CELPIP Reading Practice Test 89

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	Apology for a Damaged Borrowed Projector	1–11	about 11 minutes
Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram	Renting Tools for a Backyard Patio Project	12–19	about 9 minutes
Part 3: Reading for Information	The Mackenzie River: Canada's Longest River System	20–28	about 10 minutes
Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints	Pets On Public Transit 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/89, 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

Apology for a Damaged Borrowed Projector

Dear Hélène,

I have been putting off this letter for three days, which tells you how embarrassed I am. When you offered to lend me your projector at the photography club last month, I was touched, especially since we had only chatted a handful of times over coffee after the library sessions. I'm sorry to say I didn't look after it the way you deserved.

As you know, I wanted it for the outdoor movie night we held for my daughter's eleventh birthday. Everything went smoothly until about halfway through the film, when a sudden gust of wind caught the bedsheet we were using as a screen and dragged the folding table over with it. The projector landed on the patio stones. The children thought it was all part of the show, but I knew right away that something was wrong.

On Monday I took it to an electronics repair shop near my office. The technician told me the lens housing is cracked, but the bulb and the rest of the machine are fine. He can fix it, although the part has to be ordered from the manufacturer and will take about three weeks to arrive. The repair would cost $180, while a new projector of the same model sells for around $450.

I don't want to make that choice for you. If you would prefer a new one, I will gladly buy it; if you would rather keep your own, which I know you've had for years, I'll go ahead with the repair. Either way, the cost is mine.

I also remembered that you are presenting the club's year-end slideshow on the 14th. Since the repair won't be finished by then, I've arranged to borrow a projector from work for that evening. My manager has agreed, and I can drop it off at your house that afternoon and help you set it up if that would be useful.

Please don't feel you have to reassure me. You trusted me with something valuable, and I should have kept it on the ground or weighed the table down. I have learned my lesson, and so has my daughter, who has already asked whether "the nice lady from the club" is mad at us.

Let me know which option you prefer, and I'll take care of it this week.

With sincere apologies,

Raymond Tessier

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

A to ask whether he may keep the projector a little longer
B to invite Hélène to his daughter's next birthday party
C to apologize for an accident and offer to make it right
D to complain about how long a repair will take

2. It can be inferred that Raymond and Hélène

A do not know each other very well.
B have been friends since childhood.
C work for the same manager.
D live on the same street.

3. How was the projector damaged?

A One of the excited children knocked it to the ground.
B It was dropped while being carried outside.
C Rain got into it during the outdoor film.
D Wind pulled over the table it was sitting on.

4. According to the technician,

A the bulb will have to be replaced.
B it can be fixed, but not right away.
C it would be cheaper to buy a new one.
D the damage cannot be repaired.

5. Raymond has arranged to borrow a projector from work because

A Hélène will need one before hers is ready.
B his daughter wants to finish watching the film.
C the repair shop asked him to compare models.
D his manager wants to see the damaged one.

6. Raymond leaves it up to Hélène to decide

A how the cost of the repair will be shared.
B which repair shop should handle the work instead.
C whether to fix the projector or replace it.
D whether his daughter should apologize too.

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 Raymond,
>
> Thank you for your kind and honest letter. Please stop worrying! Nobody can control the wind, and I'm only sorry that your daughter's **(7)** _____ ended in such a dramatic way.

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As for the projector, I'd rather **(8)** _____. I'm used to all its little quirks, and the price you were quoted seems very fair. Three weeks without it is no problem at all, now that you've **(9)** _____ for the 14th. I'd gladly accept your help that afternoon, since I always seem to press the wrong buttons.

Next summer, I think your idea of **(10)** _____ is a sensible one, and a heavy stone on each corner of the sheet wouldn't hurt either.

Finally, please tell your daughter that I'm not **(11)** _____ in the least. If she likes, I'd be happy to show her how to take photos of the night sky at one of our club outings.

Warm regards,

Hélène

Choose the best option for each gap.

