CELPIP Reading Practice Test 79

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	Drum Practice and a Night-Shift Neighbour	1–11	about 11 minutes
Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram	Joining a Curling League with a Friend	12–19	about 9 minutes
Part 3: Reading for Information	The Bluenose: Nova Scotia's Famous Schooner	20–28	about 10 minutes
Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints	Scrapping Parking Rules for New Apartments	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/79, 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

Drum Practice and a Night-Shift Neighbour

> Dear Mrs. Okafor,
>
> I hope you and your family are settling in well. Apart from a wave over the hedge now and then, we haven't really had a chance to talk since you moved in next door in June, so I'm sorry that my first proper note to you is about a problem. I've been wondering for a couple of weeks how best to raise it, and writing seemed kinder than stopping you on the driveway with your arms full of groceries.
>
> As you may know, I work as a paramedic. Since September, I've been on a rotation that puts me on four night shifts in a row every second week. On those weeks, I get home at about eight in the morning and try to sleep until five in the afternoon. Tobi seems to practise his drums in your garage right after school, from roughly half past three until five, and my bedroom window is only a few metres from your garage door. Even with earplugs, I'm usually wide awake by four.
>
> Please don't take this as a complaint about Tobi. He's obviously putting in the effort, and he's improved a great deal since the summer. I played the drums all through high school myself, and our neighbours put up with far more noise from me than I ever deserved. The last thing I want is for him to give up something he clearly enjoys.
>
> I have two ideas. The simplest would be for him to practise a little later on my night-shift weeks, say after half past five. I'd happily give you a copy of my schedule so you know which weeks those are; the rest of the time, he can play whenever he likes. The other idea is that I have an electronic drum kit sitting in my basement, unused since I moved here. With headphones on, it makes hardly any sound, and Tobi would be welcome to borrow it for as long as he wants. Then he could practise at any hour without bothering anyone, including you.
>
> I'm home this Saturday, so if you'd rather talk it over in person, please come by for a coffee. I'd much prefer to sort this out as friends.
>
> Sincerely,
>
> Daniel Kowalczyk

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

A to welcome a new family to the street
B to ask for a change to a practice routine
C to offer a teenager private drum lessons
D to warn that he may make a formal complaint

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2. Before this letter, Daniel and Mrs. Okafor had

A argued about the hedge that separates their homes.
B met through their children's school.
C worked together on the same night shifts.
D exchanged little more than friendly greetings.

3. Why is Daniel's sleep disturbed only on certain weeks?

A He works overnight only every other week.
B Tobi practises only on alternate weeks.
C His earplugs work better on some days.
D Tobi's school day ends earlier on some weeks.

4. What does Daniel reveal about himself?

A He gave drum lessons as a teenager.
B He has complained about neighbours before.
C He was once a noisy young musician.
D He recently bought a new drum kit.

5. The electronic kit would allow Tobi to

A practise in Daniel's basement while Daniel is at work.
B keep using his own drums in the garage with earplugs in.
C skip practice entirely during Daniel's night-shift weeks.
D play whenever he chooses, whatever Daniel's shifts are.

6. What does Daniel suggest at the end of his letter?

A a relaxed chat over coffee at his home
B a meeting with Tobi's teacher at school
C a written agreement on practice times
D a test of the noise from the garage

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 Daniel,
>
> Thank you for such a thoughtful letter, and I'm mortified to learn we've been **(7)** _____ for weeks without realizing it. Tobi had no idea anyone next door was **(8)** _____ at that time of day, and he felt terrible when I told him.
>
> He was also delighted to hear that you **(9)** _____; he's already asking whether you'd listen to him play sometime. As for your offer of the **(10)** _____, it's very generous, and we'd gladly accept. To be honest, it might give my own ears a rest as well!

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> Until then, he'll stick to **(11)** _____ during your night-shift weeks, so please do send me that schedule. I'll take you up on the coffee, too. Would Saturday at ten work?
>
> Warm regards,
>
> Grace Okafor

Choose the best option for each gap.

