CELPIP Reading Practice Test 78

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	Transfer Request to the Kelowna Branch	1–11	about 11 minutes
Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram	Choosing a Meal Kit Plan for the Family	12–19	about 9 minutes
Part 3: Reading for Information	The Burgess Shale Fossils of Yoho	20–28	about 10 minutes
Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints	Shared E-Scooters On City Streets	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/78, 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

Transfer Request to the Kelowna Branch

Dear Ms. Lindqvist,

I hope you had a restful long weekend. I'm writing to ask whether it might be possible for me to transfer to our Kelowna branch later this year. I've been a loans officer here in Prince George for almost six years, and I've genuinely enjoyed working with this team, so this isn't a request I make lightly.

My wife, Hélène, has just been offered a pharmacist position at a hospital in Kelowna, starting September 15. It's an opportunity she has been working toward for years, and we've agreed that she should accept it. Ideally, we would move by the end of August, so that our two boys can begin the school year at their new school rather than switching partway through the fall.

Raj Bhatt, who I trained with when we both started, mentioned that one of the senior loans officers in Kelowna will be retiring this summer. I don't want to assume that the position would be offered to me, and I would be perfectly willing to take on a different role, even a temporary one at the front counter, until something suitable opens up.

I'm also conscious of my responsibilities here. I'm about halfway through training Tomás, our newest hire, and I'd like to see him through to the end of his program before I leave. Several of my longtime clients, particularly the farm families who finance their equipment through us, value a personal connection, so I'd like to introduce each of them to Alicia face to face rather than simply sending a letter. If it would help, I'm happy to remain available by phone for any questions during my first month in Kelowna.

There is one matter I'm unsure about. I understand that our relocation allowance covers moving expenses when the company asks an employee to move, but I don't know whether it applies when the employee is the one making the request. If it doesn't, I completely understand, and we'll manage the costs ourselves.

I already have a week of vacation booked in mid-July. We're planning to use it to look at houses in Kelowna, and if the transfer goes ahead, I could stop by the branch to meet the manager while I'm there.

Leaving Prince George will be bittersweet, but I'm excited about what lies ahead for our family. Thank you for considering my request.

Best regards,

Marcus Delorme

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

A to apply for a promotion at another branch
B to ask about moving to a different branch
C to recommend a colleague for a senior role
D to explain why he must resign from his job

2. Why does Marcus hope to move by the end of August?

A His wife's new job begins then.
B The senior loans officer retires that month.
C His sons could start the school year there.
D His vacation is booked for that time.

3. What is Marcus's attitude toward the senior position in Kelowna?

A He would take other work if it isn't offered.
B He believes he is clearly the best person to fill it.
C He has been encouraged by Raj to apply for it.
D He would only move if he were given it.

4. Before leaving Prince George, Marcus would like to

A find someone to replace him at the front counter.
B send a letter to each of his farm clients.
C complete the training of a new colleague.
D help Alicia finish her training program.

5. What is Marcus unsure about?

A whether Hélène will accept the job offer
B whether the branch manager will meet him in July
C whether his clients will agree to work with Alicia
D whether the company might pay his moving costs

6. How does Marcus feel about leaving Prince George?

A relieved to be making a fresh start
B both sad and hopeful
C anxious about the cost of moving
D unsure that it is the right choice

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 Marcus,
>
> Congratulations to Hélène! I can tell how much this move means to your family, and I'm glad you came to me early.

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> I spoke with the Kelowna manager yesterday. The retiring officer's position has already been filled, but she would be happy to have you **(7)** _____ until a loans position becomes available. I also checked with HR about the allowance. Unfortunately, it is only offered when **(8)** _____, but they have agreed to give you three paid days off for the move.
>
> Thank you for thinking of your clients and of Tomás. I agree that he should **(9)** _____, so please plan your last day accordingly. Alicia would be glad to **(10)** _____ with you, and I'm sure those families will appreciate the gesture.
>
> Finally, why not drop by the Kelowna branch **(11)** _____? The manager is looking forward to meeting you.
>
> Warm regards,
>
> Ingrid Lindqvist

Choose the best option for each gap.

