CELPIP Reading Practice Test 95

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	Covering Dad's Care While I'm Away	1–11	about 11 minutes
Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram	Choosing a Bus Tour for a Parents' Visit	12–19	about 9 minutes
Part 3: Reading for Information	The Quebec Bridge and Its Hard Lessons	20–28	about 10 minutes
Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints	Trading Statutory Holidays 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/95, 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

Covering Dad's Care While I'm Away

Dear Tom,

Thanks again for agreeing to stay with Dad while I'm at my training course in Halifax from November 3 to 14. I know two weeks away from your own work isn't easy to arrange, and it means a lot to me. As promised on the phone, here is what you need to know.

You'll notice a change in Dad since you were last here. Since his driver's licence wasn't renewed in August because of his eyesight, he's been much quieter than usual. He insists he's perfectly fine, but he has stopped going to his Tuesday cribbage night at the Legion, and I'm fairly sure it's because he doesn't want to ask anyone for a ride. If you could get him there even once, I think it would do him a world of good.

Mrs. Okafor from next door takes him grocery shopping every Friday. Dad will probably tell you that you can do it instead while you're there. Please don't cancel her. She genuinely enjoys their outings, and he'll be relying on her again as soon as you head home.

His pills are in the weekly organizer on the kitchen counter. I fill it every Sunday, so you'll only need to do it once. He never misses his morning ones, but he often forgets the evening ones, so please check after supper. The pharmacy delivers on Thursdays, so there's nothing to pick up.

The most important date is his eye specialist appointment on November 7 at 10:30. He'll likely tell you there's no point in going because nothing has changed. Please take him anyway. My list of questions for the doctor is in the blue folder by the phone.

I've also signed him up for the hot lunch program at the community centre on Mondays and Wednesdays, but he's only gone once. He says he doesn't know a soul there. Maybe it would be easier for him if you went along the first time.

One more thing. Could you raise the idea of hiring someone to clean the house once a week? He brushes me off whenever I mention it, but he has always trusted your judgment when it comes to money.

And please, leave the kitchen cupboards exactly as they are this time. You know how upset he gets when he can't find things.

I'll call every evening at eight. The spare key is with Mrs. Okafor.

Love,

Marisa

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1. Why is Marisa writing to Tom?

A to ask him to take over their father's care for good
B to prepare him for a period of caring for their father
C to explain why their father can no longer live on his own
D to ask his advice about her course in Halifax

2. According to Marisa, why has her father stopped going to his card nights?

A He has lost interest in playing cribbage.
B He had a disagreement with someone at the Legion.
C The games were moved to a different evening.
D He dislikes asking for lifts.

3. Marisa wants Mrs. Okafor's Friday outings to continue because

A her father will need them again after Tom leaves.
B Tom will not have a car during his stay.
C Mrs. Okafor has already been paid for the whole month.
D her father prefers the store Mrs. Okafor uses.

4. What does Marisa ask Tom to check every day?

A that the pharmacy has delivered the pills
B that the pill organizer has been refilled
C that their father has taken his evening pills
D that their father has eaten a hot lunch that day

5. What does Marisa expect regarding the eye appointment?

A The specialist will cancel it at short notice.
B Their father will ask Marisa to attend it with him.
C The doctor will report that nothing has changed.
D Their father will try to avoid going.

6. We can infer that during Tom's last visit, he

A moved things around in their father's kitchen.
B argued with their father about money.
C met Mrs. Okafor for the first time.
D took their father to the community centre.

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 Marisa,
>
> Thanks for the detailed letter. Please don't feel bad about going to Halifax; you've been **(7)** _____ for months, and it's my turn now.

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I'll keep an eye on the pills he **(8)** _____, and I promise I won't move a single cup in the kitchen. I've already marked the 7th on my calendar, and I won't take no for an answer.

As for the lunch program, I'll go along with him on the Monday, since **(9)** _____. I'll also ask around to see if any of his cribbage friends could **(10)** _____.

Finally, I'll bring up the cleaner. Since it's really **(11)** _____, he may actually listen to me.

I'll pick up the spare key next door when I arrive, and I'll text you after the eye appointment so you're not left wondering.

Love,

Tom

Choose the best option for each gap.