7. **A** waking you up late at night **B** ignoring your earlier requests **C** interrupting your sleep **D** blocking your driveway

8. **A** working from home **B** trying to rest **C** listening closely **D** away at work

9. **A** teach music at a school **B** recognized his favourite song **C** once lived beside a drummer **D** used to drum in high school

10. **A** electronic practice kit **B** quiet basement room **C** weekend drum lessons **D** spare set of foam earplugs

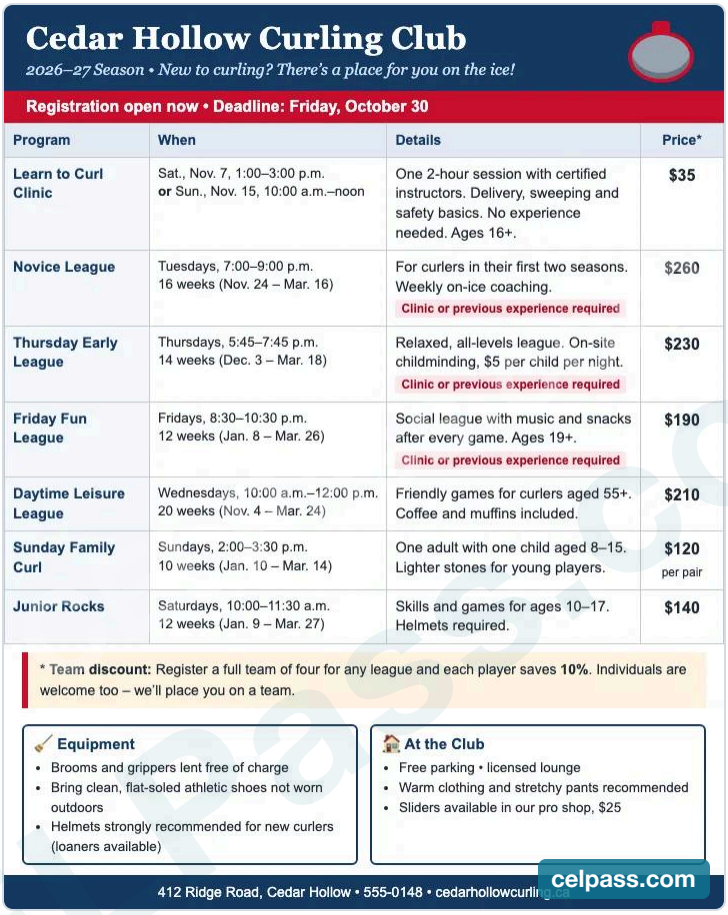
11. **A** weekend mornings only **B** early mornings before you get home **C** evenings once you're up **D** his usual after-school time

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Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram

Time: about 9 minutes

Joining a Curling League with a Friend



Cedar Hollow Curling Club

2026–27 Season • New to curling? There's a place for you on the ice!

Registration open now • Deadline: Friday, October 30

Program	When	Details	Price*
Learn to Curl Clinic	Sat., Nov. 7, 1:00–3:00 p.m. **or** Sun., Nov. 15, 10:00 a.m.–noon	One 2-hour session with certified instructors. Delivery, sweeping and safety basics. No experience needed. Ages 16+.	**$35**
Novice League	Tuesdays, 7:00–9:00 p.m. 16 weeks (Nov. 24 – Mar. 16)	For curlers in their first two seasons. Weekly on-ice coaching. Clinic or previous experience required	$260
Thursday Early League	Thursdays, 5:45–7:45 p.m. 14 weeks (Dec. 3 – Mar. 18)	Relaxed, all-levels league. On-site childminding, $5 per child per night. Clinic or previous experience required	**$230**
Friday Fun League	Fridays, 8:30–10:30 p.m. 12 weeks (Jan. 8 – Mar. 26)	Social league with music and snacks after every game. Ages 19+. Clinic or previous experience required	**$190**
Daytime Leisure League	Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. 20 weeks (Nov. 4 – Mar. 24)	Friendly games for curlers aged 55+. Coffee and muffins included.	**$210**
Sunday Family Curl	Sundays, 2:00–3:30 p.m. 10 weeks (Jan. 10 – Mar. 14)	One adult with one child aged 8–15. Lighter stones for young players.	**$120** per pair
Junior Rocks	Saturdays, 10:00–11:30 a.m. 12 weeks (Jan. 9 – Mar. 27)	Skills and games for ages 10–17. Helmets required.	**$140**

