm and Canada's Role in Space

20 B

21 A

22 E

23 C

24 D

25 B

26 C

27 E

28 D

Part 4: Housing on a City Golf Course Debate

29 C Ravindra Sandhu.

30 B to blame maintenance, not interest

31 D conditionally accepting.

32 B Car costs could burden them.

33 A "Homes or Fairways? The Fight Over Cedar Hollow"

34 A rental vacancies had dried up

35 D the fairways do more than host golf

36 B perform the creek's function

37 C been starved of maintenance

38 D put homes near existing jobs

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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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