CELPIP Reading Practice Test 85

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	Feedback After the Hospice Charity Walk	1–11	about 11 minutes
Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram	Booking a Senior Groom for Mom's Dog	12–19	about 9 minutes
Part 3: Reading for Information	The Halifax Explosion of 1917	20–28	about 10 minutes
Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints	Neighbourhood Pools Or One Aquatic Centre 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/85, 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

Feedback After the Hospice Charity Walk

> Dear Mr. Novak,
>
> Now that the dust has settled on this year's Lakeshore Walk for Hospice Care, I wanted to write to you while the details are still fresh in my mind. First of all, congratulations. When you announced at the volunteer briefing that our goal was $60,000, I privately thought you were being far too optimistic, so I was thrilled to read in the newsletter that we raised just over $71,000. I know how many evenings you gave up to make that happen.
>
> As you know, this was my third year at the registration table and my first as its lead. Overall, things went smoothly, but I want to pass along two problems before they are forgotten. The first was the line at check-in. Between 8:00 and 8:30, some walkers waited nearly forty minutes, and a few gave up and went home without collecting their T-shirts. Most of the delay came from people who had gathered pledges on paper and needed us to count their cash and write receipts on the spot. If walkers could drop off their pledge envelopes at the hospice office during the week before the event, I believe the morning line would shrink by half.
>
> The second problem was water. The forecast had promised a cool, cloudy morning, but by eleven it was over 28 degrees, and the station at the halfway point ran dry. To their credit, two of our teenage volunteers ran to the corner store and bought several cases with their own money. I have attached their names, as I think they deserve to be reimbursed and, frankly, thanked in the next newsletter.
>
> You also asked whether I would consider taking over as volunteer coordinator next year, now that Doreen is stepping down. I was honoured to be asked, and my answer is a cautious yes. My only hesitation is timing: my son is getting married in Winnipeg the weekend before the walk, so I will be away for most of the final week, which I understand is the busiest. Would you be open to having the role shared? Ahmed Rahimi, who managed the parking lot this year, has told me he would be glad to cover the last-minute work if I handle recruitment and training over the winter.
>
> Please let me know what you think. I would be happy to meet for coffee any weekday afternoon once my shift at the pharmacy ends at three.
>
> Warm regards,
>
> Harriet Bélanger

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

A to complain about how the walk was organized
B to share feedback and respond to a request
C to ask to be repaid for money she spent
D to recruit new helpers for registration

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2. How did Harriet first react to the $60,000 goal?

A She thought it was set too low.
B She felt it should be kept secret.
C She was certain it would be beaten.
D She doubted it could be reached.

3. According to Harriet, check-in was slow mainly because

A walkers tried on their T-shirts.
B too few volunteers came early.
C donations were handled on the spot.
D many walkers arrived after 8:30.

4. What does Harriet suggest about the teenage volunteers?

A They deserve to be thanked publicly.
B They should have stayed at their post.
C They bought the wrong kind of drinks.
D They want to run the station next year.

5. When Harriet calls her answer “a cautious yes,” she means that she

A wants more time before deciding.
B agrees, but with one condition.
C would rather stay at registration.
D will decide after speaking to Doreen.

6. It can be inferred that Ahmed Rahimi

A will attend the wedding in Winnipeg.
B is going to replace Doreen as coordinator.
C worked at registration with Harriet.
D can cover the busiest stretch.

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 Harriet,
>
> Thank you for your thoughtful letter, and for keeping the registration table running so calmly under pressure. Your idea of having walkers **(7)** _____ makes a lot of sense, and I’ll ask the hospice office whether someone there can look after it that week.
>
> I was sorry to hear about the halfway station. Clearly we **(8)** _____, so next year we’ll order extra water whatever the weather looks like. I have already given the two students’ names to our treasurer so that they can **(9)** _____, and they’ll certainly get a mention in the spring newsletter.

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> As for the coordinator position, I'm delighted. I have no objection at all to **(10)** _____, especially since Ahmed has already offered to look after the final week. Would **(11)** _____ work for our coffee?
>
> With gratitude,
>
> Tomas Novak

Choose the best option for each gap.