* Team **discount:** Register a full team of four for any league and each player saves **10%**. Individuals are welcome too – we'll place you on a team.

Equipment
- Brooms and grippers lent free of charge
- Bring clean, flat-soled athletic shoes not worn outdoors
- Helmets strongly recommended for new curlers (loaners available)

At the Club
- Free parking • licensed lounge
- Warm clothing and stretchy pants recommended
- Sliders available in our pro shop, $25

412 Ridge Road, Cedar Hollow • 555-0148 • cedarhollowcurling.ca

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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: Curling this winter?
>
> To: Dana Whitford
>
> From: Kevin Osei
>
> Hi Dana,
>
> We never get more than two minutes to talk at daycare pickup, so I thought I'd write instead. Remember when we said we needed something to get us out of the house this winter? The curling club on Ridge Road just put out its schedule, and I think we should give it a try!
>
> Neither of us has ever thrown a stone, so we'd be in the same boat. That means we'd have to start with **(12)** _____ before we could join a league. I'm at my brother's in Moncton the weekend of the 7th, so we'd have to go to **(13)** _____.

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> As for a league, I know Tuesdays are your choir night, and Fridays are out for me because I open the bakery at six on Saturday mornings. And since we both work weekdays until five, that leaves **(14)** _____. The best part is that we could bring the kids along, since that league offers **(15)** _____. If we can talk Marco and Priya into joining us as a full team, we'd each pay **(16)** _____ for the season.
>
> Registration closes at the end of the month, so let me know soon!
>
> Kevin

Choose the best option for each gap.

12. **A** the Sunday Family Curl program **B** the Novice League **C** the Daytime League **D** a Learn to Curl clinic

13. **A** the Saturday afternoon session **B** the Sunday morning session **C** the Tuesday evening session **D** the Friday night session

14. **A** the Novice League **B** the Friday Fun League **C** the Thursday Early League **D** the Daytime Leisure League

15. **A** childminding for a small fee **B** free junior lessons at the same time **C** a reduced rate for parents **D** family games on the next sheet

16. **A** $230 **B** $207 **C** $184 **D** $253

17. Kevin and Dana know each other because

A they sing in the same choir.
B they work at the same bakery.
C their kids go to the same daycare.
D they met at the curling club years ago.

18. Why is Kevin suggesting curling?

A He wants to train for competitions.
B His doctor has told him to exercise more.
C He hopes to meet other local business owners.
D They had agreed to find a winter activity.

19. When Kevin says they would be "in the same boat," he means that they would

A both be complete beginners.
B need to share equipment.
C be placed on the same team.
D travel to the club together.

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Part 3: Reading for Information

Time: about 10 minutes

The Bluenose: Nova Scotia's Famous Schooner

Paragraph A

Most Canadians carry a picture of the Bluenose without giving it a second thought. The schooner has sailed across the back of the ten-cent coin since 1937, and its image has also appeared on postage stamps and other symbols of Nova Scotia. Yet the real vessel was no decorative ornament. Launched in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, in 1921, it was a hard-working fishing boat that also became the most celebrated racing schooner of its time. Even its name carried local pride, since "Bluenose" had long been a nickname for Nova Scotians themselves.