7. **A** train her newest staff **B** take over the farm accounts **C** help out at the counter **D** fill in for the retiring officer

8. **A** the company is the one asking someone to relocate
B an employee has more than five years of service with us
C both spouses work for the company **D** the move takes place before September

9. **A** take over your clients **B** start his training in the fall **C** move to Kelowna as well **D** complete his program with you

10. **A** write to your farm clients **B** meet your longtime clients **C** help you pack up your office **D** finish training Tomás

11. **A** when Hélène starts her new job there **B** on the next long weekend **C** while you are in Kelowna in July **D** after your first month there

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Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram

Time: about 9 minutes

Choosing a Meal Kit Plan for the Family



Harvest Table Meal Kits

Fresh local ingredients and step-by-step recipes, delivered to your door

Now serving Halifax, Dartmouth & surrounding communities • Cancel anytime

Plan	What you get each week	Servings	Price / box
Couples Classic	3 dinners • our most popular recipes • ready in 30–40 min †	2	$72
Family Favourites	3 dinners • kid-tested recipes • ready in 25 min or less †	4	$129
Veggie Garden	3 dinners • 100% vegetarian • ready in 30–40 min	2 or 4	$66 / $118
Chef's Choice	4 dinners • premium cuts & seafood • ready in 45–60 min	2	$98

† **Gluten-free swap** available on Couples Classic and Family Favourites only: add **$6 per box**. All kits are packed in a nut-free facility.

Delivery days

Zone 1 (Halifax & Dartmouth): Tuesday or Friday – your choice
Zone 2 (all other communities): Thursday only
FREE delivery on boxes over $100; otherwise $8.99

Add-ons (per week)

Breakfast bundle (4 servings)	$16
Dessert for four	$10
Seasonal fruit basket	$12

Special offers

- **New customers:** 40% off your first box
- **Refer a friend:** you receive a $25 credit for every friend who orders, and your friend gets **50% off** their first box (instead of 40%)
- **Skip a week or pause** anytime – just tell us at least **5 days before** your delivery day

Order online at harvesttablekits.ca • 1-877-555-0148 celpass.com

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: You have to try these meal kits!
>
> To: Sophie Leclerc
>
> From: Natalie Brennan
>
> Hi Sophie,
>
> Remember how we lived on instant noodles when we shared that tiny room in residence? Well, my cooking hasn't improved much. We've been stuck in a rut, making the same four dinners every week, so I finally signed up with Harvest Table, and I thought of you right away.
>
> With four of us at the table and Emma unable to eat gluten, **(12)** _____ was the obvious choice. The recipes are quick, too, which matters on hockey nights. The gluten-free swap adds **(13)** _____ to each box, but because the total is still over $100, delivery is free.

> Since we're out in Fall River, our box only comes on **(14)** _____, but you're right downtown, so you'd get to pick your day. If you sign up through my link, you'll get **(15)** _____, and I'll get a $25 credit. Everybody wins!
>
> One tip: we'll be at the cottage the week of August 10, when our box would normally arrive on Thursday the 13th. I have until **(16)** _____ to skip that week, and I've already set a reminder.
>
> Let me know what you think!
>
> Nat

Choose the best option for each gap.

12. **A** Couples Classic **B** Veggie Garden **C** Family Favourites **D** Chef's Choice

13. **A** $8.99 **B** $6 **C** $10 **D** $25

14. **A** Tuesdays **B** Fridays **C** Mondays **D** Thursdays

15. **A** half off your first box **B** 40% off your first box **C** a $25 credit **D** free delivery on every box

16. **A** Thursday, August 6 **B** Monday, August 10 **C** Saturday, August 8 **D** Wednesday, August 12

17. Natalie and Sophie know each other because

A they lived together as students.
B they work for the same company.
C their children play hockey together.
D they are cousins.

18. Why is Natalie writing to Sophie?

A to ask her to collect a box while Natalie is away
B to invite her family to the cottage in August
C to ask for help choosing the right plan
D to suggest she try a service Natalie uses

19. When Natalie says her family has been "stuck in a rut," she means that

A they kept eating the same few meals.
B they had trouble getting groceries delivered.
C they had no time to cook at all.
D they were spending too much on food.