7. **A** skip the line by arriving earlier **B** pick up T-shirts after the walk
C hand in their pledges in advance **D** count their own cash donations

8. **A** relied too much on the forecast **B** had too few people at that station
C chose a route that was too long **D** bought too much of the wrong drink

9. **A** lead the water station again **B** receive a T-shirt by mail **C** join the volunteer briefing
D get back the money they spent

10. **A** Doreen coaching you over the winter months **B** sharing the role between two people
C moving the walk back by a week **D** your missing the spring briefing

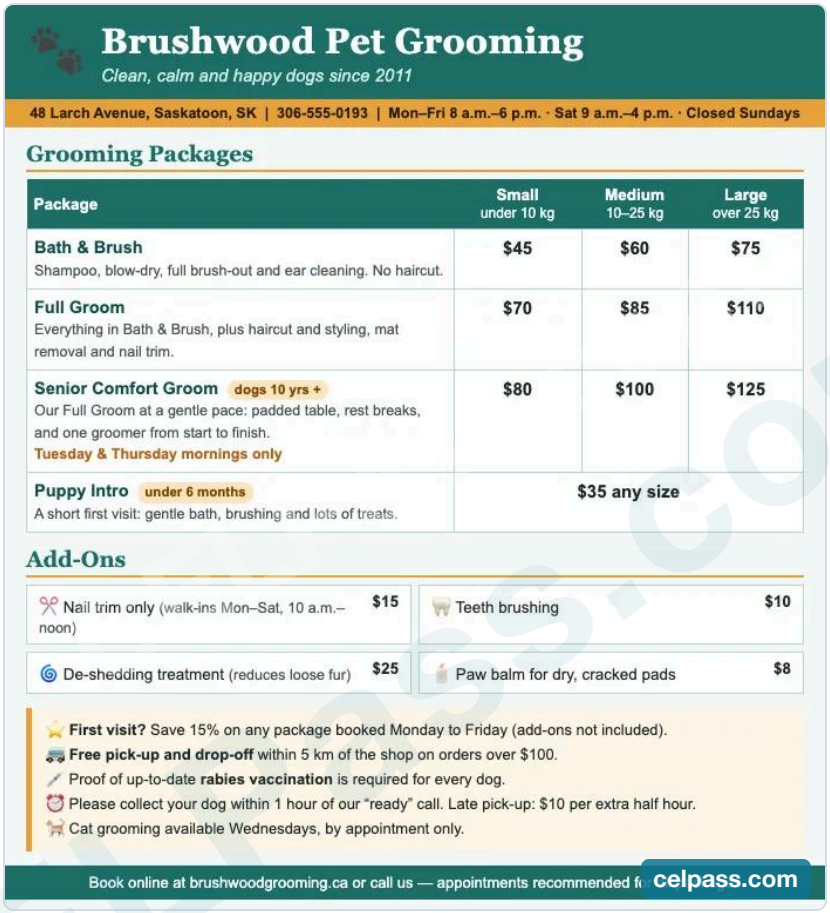
11. **A** a weekday around four o'clock **B** a Saturday morning at ten
C a weekday during the lunch hour **D** the Sunday before the walk

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Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram

Time: about 9 minutes

Booking a Senior Groom for Mom's Dog



Brushwood Pet Grooming

Clean, calm and happy dogs since 2011

48 Larch Avenue, Saskatoon, SK | 306-555-0193 | Mon–Fri 8 a.m.–6 p.m. · Sat 9 a.m.–4 p.m. · Closed Sundays

Grooming Packages

Package	Small under 10 kg	Medium 10–25 kg	Large over 25 kg
Bath & Brush Shampoo, blow-dry, full brush-out and ear cleaning. No haircut.	$45	$60	$75
Full Groom Everything in Bath & Brush, plus haircut and styling, mat removal and nail trim.	$70	$85	$110
Senior Comfort Groom dogs 10 yrs + Our Full Groom at a gentle pace: padded table, rest breaks, and one groomer from start to finish. Tuesday & Thursday mornings only	$80	$100	$125
Puppy Intro under 6 months A short first visit: gentle bath, brushing and lots of treats.	$35 any size		