Paragraph B

The Bluenose was born out of rivalry. In the early twentieth century, fleets of wooden schooners from Nova Scotia and New England sailed to the offshore banks of the North Atlantic to fish for cod, and crews on both sides of the border took great pride in the speed of their vessels. In 1920, a Halifax newspaper created a trophy for a race between genuine working schooners. The idea came partly in response to a well-known yacht race that had been called off because the wind was judged too strong, conditions that fishermen faced as a matter of routine. When a schooner from Gloucester, Massachusetts, won that first contest, Nova Scotian backers set out to build a vessel that could bring the trophy home. The design was entrusted to William Roué of Halifax, and the hull was built at the Smith and Rhuland shipyard in Lunenburg.

Paragraph C

Under Captain Angus Walters, the Bluenose did exactly what its owners had hoped. Because the race rules required entrants to be real fishing vessels, the schooner first spent a season on the banks, bringing in catches like any other boat in the fleet. It then won the International Fishermen's Trophy in the autumn of 1921 and never lost a series for that trophy in the years that followed, the last of which took place in 1938. Not every contest ended smoothly, as disputes over rules and courses sometimes overshadowed the sailing, but the schooner's reputation for speed only grew. For many Canadians, its victories became a source of national as well as regional pride.

Paragraph D

Ironically, the Bluenose could not outrun changes in the fishing industry itself. As motor-powered vessels replaced sail, schooners became increasingly difficult to operate at a profit. Despite efforts by Walters to keep the ship in Nova Scotia, it was sold in 1942 and put to work carrying cargo in the Caribbean. In 1946, it struck a reef off Haiti and was lost. The story did not end there, however. In 1963, a first replica, Bluenose II, was launched from the same Lunenburg shipyard that had built the original. Today, in rebuilt form, Bluenose II sails as a goodwill ambassador for the province, welcoming visitors on board and appearing at waterfront festivals.

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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. Many people handle an image of the vessel in their daily lives. _____

21. A loss to an American competitor led directly to the schooner's construction. _____

22. The schooner had to prove itself as a working boat before it was allowed to race. _____

23. The schooner's designer had previously created several winning racing yachts. _____

24. New technology made sailing vessels less practical for commercial fishing. _____

25. The fishermen's race was partly a reaction to a contest seen as unsuited to harsh weather. _____

26. Some of the competitions were marred by disagreements that distracted from the racing. _____

27. The replica was paid for by the federal government to attract tourists. _____

28. The original vessel ended its career far from the province where it was built. _____

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Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

Time: about 13 minutes

Scrapping Parking Rules for New Apartments

Halbrook councillors are debating scrapping minimum parking requirements for new apartment buildings within 800 metres of a rapid-transit station. The current bylaw obliges developers to provide at least one stall per unit, whether or not tenants own cars. Critics contend the rule inflates rents and devours land that could hold homes; defenders regard it as the only barrier between established neighbourhoods and streets choked with parked vehicles.

"An underground stall can cost tens of thousands of dollars to build, and that's folded into every unit," says Councillor Amara Delgado, who tabled the motion. Tenants who take the bus, she points out, effectively subsidize parking they never use. She is careful to clarify one thing: "Nothing's being prohibited. Builders can still include as many spaces as they believe the market demands."

Rajiv Sethi, whose firm has three mid-rise projects in the planning stage, welcomes the flexibility but tempers expectations. "Lenders still insist on parking before they'll finance a building, and many buyers won't consider a unit without a stall," he explains. On some sites his firm might eliminate half the spaces; on others, none. Forecasts of a fixed drop in rents strike him as premature.

Margaret Fennimore, who chairs the Eastgate Residents' Association near Eastgate station, anticipates newcomers without designated spaces commandeering residential roads. "We've got no quarrel with apartments," she insists. "But seniors, shift workers and tradespeople hauling equipment will keep driving whether or not their building has a garage." She would endorse the reform only alongside a residential permit system, which council has so far declined to fund.

Dr. Lionel Achterberg, who teaches urban planning at the local university, considers both camps partly correct. Cities that abandon parking minimums rarely experience the spillover residents dread, he observes, but only because they simultaneously manage on-street parking firmly. "Removing the requirement without pricing or permitting curb space is like opening a tap without a drain." Nor does he anticipate housing becoming cheaper across the board, since any savings hinge on whether builders actually omit stalls, which will vary considerably from site to site.