7. **A** end-of-year school concert **B** birthday celebration **C** photography outing **D** family reunion

8. **A** have you buy me a newer model **B** sell it to the club instead **C** keep borrowing yours from work **D** have my own one fixed

9. **A** found me a stand-in projector **B** booked the library room **C** cancelled the slideshow **D** asked the club to wait

10. **A** buying a proper outdoor screen **B** holding the party indoors **C** keeping the projector low **D** renting a projector next time

11. **A** too busy to visit you **B** cross with either of you **C** worried about the bill **D** tired of lending things out

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Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram

Time: about 9 minutes

Renting Tools for a Backyard Patio Project



Birchwood Home & Garden
Tool Rental Centre · 410 Lakeshore Road, Pine Ridge

Spring Yard & Patio Season: Rental Rates

Tool	4 Hours	1 Day	Weekend*	Deposit
Sod Cutter (gas) Removes lawn in 30 cm strips. Renter must be 18+ and view a 10-minute safety video at the counter.	$55	$85	$125	$200
Plate Compactor For gravel and patio bases. Weighs 75 kg; pickup truck or trailer required.	$45	$70	$105	$150
Wet Tile & Paver Saw Cuts stone, tile and pavers up to 10 cm thick. Diamond blade not included: buy in store, $39.	$30	$45	$70	$100
Core Aerator Lawn aeration for yards up to 500 m². Fits in most hatchbacks.	$50	$75	$110	$150
Rear-Tine Rototiller Breaks up new garden beds. $25 cleaning fee if returned muddy.	$50	$80	$120	$150
Pressure Washer (gas, 3000 PSI) Decks, driveways and siding. Electric 1800 PSI model also available: $25 / $40 / $60.	$35	$55	$80	$100

Delivery & Pickup
$40 each way within 15 km of the store.
Book at least **48 hours** before you need the tool.
Deliveries 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., 7 days a week.

Birchwood Rewards Members
Save **10%** on any rental picked up or delivered Monday to Thursday.
Discount applies to rental rates only.

***Weekend rate:** pick up after 4 p.m. Friday, return by 10 a.m. Monday.
To rent: valid driver's licence and a major credit card for the deposit. Deposit is refunded when the tool is returned clean and undamaged.
Free with every rental: safety glasses, work gloves and ear protection.

Rental counter hours: Mon–Sat 7 a.m.–7 p.m. · Sun 8 a.m.–5 p.m.
Reserve by phone: 905-555-0187
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: Rentals for the patio weekend
>
> To: Colin Byrne
>
> From: Dev Malhotra
>
> Hi Colin,
>
> Thanks again for offering to give up your weekend for my patio. I picked up Birchwood's rental sheet yesterday, so here's my plan for Saturday, June 6, and Sunday, June 7.
>
> First, the old lawn has to go. My son Owen turned seventeen last month and is keen to help, but he can't be the one to sign for the sod cutter, because **(12)** _____. Would you mind coming to the counter with me?

> Since we'll be packing down the gravel base on both days, renting the plate compactor will cost us **(13)** _____, which beats paying the daily rate twice. Neither of us owns a truck, though, and we want to start at 8 on Saturday morning, so **(14)** _____.
>
> I usually get 10% off with my Birchwood Rewards card, but **(15)** _____. Oh well. For the edges, I'll rent the paver saw for Sunday only. Keep in mind that **(16)** _____, so I'll add one to the bill.
>
> It should be just like the summer we painted every room of that basement apartment we shared in second year, when your mother kept phoning to ask if we'd finished. Let's not bite off more than we can chew, though. If the base takes longer than planned, the stones can wait until the following weekend.
>
> Cheers,
>
> Dev

Choose the best option for each gap.

12. **A** it's reserved for Rewards members **B** it must go back the same day **C** only adults may rent it **D** it's booked for that weekend

13. **A** $105 **B** $70 **C** $150 **D** $140

14. **A** we can collect it after 4 on Friday **B** the store lends out trailers **C** we should rent the core aerator as well **D** I'll need to book delivery by Thursday morning

15. **A** it's only valid for in-store pickups **B** that doesn't cover weekend rentals **C** it expired at the end of May **D** it only applies to garden tools

16. **A** safety glasses cost extra **B** the deposit must be paid in cash **C** we have to pay for our own saw blade **D** it can only cut thin tiles

17. Dev and Colin know each other because they

A are related to each other through marriage.
B both work at Birchwood.
C are next-door neighbours.
D used to live together as students.

18. Why is Dev writing to Colin?

A to ask Colin to lend him his truck for the weekend
B to organize the rentals for their joint project
C to persuade Colin to join the Rewards program
D to ask Colin to share the cost of the deposits

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19. When Dev says “Let’s not bite off more than we can chew,” he means they should

A not try to do too much at once.

B take regular breaks for meals.

C finish the whole job in one day.

D buy fewer stones than planned.