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Part 3: Reading for Information

Time: about 10 minutes

The Burgess Shale Fossils of Yoho

Paragraph A

High on a ridge in Yoho National Park, in the Rocky Mountains of eastern British Columbia, lies one of the most important fossil sites ever discovered. The Burgess Shale, named after nearby Burgess Pass, was found in 1909 by Charles Walcott, an American palaeontologist who was then head of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. Over several summers, Walcott and members of his family hauled tens of thousands of specimens down the mountain, and most of them were shipped back to the United States. The rocks they collected are roughly 508 million years old, dating from the Cambrian period, a time when nearly all life on Earth was still found in the sea.

Paragraph B

What makes the Burgess Shale extraordinary is not its age but its state of preservation. Most fossils record only hard parts such as shells, bones and teeth, because soft tissue usually decays long before it can turn to stone. Here, however, animals living near the foot of a towering underwater cliff appear to have been buried suddenly by flows of fine mud. With little oxygen in the surrounding water, the bodies escaped normal decay, and features as delicate as gills, guts and even muscles were preserved as thin, dark films in the rock. Such conditions are extremely rare, which is why the site is so valuable to scientists trying to understand how complex animals first appeared.

Paragraph C

Many of the creatures found in the shale look strange even to experts. The most common, Marrella, was a small, lace-like early arthropod. Opabinia had five eyes and a long, flexible nozzle with a grasping claw at its tip. Hallucigenia, a worm-like animal with spines along its body, was first reconstructed upside down and back to front, with its spines mistaken for legs. Anomalocaris, one of the largest predators of its time, was originally known only from separate pieces that scientists at first thought belonged to several different animals. When researchers at the University of Cambridge re-examined Walcott’s collection in the 1960s and 1970s, their work helped convince scientists that early animal life had been far more varied than once believed.

Paragraph D

Today the Burgess Shale is part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and collecting fossils there is strictly forbidden. Members of the public may visit the main fossil beds only on guided hikes led by Parks Canada or the Burgess Shale Geoscience Foundation, and the steep round trip can take most of a day. Research has not stopped, either. Scientists from the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, which holds the largest collection of Burgess Shale fossils in the world, have led many expeditions in the region, and in the 2010s they uncovered a rich new fossil site in nearby Kootenay National Park.

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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. Unusual conditions on the sea floor slowed the breakdown of the animals' bodies. _____

21. The site was first identified by a scientist from outside Canada. _____

22. Experts once had the wrong idea about which way up one of the animals stood. _____

23. Most of the specimens Walcott removed have since been returned to Canada. _____

24. People cannot reach the main fossil beds without a guide. _____

25. When these animals lived, the land was mostly empty of life. _____

26. A Canadian institution has continued to explore the area for fossils. _____

27. One creature was once wrongly thought to be several different ones. _____

28. Fossils typically show only the firmer parts of an animal's body. _____

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Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

Time: about 13 minutes

Shared E-Scooters On City Streets

Two summers after Riverton invited private companies to rent electric scooters by the minute, council must choose between making the program permanent and letting the permits lapse. Supporters cite impressive numbers: riders took roughly 310,000 trips between May and October, and in an operator survey, about one user in four claimed their latest ride had replaced a car or taxi. Yet the scooters have also become a lightning rod for complaints, from abandoned machines to injured riders.

“Clutter is a management problem, not grounds for discarding a popular, low-emission option,” says Councillor Margaret Oyelaran, the pilot’s champion. She proposes painted parking corrals on every downtown block and a $50 penalty, charged to the operator, for each scooter left outside one, while conceding that the companies were sluggish with complaints in the first season.

Emergency physician Pieter Vandermeer reports that his department treated over 200 scooter-related injuries last season, one in three of them to the head. A ban, however, is not what he seeks. “Cyclists get hurt too, and nobody proposes outlawing bicycles,” says Vandermeer. “What troubles me is that this pilot’s being evaluated almost entirely by ridership.” He would cap speeds at 15 km/h, down from 24, and disable the scooters after midnight, when a disproportionate share of serious crashes occur.