7. **A** living too far away to help **B** putting off the hard conversations **C** handling almost everything yourself **D** working fewer hours than usual

8. **A** has delivered from the pharmacy **B** tends to forget after supper **C** never misses at breakfast **D** fills every Sunday

9. **A** Mrs. Okafor can't drive him that day **B** the meals there are quite expensive **C** it is right next to the Legion **D** he feels like an outsider there

10. **A** drive him on Tuesdays **B** help him with his shopping **C** visit him at the house **D** join him for the hot lunches

11. **A** a question of his health **B** a matter of his pride **C** a question of money **D** something Mrs. Okafor suggested

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Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram

Time: about 9 minutes

Choosing a Bus Tour for a Parents' Visit



Sunridge Coach Tours

Fall Day Trips 2026 · September 12 – October 31

All tours depart from and return to our Lakeview Depot, 210 Harbour Road

Orchard & Cider Trail

Visit two family orchards, watch an apple-pressing demonstration and enjoy a farm-style lunch at the Hillside Café.
Days: Thursday, Saturday
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Walking: EASY flat farm paths
Adult $89 | **Senior (65+)** $79 | **Child (6–12)** $45
Lunch included. Cider tasting ages 19+ only.

Railway Trestles Walk

A guided 7 km walk along an old railway bed, crossing a series of tall wooden trestle bridges.
Days: Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday
Time: 8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Walking: MODERATE gravel, some slopes
Adult $75 | **Senior (65+)** $75 | **Child (6–12)** $40
Bring your own lunch. Not suitable for strollers.

Lake Towns & Market

Explore three lakeside towns, with two hours of free time at the Saturday farmers' market and a one-hour lake cruise.
Days: Saturday only
Time: 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Walking: EASY paved streets
Adult $69 | **Senior (65+)** $62 | **Child (6–12)** $35
Lunch not included; food stalls at the market.

Lookout & Hot Springs

Ride the gondola to a mountaintop lookout, then hike down to lunch and an afternoon soak at the hot springs.
Days: Friday, Sunday
Time: 8:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Walking: MODERATE 3 km downhill trail
Adult $119 | **Senior (65+)** $109 | **Child (6–12)** $60
Lunch and pool entry included. Bring a swimsuit.

★ Good to know

- Bookings must be made at least **48 hours** before departure.
- **Groups of 5 or more** booked together save **10%** on the total fare.
- Full refund for cancellations made up to 24 hours before departure.
- Children under 6 ride free with a paying adult (one per adult).
- All coaches are wheelchair accessible and have washrooms on board.

Book online at sunridgecoach.ca or call 250-555-0148 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: Day trip with Mom and Dad
>
> To: Elena Kowal
>
> From: Marcus Bianchi
>
> Hi Elena,
>
> Mom and Dad's flight gets in Thursday evening, and they fly home early Sunday morning. Since I can't get Friday off work, Saturday is really our only chance for a day out together. A colleague recommended Sunridge, so I've attached their fall brochure.
>
> Dad's knee still isn't ready for gravel or hills after his surgery, so I've crossed off the two tours rated **(12)** _____. That leaves two choices that run on Saturdays. Mom keeps saying she'd love to get out on the water while she's here, so I'm leaning toward the tour that includes **(13)** _____. Lunch

isn't covered on that one, but with **(14)** _____ at the market, we can easily grab something from the food stalls.

With you, Leo (he's nine now!) and me, plus Mom and Dad, we'd be five, which means we'd **(15)** _____. Dad will grumble about the price, but he'll come around once he's on the boat. I bet Leo can't wait to see his grandparents, and his uncle too, I hope!

Since they need **(16)** _____, I'd have to book by Thursday at 10 a.m. at the latest, so let me know what you think before then.

Talk soon,

Marcus

Choose the best option for each gap.

12. **A** easy **B** moderate **C** difficult **D** family-friendly

13. **A** an apple-pressing demonstration **B** a gondola ride **C** a farm-style lunch **D** a one-hour lake cruise

14. **A** two hours of free time **B** a guided tour of the food stalls **C** a lunch voucher **D** a one-hour stop

15. **A** ride for free with a paying adult **B** all pay the senior rate **C** save 10% on the whole booking **D** get a full refund

16. **A** a day's notice **B** two days' notice **C** a week's notice **D** a deposit upfront

17. Marcus and Elena are most likely

A husband and wife.
B cousins.
C brother and sister.
D next-door neighbours.

18. Why does Marcus suggest going on Saturday?

A It is the only day that he and their parents are all free.
B Tours are cheaper on weekends than on weekdays.
C Leo has school on Thursday and Friday.
D Their parents arrive early on Saturday morning.