Add-Ons

Nail trim only (walk-ins Mon–Sat, 10 a.m.–noon)	$15	Teeth brushing	$10
De-shedding treatment (reduces loose fur)	$25	Paw balm for dry, cracked pads	$8

- **First visit?** Save 15% on any package booked Monday to Friday (add-ons not included).
- **Free pick-up and drop-off** within 5 km of the shop on orders over $100.
- Proof of up-to-date **rabies vaccination** is required for every dog.
- Please collect your dog within 1 hour of our "ready" call. Late pick-up: $10 per extra half hour.
- Cat grooming available Wednesdays, by appointment only.

Book online at brushwoodgrooming.ca or call us — appointments recommended f

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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: Biscuit's grooming
>
> To: Owen Fairbairn
>
> From: Nadia Cho
>
> Hi Owen,
>
> Thanks again for offering to help until Mom is back on her feet. Brushwood looks like our best option for grooming.
>
> Biscuit badly needs a haircut; his coat is far too tangled for a bath alone. But since he turned twelve last spring, he gets anxious and his back legs give out if he stands for too long, so I'd like to book him for the **(12)** _____. That means it will have to be **(13)** _____ morning, since you said you can do any weekday except Tuesday.

He weighs about 18 kilograms, so the package will cost **(14)** _____. Sadly, we won't get the new-client discount, because Mom has taken him there before. She'd like his teeth done, and I'd add the **(15)** _____ as well, since he's been leaving clumps of fur all over her couch. Mom's house is only about three kilometres from the shop, and with the extras we're well past their minimum, so they'll **(16)** _____. You'd just need to hand him over at Mom's, since she can't manage his leash yet.

Please make sure Mom finds his rabies certificate before then. I know she thinks grooming is throwing money down the drain, but Biscuit is her whole world right now, and seeing him looking smart might cheer her up. As Dad used to tell us, a little kindness goes a long way.

Love,

Nadia

Choose the best option for each gap.

12. **A** Bath & Brush **B** Full Groom **C** Senior Comfort Groom **D** Puppy Intro

13. **A** a Tuesday **B** a Thursday **C** a Wednesday **D** a Saturday

14. **A** $80 **B** $85 **C** $100 **D** $125

15. **A** de-shedding treatment **B** paw balm for cracked pads **C** nail trim **D** teeth brushing

16. **A** give us 15% off the entire bill **B** let us stay with him inside **C** fit him in without booking **D** pick him up and drop him off

17. Nadia and Owen are most likely

A neighbours who share a dog.
B brother and sister.
C a groomer and a client.
D co-workers at a vet clinic.

18. Why is Nadia arranging Biscuit's grooming?

A Their mother can't handle him alone yet.
B Biscuit has been entered in a local dog show.
C Owen wants a cheaper groomer.
D The groomer offered a discount for older dogs.

19. When Nadia says Mom thinks grooming is "throwing money down the drain," she means Mom thinks it is

A too stressful for an old dog.
B better done at home in the tub.
C something Owen should pay for.
D not worth what it costs.

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Part 3: Reading for Information

Time: about 10 minutes

The Halifax Explosion of 1917

Paragraph A

In the early twentieth century, Halifax was a busy but fairly modest port city. That changed with the outbreak of the First World War. Its deep harbour, which stays free of ice through the winter, made Halifax a vital link between North America and Europe. Merchant ships gathered in the sheltered Bedford Basin, at the top of the harbour, before crossing the Atlantic together under naval escort. Soldiers, food and weapons flowed through the city, and both its population and its economy grew quickly. Yet the same traffic that brought prosperity also brought risk, since vessels carrying dangerous cargo regularly passed close to crowded neighbourhoods.