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Part 3: Reading for Information

Time: about 10 minutes

The Mackenzie River: Canada's Longest River System

Paragraph A

Canada has thousands of rivers, but none can match the Mackenzie for sheer length. Its main channel runs about 1,700 kilometres from Great Slave Lake in the Northwest Territories to the Beaufort Sea, an arm of the Arctic Ocean. When the rivers upstream of the lake are included, such as the Peace and the Athabasca, whose waters combine in the Slave River and flow into Great Slave Lake, the system stretches more than 4,000 kilometres, making it the longest in the country and second in North America only to the Mississippi–Missouri. Its drainage basin is just as impressive. Rain and melting snow from parts of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, the Yukon and the Northwest Territories all find their way into it, and in total the basin covers roughly one fifth of Canada's land area.

Paragraph B

Long before Europeans arrived, the river served as a highway and a source of food for the Dene and other Indigenous peoples of the North. The Dene call it Deh Cho, meaning "big river." Its English name comes from Alexander Mackenzie, a Scottish-born fur trader with the North West Company, who travelled its full length in 1789 with the help of Indigenous guides. Mackenzie had hoped the river would carry him west to the Pacific Ocean and open a new route for the fur trade. Instead, it led him north to the Arctic coast, a discovery that left him deeply disappointed. Within a few decades, trading posts had been built along its banks, and several of today's communities, including Fort Simpson and Fort Good Hope, grew up around them.

Paragraph C

For much of the year, the Mackenzie is locked in ice. The freeze usually lasts from late fall until May or June, and spring breakup can be dramatic, as huge slabs of ice jam together and sometimes flood low-lying communities. In winter, crossings are built on the frozen river so that trucks can reach towns with no all-season road. When the ice is gone, the river becomes a supply route of a different kind: tugboats push barges loaded with fuel, building materials and groceries to settlements along its banks and on the Arctic coast. Because the shipping season is so short, a delivery that misses the last barge may not arrive until the following summer. Near Fort Providence, a bridge opened in 2012, replacing the ferry and ice crossing that drivers had relied on for decades.

Paragraph D

Near its mouth, the river spreads into the Mackenzie Delta, a maze of channels, lakes and wetlands that is one of the largest Arctic deltas in the world. The delta is home to muskrats, fish such as whitefish, and huge numbers of migrating birds in summer. Each July, beluga whales gather in the warm, shallow waters where the river meets the sea, and Inuvialuit hunters have harvested them

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there for generations. Today, scientists keep a close eye on the region. Thawing permafrost along the riverbanks and changes in when the ice forms and breaks up are seen as signs of a warming climate, with consequences for wildlife and for the people who depend on the river.

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 explorer the river is named after did not reach the destination he was aiming for. _____

21. Heavy goods that are not shipped in time may be delayed for many months. _____

22. Beluga whales swim upriver as far as Great Slave Lake during the summer. _____

23. The river collects rain and snowmelt from parts of three provinces and two territories. _____

24. Changes in frozen ground near the river are viewed as evidence of a changing climate. _____

25. Only one river system on the continent is longer than the Mackenzie when its upstream rivers are counted. _____

26. Mackenzie's 1789 journey down the river was funded by the British government. _____

27. At one point on the river, drivers no longer depend on seasonal crossings. _____

28. The area where the river reaches the ocean is a seasonal gathering place for a sea mammal. _____

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Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

Time: about 13 minutes

Pets On Public Transit Debate

When the Harbourton Transit Commission announced it would revisit its decades-old ban on animals other than service animals, staff anticipated a trickle of letters. Instead, more than 3,000 residents completed the online survey in its first week.

The draft policy would admit small pets in closed carriers at any hour and leashed dogs of any size outside rush hour, at a reduced fare. Commission chair Paula Ferreira presents the change as an obligation, not a perk. A third of households own no car, and many keep pets; getting a sick cat to the veterinarian currently means a taxi fare or imposing on a neighbour. “A public service shouldn’t abandon its most loyal riders in that predicament,” she maintains.

Dr. Kevin Osei, a downtown allergist, is less enthusiastic. “Dander embeds itself in upholstered seats and can afflict sensitive riders long after an animal has disembarked,” he explains. Yet he pointedly avoids defending the status quo. “A cat zipped into a carrier hardly troubles me. A large dog meandering through a packed car does.” Should the commission venture beyond carriers, he recommends designating one car per train for animals. Buses, however, which carry most passengers, cannot be partitioned that way.