19. When Marcus says Dad will "come around," he means that Dad will

A visit them again soon.
B complain for the whole trip.
C feel tired after the cruise.
D stop objecting to the cost.

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Part 3: Reading for Information

Time: about 10 minutes

The Quebec Bridge and Its Hard Lessons

Paragraph A

For much of the nineteenth century, anyone wishing to cross the St. Lawrence River at Quebec City had to rely on ferries in summer and, in some winters, on a risky route over the ice. A fixed rail crossing was long seen as essential to the city's growth, but the obstacles were enormous: the river there is wide and deep, with powerful tides and heavy ice in the spring. Engineers settled on a cantilever design, in which massive steel arms reach out from towers on each shore and support a central span between them. Because no piers were needed in the middle of the channel, ships and drifting ice could pass freely. When it was finally completed, the bridge's main span measured about 549 metres, which is still the longest of any cantilever bridge in the world.

Paragraph B

Construction began in the early 1900s under the direction of a respected American consulting engineer who, because of his age and poor health, supervised the work largely from his office in New York. To reduce the cost of building foundations in deep water, the main span was made longer than in the original plan, yet the added weight of the steel was never properly recalculated. By late August 1907, an inspector on site had reported that several steel members were bending out of shape. On August 29, before these warnings could be acted upon, the southern half of the structure collapsed into the river, killing 75 men. Among them were dozens of Mohawk ironworkers from Kahnawake, near Montreal. A royal commission later concluded that errors in the design calculations, along with weak oversight, were to blame.

Paragraph C

Work started again with a new design, overseen by a board of engineers appointed by the federal government. This time the bridge was built with far heavier and stronger steel members, and the work was checked more carefully at every stage. Tragedy struck again in September 1916, when the central span, which had been floated into position on barges, was being lifted into place. A piece of the lifting equipment failed, and the span dropped into the river, killing 13 workers. A replacement span was raised successfully the following year, and the first trains crossed in 1917. A roadway was added later, and today the bridge carries trains, cars and pedestrians. It has also been recognized as a National Historic Site of Canada.

Paragraph D

The disasters left a lasting mark on the engineering profession in Canada. In the 1920s, a ceremony was created in which graduating engineers receive an iron ring, worn on the little finger of the working hand, as a reminder of their duty to the public. A popular story claims that the first rings were made from steel taken from the fallen bridge, but historians have found no evidence to support it.

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> The losses were also felt deeply in Kahnawake. After 1907, the community decided that its ironworkers should no longer all work together on a single project, so that one accident could never again take so many of its men. Mohawk ironworkers went on to help build bridges and skyscrapers across North America.

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. Problems with the structure were noticed before it gave way. _____

21. The second version of the bridge relied on much sturdier components. _____

22. A belief about the origin of a professional symbol may not be true. _____

23. The chosen design left the route used by river traffic free of obstacles. _____

24. A second level was later built above the tracks to make room for cars. _____

25. An effort to save money had an effect that was not properly taken into account. _____

26. The central section was placed successfully on the second attempt. _____

27. Engineers in Canada must wear the ring in order to practise legally. _____

28. One community changed the way its members took on jobs after suffering heavy losses. _____

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Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

Time: about 13 minutes

Trading Statutory Holidays Debate

> Should a warehouse employee be able to exchange Victoria Day for Diwali? A bill now before the provincial legislature would permit workers to trade up to two of the province's nine statutory holidays for days of personal, cultural or religious significance, provided their employer consents. Proponents contend that the official calendar has ceased to reflect the population living by it. Detractors fear the change would erode the handful of days on which an entire community pauses simultaneously.
>
> Farida Haddad, a human resources consultant to mid-sized companies, considers the reform overdue. "Someone observing Eid or Lunar New Year has to burn a vacation day, while the colleague at the adjacent desk gets Good Friday automatically," she observes. "It's a hidden tax on difference." Haddad acknowledges that small firms would require safeguards, and suggests requests be submitted a month ahead. Still, she regards that inconvenience as trivial beside telling a growing share of the workforce that their celebrations amount to personal errands.
>
> Gordon Pelletier, whose bakery employs twelve, simply closes on statutory holidays. He foresees an administrative tangle: holiday wages owed on scattered dates while he struggles to staff the counter. Pelletier is quick to point out that he already lets employees exchange shifts for religious observances. "I've never refused a reasonable request," he remarks. "Formalize that goodwill and you're merely inviting disputes."
>
> Lena Svoboda, a sociologist who studies how families allocate their time, approaches the question differently. Holidays, her research suggests, derive much of their value from synchronization; a day off is worth considerably more when relatives and friends are free as well. Instead of permitting individuals to opt out of the common calendar, she would have the province introduce an additional shared holiday acknowledging its diversity. "Widen the circle," she urges, "don't scatter it."
>
> Tunde Oyelaran, who represents warehouse workers, endorses the principle but not the legislation as drafted. Because swaps hinge on employer consent, he predicts that office staff with flexible schedules will obtain them effortlessly. Employees on rotating shifts, precisely those with the least control over their time, will keep hearing no. He would permit refusals only for documented operational reasons.