Paragraph B

On the morning of December 6, 1917, the French cargo ship Mont-Blanc, loaded with explosives bound for the war in Europe, was making its way into the harbour when it collided with the Norwegian vessel Imo, which was heading out to sea, in the Narrows, the slim channel that links the basin to the outer harbour. The collision started a fire on board. Knowing exactly what they were carrying, the Mont-Blanc's crew quickly abandoned ship and rowed to the opposite shore, while the burning vessel drifted toward a pier in Richmond, a working-class district in the city's north end. Most residents did not realize the danger, and many stopped to watch the smoke from the streets and from their windows. Shortly after nine o'clock, the ship blew up.

Paragraph C

The blast flattened much of Richmond and was felt many kilometres away. Roughly 2,000 people were killed and about 9,000 were injured, a large number of them by flying glass. Many of these injuries were to the eyes, and the city's hospitals were quickly overwhelmed. Among those who died was Vince Coleman, a railway dispatcher who, rather than run, stayed at his post to send a telegraph message warning an approaching passenger train to stop. The following day, a heavy snowstorm struck the city, slowing rescue efforts and leaving thousands of homeless survivors exposed to the cold. Help soon arrived from across Canada and beyond, most famously from Boston, whose relief train brought doctors, nurses and supplies.

Paragraph D

Rebuilding took years, and many survivors spent the winter in temporary shelters while new housing was planned. A relief commission was created to manage aid and reconstruction, and in the north end it oversaw the construction of the Hydrostone, a planned neighbourhood of homes made from fire-resistant concrete blocks and laid out along tree-lined boulevards. The first inquiry blamed the Mont-Blanc, but later court rulings found both ships equally at fault for the collision. Today, the disaster is remembered each December 6 at a memorial bell tower in Fort Needham Park, which

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> overlooks the area that was destroyed. To thank Boston for its help, Nova Scotia sent the city a Christmas tree in 1918, and it has sent one every year since 1971.

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 war boosted the local economy while exposing residents to new hazards. _____

21. One victim lost his life because he chose to protect others. _____

22. Residents had asked officials to keep ships with dangerous cargo away from their neighbourhoods. _____

23. Weather conditions added to the hardship of people who had lost their homes. _____

24. One ship's crew left because they understood how dangerous their cargo was. _____

25. A residential area was rebuilt using materials chosen to resist fire. _____

26. Some survivors chose to leave Halifax rather than wait for new housing. _____

27. Vessels assembled near the city before travelling across the ocean in protected groups. _____

28. A gesture of thanks toward another city has become a yearly tradition. _____

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Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

Time: about 13 minutes

Neighbourhood Pools Or One Aquatic Centre Debate

> Two of Ashgrove's four outdoor pools opened a month behind schedule last June, their cracked basins patched for the third consecutive summer. Council is now deliberating over a plan to close all four by 2029 and channel the savings, supplemented by a provincial grant, into a single indoor aquatic centre beside the new transit hub on Garrison Road.
>
> "The arithmetic leaves scant room for nostalgia," says Councillor Brenda Yeung, who chairs the parks committee. Restoring the four pools, all constructed in the 1960s, to current safety standards would cost an estimated $14 million, and they would still sit idle ten months annually. The centre, comprising lap, teaching and warm-water therapy pools, would operate year-round. Families losing a pool within walking distance would receive a complimentary summer shuttle.
>
> Kofi Mensah of the Eastview Community Association dismisses that shuttle as "a bandage on a wound the city inflicted on itself." "Decades of trimmed maintenance budgets produced the very deterioration now presented as an unavoidable crisis," he contends. "Neighbourhood pools are where children learn to swim and strangers become neighbours." Nevertheless, he grants that a year-round facility is long overdue, provided it is not financed by shuttering every local pool.
>
> Urban health researcher Dr. Samir Haddad finds that the evidence vindicates Mensah's instinct, if not all his reasoning. Children living within a short walk of a pool swim considerably more often, whereas centralized facilities draw predominantly on families with cars. Haddad nonetheless declines to romanticize the existing pools. "A ten-week season's too brief to teach a child properly." His compromise would renovate the two busiest pools and add a more modest indoor centre.
>
> For Lorraine Bouchard, who leads a seniors' aquafit group, the therapy pool is decisive. Since the city's only warm-water pool disappeared with the Marlow Street community centre, her members have driven forty minutes to a neighbouring town weekly, hardly an indulgence for arthritis sufferers. Her enthusiasm carries a caveat, however: should admission resemble private-club rates, the city will have erected "a beautiful building for the people who needed it least."
>
> A decision is expected in March.