Marie-Claude Thibodeau, representing Harbourton’s bus operators, stresses that her members bear animals no ill will. Enforcement is what troubles them. “A driver responsible for forty passengers in heavy traffic can’t simultaneously assess whether a dog is calm or its leash adequately short,” says Thibodeau. A carrier demands no such judgment; anything more ambitious belongs on a handful of routes first, and only after drivers have been trained.

For Ben Ashworth, executive director of the Harbourton Humane Society, the debate concerns animal welfare. His shelter annually receives pets surrendered partly because owners had no practical way to reach a veterinarian. He would prefer dogs welcome at all hours, but has no appetite for a battle over rush hour. “A narrower rule is acceptable as a start. A pilot project that becomes a pretext for stalling isn’t.”

The commission will issue its recommendation in the spring, after analyzing the survey and meeting the operators’ union.

29. Osei and Thibodeau would both accept

A a separate car for animals.
B training drivers before any change.
C keeping the current ban.
D admitting pets in carriers right away.

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30. Ferreira presents the change chiefly as

A a remedy for surrendered pets.
B a duty to transit-dependent riders.
C a response to survey replies.
D a pilot on a handful of routes.

31. Ashworth's attitude to limiting dogs off-peak is

A reluctant acceptance.
B wholly enthusiastic support.
C firm opposition.
D complete indifference.

32. It is reasonable to infer that

A most respondents oppose the draft.
B Osei's proposal would protect most passengers.
C bus operators may sway the recommendation.
D Ashworth would welcome a lengthy pilot project.

33. Which would make the best title?

A "Pets on Transit: Riders Cheer, Commission Says No"
B "Pets on Transit: Broad Sympathy, Narrow Agreement"
C "Harbourton Ends Its Animal Ban After Survey"
D "Pets on Transit: Should Service Animals Pay Fares?"

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 cat owner who rides the bus to work, I expected to cheer this plan, but the article has tempered my enthusiasm about its pace. Ms. Ferreira is right that the ban penalizes **(34)** _____, and Mr. Ashworth's experience suggests the ban **(35)** _____.
>
> Still, the operators deserve a better hearing. Expecting someone who is **(36)** _____ to make judgment calls about dogs as well is simply unreasonable. Dr. Osei's compromise sounds sensible on paper, yet it would do little for **(37)** _____, and that describes most of us.
>
> My advice to the commission: allow carriers now, **(38)** _____, and decide about larger dogs once the results are in.

Choose the best option for each gap.

34. **A** allergy sufferers **B** commuters at peak hours **C** people who rely on service animals **D** transit's most captive riders

35. **A** has victims with four legs **B** barely affects surrender rates **C** is widely ignored by owners **D** protects riders with allergies

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36. **A** hostile toward animals generally **B** worried about dander **C** already stretched thin **D** new to driving the route

37. **A** allergy sufferers on trains **B** the bus-riding majority **C** owners of cats in carriers **D** off-peak travellers

38. **A** set aside a car for animals **B** let drivers decide which dogs board **C** keep large dogs off for good **D** trial dogs on a few routes

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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: Apology for a Damaged Borrowed Projector

1 C to apologize for an accident and offer to make it right

2 A do not know each other very well.

3 D Wind pulled over the table it was sitting on.

4 B it can be fixed, but not right away.

5 A Hélène will need one before hers is ready.

6 C whether to fix the projector or replace it.

7 B birthday celebration

8 D have my own one fixed

9 A found me a stand-in projector

10 C keeping the projector low

11 B cross with either of you

Part 2: Renting Tools for a Backyard Patio Project

12 C only adults may rent it

13 A $105

14 D I'll need to book delivery by Thursday morning

15 B that doesn't cover weekend rentals

16 C we have to pay for our own saw blade

17 D used to live together as students.

18 B to organize the rentals for their joint project

19 A not try to do too much at once.

Part 3: The Mackenzie River: Canada's Longest River System

20 B

21 C

22 E

23 A

24 D

25 A

26 E

27 C

28 D

Part 4: Pets On Public Transit Debate

29 D admitting pets in carriers right away.

30 B a duty to transit-dependent riders.

31 A reluctant acceptance.

32 C bus operators may sway the recommendation.

33 B "Pets on Transit: Broad Sympathy, Narrow Agreement"

34 D transit's most captive riders

35 A has victims with four legs

36 C already stretched thin

37 B the bus-riding majority

38 D trial dogs on a few routes

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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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