29. Why does Haddad contrast Eid with Good Friday?

A to expose a hidden penalty
B to defend small bakeries
C to show shift workers need consent
D to show goodwill varies

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30. Pelletier and Svoboda would both endorse which statement?

A The province should add a shared holiday.

B Employers already accommodate observances fairly.

C The bill shouldn't pass as written.

D Employers' inconvenience would be modest.

31. Why does Oyelaran mention rotating shifts?

A to stress the worth of days spent with relatives

B to suggest the bill fails those needing it

C to warn that small firms would struggle

D to urge advance requests

32. It can be inferred that

A most provincial employers oppose the reform.

B the bill would add more holidays.

C the union opposes any calendar change.

D one opponent already permits swaps.

33. An appropriate headline would be

A "Province Adds a Holiday for Diverse Workers"

B "Whose Day Off? Bill Tests Common Calendar"

C "Holiday Swaps Win Broad Employer and Union Support"

D "Why Statutory Holidays Have Outlived Their Purpose"

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 worked nights at a distribution centre for eleven years, I found Dr. Svoboda's case eloquent but built on a premise, that **(34)** _____, which my workplace disproves every Victoria Day. Mr. Pelletier sounds like a decent employer, yet **(35)** _____ is a flimsy safeguard once he retires or sells.
>
> Ms. Haddad identifies the real inequity: some of us must **(36)** _____ to celebrate our own new year, while others never have to ask.
>
> Still, the bill entrusts the decision to **(37)** _____, and I can predict the verdict on my shift. Mr. Oyelaran is right: until a swap becomes **(38)** _____, it will mostly reward people whose hours are already flexible.

Choose the best option for each gap.

34. **A** holiday wages are guaranteed **B** workers crave extra vacation **C** the calendar already mirrors the province **D** the whole community is off

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35. **A** an employer's goodwill **B** closing on statutory holidays **C** a month's notice **D** a documented reason

36. **A** trade shifts with colleagues **B** forfeit their holiday pay **C** spend hard-earned leave **D** seek the union's approval

37. **A** a provincial officer **B** my own shift manager **C** the union steward **D** a willing colleague

38. **A** an entitlement, not a favour **B** a seniority reward **C** one shared holiday **D** conditional on a month's notice

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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: Covering Dad's Care While I'm Away

1 B to prepare him for a period of caring for their father

2 D He dislikes asking for lifts.

3 A her father will need them again after Tom leaves.

4 C that their father has taken his evening pills

5 D Their father will try to avoid going.

6 A moved things around in their father's kitchen.

7 C handling almost everything yourself

8 B tends to forget after supper

9 D he feels like an outsider there

10 A drive him on Tuesdays

11 C a question of money

Part 2: Choosing a Bus Tour for a Parents' Visit

12 B moderate

13 D a one-hour lake cruise

14 A two hours of free time

15 C save 10% on the whole booking

16 B two days' notice

17 C brother and sister.

18 A It is the only day that he and their parents are all free.

19 D stop objecting to the cost.

Part 3: The Quebec Bridge and Its Hard Lessons

20 B

21 C

22 D

23 A

24 E

25 B

26 C

27 E

28 D

Part 4: Trading Statutory Holidays Debate

29 A to expose a hidden penalty

30 C The bill shouldn't pass as written.

31 B to suggest the bill fails those needing it

32 D one opponent already permits swaps.

33 B "Whose Day Off? Bill Tests Common Calendar"

34 D the whole community is off

35 A an employer's goodwill

36 C spend hard-earned leave

37 B my own shift manager

38 A an entitlement, not a favour

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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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