29. Haddad and Mensah would agree that

A neglected upkeep caused the decay.
B a ten-week season is too short.
C nearby pools mean more swimming.
D families can rely on a shuttle.

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30. By calling the shuttle “a bandage,” Mensah suggests that council

A has ignored what local pools mean.

B cannot afford all four repairs.

C should extend the shuttle.

D is patching deterioration it caused.

31. Bouchard’s support for the centre is

A conditional on affordable admission.

B dependent on a transit site.

C contingent on saving the outdoor pools.

D tied to a free shuttle.

32. It is reasonable to conclude that

A the pools are failing mainly because of age.

B no speaker rejects a year-round pool.

C Haddad’s compromise would cost less than repairs.

D most residents support the councillor’s plan.

33. An appropriate title would be

A “Ashgrove’s Old Pools Are Worth Every Repair Dollar”

B “Ashgrove Agrees: One Centre Beats Four Pools”

C “Walkable or Year-Round? The Choice Facing Ashgrove’s Swimmers”

D “Indoor or Outdoor? Ashgrove Swimmers Prefer Fresh Air”

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 grown up three blocks from the Eastview pool, I can hardly claim neutrality, but I can’t accept Councillor Yeung’s view that this is purely a matter of **(34)** _____. Mr. Mensah is right that the city is now paying for **(35)** _____, and no free bus replaces **(36)** _____; try herding three children onto a shuttle with towels and snacks.
>
> Still, Dr. Haddad has a point about **(37)** _____: my children took lessons for three summers and still cannot swim a length. And if the new centre turns out to be **(38)** _____, the residents with the most to gain will simply stay home. My advice: build smaller, and keep the two busiest pools open.

Choose the best option for each gap.

34. **A** budget arithmetic **B** public safety **C** provincial grant money **D** civic pride

35. **A** years of heavy use **B** a shrinking provincial grant **C** a fashion for big facilities **D** its own false economies

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36. **A** a dedicated therapy pool **B** strolling to the pool **C** a year-long season **D** affordable admission

37. **A** families who drive **B** running costs **C** how long a season lasts **D** where the new centre is built

38. **A** open only part of the year **B** smaller than first promised **C** far from the transit hub **D** a club in all but name

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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: Feedback After the Hospice Charity Walk

1 B to share feedback and respond to a request

2 D She doubted it could be reached.

3 C donations were handled on the spot.

4 A They deserve to be thanked publicly.

5 B agrees, but with one condition.

6 D can cover the busiest stretch.

7 C hand in their pledges in advance

8 A relied too much on the forecast

9 D get back the money they spent

10 B sharing the role between two people

11 A a weekday around four o'clock

Part 2: Booking a Senior Groom for Mom's Dog

12 C Senior Comfort Groom

13 B a Thursday

14 C $100

15 A de-shedding treatment

16 D pick him up and drop him off

17 B brother and sister.

18 A Their mother can't handle him alone yet.

19 D not worth what it costs.

Part 3: The Halifax Explosion of 1917

20 A

21 C

22 E

23 C

24 B

25 D

26 E

27 A

28 D

Part 4: Neighbourhood Pools Or One Aquatic Centre Debate

29 C nearby pools mean more swimming.

30 D is patching deterioration it caused.

31 A conditional on affordable admission.

32 B no speaker rejects a year-round pool.

33 C "Walkable or Year-Round? The Choice Facing Ashgrove's Swimmers"

34 A budget arithmetic

35 D its own false economies

36 B strolling to the pool

37 C how long a season lasts

38 D a club in all but name

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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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