Rosalind Achebe, the blind chair of the city’s accessibility committee, regards a scooter sprawled across the sidewalk as a hazard, not an inconvenience. “Without enforcement, corrals won’t accomplish much, and operators will simply absorb the penalties as a routine business expense,” she suspects. She would prefer that the permits expire, though she recognizes that some committee members depend on scooters for distances they cannot walk.

Kenji Morikawa, an urban planning instructor, considers raw ridership a poor yardstick. “That survey was commissioned by the operators and counted only volunteers,” he points out. His own analysis of trip data suggests most rides covered under two kilometres and replaced walking or a bus journey. Trips to or from a transit station, by contrast, genuinely keep people out of cars, so he recommends a smaller fleet clustered near rapid bus stops.

Council votes on November 18. Two councillors have declared they will oppose renewal without Vandermeer’s speed limits.

29. Who shares Vandermeer’s doubt about judging the pilot?

A Margaret Oyelaran
B Rosalind Achebe
C Kenji Morikawa
D the scooter operators

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30. How would Achebe view the $50 penalty?

A Operators would barely notice.

B It would punish riders.

C It would help committee members.

D Lower speeds would be better.

31. What does Morikawa's analysis imply?

A Scooters should be disabled at night.

B Scooters never reduce car use.

C The fleet should grow.

D The survey exaggerated the benefits.

32. Which statement does the article best support?

A The operators have stopped answering complaints.

B Renewal may hinge on speed limits.

C Most serious crashes happen after midnight.

D The committee is united against scooters.

33. A suitable title would be

A "E-Scooters: A Public Menace With Few Defenders"

B "E-Scooters: A Green Success Worth Keeping"

C "Green Trips or Empty Claims? The Operators' Survey"

D "E-Scooters: A Popular Ride, a Divisive Policy"

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 ride a scooter from the Elm Street rapid bus stop to my office most mornings, so I am hardly hostile to them. Still, it unsettles me that so much of this debate rests on figures supplied by **(34)** _____. If Mr. Morikawa is right, the scooters mostly **(35)** _____, which scarcely helps the climate. Ms. Achebe also has a point: the $50 penalty, in her reading, is **(36)** _____. Why not bill the careless rider instead? Even the pilot's greatest champion admits that the companies **(37)** _____. Personally, I would accept 15 km/h without complaint; judging by the final paragraph, it may well be the price of **(38)** _____.

Choose the best option for each gap.

34. **A** an independent researcher **B** a party with a stake **C** a hospital with an axe to grind **D** the city's own transit planners

35. **A** replace already green trips **B** take cars off the road **C** carry riders to transit stations **D** cause crashes after midnight

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36. **A** a step too far **B** a fair price for clutter **C** a burden on the wrong shoulders **D** a drop in the bucket

37. **A** cooked their own numbers **B** deserve a lasting licence **C** were sluggish at first **D** neglect those who ride

38. **A** fewer scooters on the road **B** renewing the program **C** Ms. Achebe's support **D** parking corrals downtown

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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: Transfer Request to the Kelowna Branch

1 B to ask about moving to a different branch

2 C His sons could start the school year there.

3 A He would take other work if it isn't offered.

4 C complete the training of a new colleague.

5 D whether the company might pay his moving costs

6 B both sad and hopeful

7 C help out at the counter

8 A the company is the one asking someone to relocate

9 D complete his program with you

10 B meet your longtime clients

11 C while you are in Kelowna in July

Part 2: Choosing a Meal Kit Plan for the Family

12 C Family Favourites

13 B $6

14 D Thursdays

15 A half off your first box

16 C Saturday, August 8

17 A they lived together as students.

18 D to suggest she try a service Natalie uses

19 A they kept eating the same few meals.

Part 3: The Burgess Shale Fossils of Yoho

20 B

21 A

22 C

23 E

24 D

25 A

26 D

27 C

28 B

Part 4: Shared E-Scooters On City Streets

29 C Kenji Morikawa

30 A Operators would barely notice.

31 D The survey exaggerated the benefits.

32 B Renewal may hinge on speed limits.

33 D "E-Scooters: A Popular Ride, a Divisive Policy"

34 B a party with a stake

35 A replace already green trips

36 D a drop in the bucket

37 C were sluggish at first

38 B renewing the program

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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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