29. Sethi's caution about savings is echoed by

A Amara Delgado.
B Margaret Fennimore.
C Lionel Achterberg.
D the lenders.

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30. How would Delgado rebut talk of a garage ban?

A Developers would set the number.

B Permits will protect residents.

C Stalls aren't needed near stations.

D Rents will fall by a fixed amount.

31. Fennimore's objection rests mainly on the belief that

A apartments would spoil her street's character.

B council won't fund permits.

C lenders will keep insisting on parking.

D people will keep driving regardless.

32. Which conclusion does the article best support?

A Most builders will skip garages entirely.

B Funding for permits may prove decisive.

C Nearby towns have already made this change.

D Eastgate residents seldom use their station.

33. The most fitting headline would be

A "Fewer Stalls, Cheaper Homes? Halbrook Isn't Sure"

B "Parking Minimums: A Rule Nobody Will Miss"

C "No Stalls, No Homes: Builders Oppose Reform"

D "A Tap Without a Drain? Lessons on Curb Space"

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 renter without a car, I pay every month for a stall I never use, so I was glad to see Councillor Delgado **(34)** _____. Still, Mr. Sethi's remarks were sobering. As long as **(35)** _____, buildings near our stations will look much like the old ones, and the savings will be modest.
>
> I also sympathize with Ms. Fennimore more than I expected: she is right that **(36)** _____, and a resident circling her own block has every reason to be annoyed. Dr. Achterberg's **(37)** _____ made the danger vivid.
>
> My advice to council is simple: **(38)** _____. Done properly, this reform could give renters a fairer deal without turning Eastgate's streets into one long parking lot.

Choose the best option for each gap.

34. **A** promise that rents would fall **B** expose what tenants subsidize **C** propose banning stalls near stations **D** demand permits for residents

35. **A** council keeps postponing the vote **B** residents keep fighting the plan **C** transit service remains patchy **D** financing hinges on stalls

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36. **A** apartments don’t belong on quiet streets **B** seniors deserve the curb first **C** cars don’t vanish with garages **D** the station is poorly placed

37. **A** plumbing metaphor **B** site-by-site caveat **C** verdict on both camps **D** forecast for rents

38. **A** let the market sort it out **B** hold the vote until buyers adapt **C** exempt Eastgate from the reform **D** put its money where its motion is

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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: Drum Practice and a Night-Shift Neighbour

1 B to ask for a change to a practice routine

2 D exchanged little more than friendly greetings.

3 A He works overnight only every other week.

4 C He was once a noisy young musician.

5 D play whenever he chooses, whatever Daniel's shifts are.

6 A a relaxed chat over coffee at his home

7 C interrupting your sleep

8 B trying to rest

9 D used to drum in high school

10 A electronic practice kit

11 C evenings once you're up

Part 2: Joining a Curling League with a Friend

12 D a Learn to Curl clinic

13 B the Sunday morning session

14 C the Thursday Early League

15 A childminding for a small fee

16 B $207

17 C their kids go to the same daycare.

18 D They had agreed to find a winter activity.

19 A both be complete beginners.

Part 3: The Bluenose: Nova Scotia's Famous Schooner

20 A

21 B

22 C

23 E

24 D

25 B

26 C

27 E

28 D

Part 4: Scrapping Parking Rules for New Apartments

29 C Lionel Achterberg.

30 A Developers would set the number.

31 D people will keep driving regardless.

32 B Funding for permits may prove decisive.

33 A "Fewer Stalls, Cheaper Homes? Halbrook Isn't Sure"

34 B expose what tenants subsidize

35 D financing hinges on stalls

36 C cars don't vanish with garages

37 A plumbing metaphor

38 D put its money where its motion is

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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.

What is your level in all four skills? Create a free account at celpass.com for a free diagnostic with a predicted CLB in Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking, and AI scoring of your Speaking and Writing.

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