

CELPIP Speaking Practice Test 17

A free full-length CELPIP-General Speaking practice test from CELPass.com: all 8 tasks in the real test order with the real timings, and an excellent sample answer for every task at the end.

Task	Topic	Timing
Task 1: Giving Advice	Getting Ready for a First Pet	Preparation: 30 seconds Speaking: 90 seconds
Task 2: Talking about a Personal Experience	A Cultural Misunderstanding	Preparation: 30 seconds Speaking: 60 seconds
Task 3: Describing a Scene	Pastry Cases at a Neighbourhood Bakery	Preparation: 30 seconds Speaking: 60 seconds
Task 4: Making Predictions	Forest Trail	Preparation: 30 seconds Speaking: 60 seconds
Task 5: Comparing and Persuading	City Transportation Expansion	Preparation: 60 seconds Speaking: 60 seconds
Task 6: Dealing with a Difficult Situation	Moving Furniture Dilemma	Preparation: 60 seconds Speaking: 60 seconds
Task 7: Expressing Opinions	Mandated Nap Time at Work	Preparation: 30 seconds Speaking: 90 seconds
Task 8: Describing an Unusual Situation	Surprising Community Mural	Preparation: 30 seconds Speaking: 60 seconds

How to take this test

1. Do the 8 tasks in order in one sitting (about 15–20 minutes).
2. For each task, read the prompt, set a timer for the preparation time, then record yourself on your phone for the speaking time. Stop when the time is up.
3. Listen back and compare with the sample answers at the end: did you answer the question, use the full time, give reasons and examples?

Get your answers scored for free. On celpass.com you can take a CELPIP Speaking test on the computer, as in the real exam, and get an AI score on the four CELPIP rating dimensions with every mistake marked. More free tests: celpass.com/celpip/practice-tests-pdf

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Task 1: Giving Advice

Preparation: 30 seconds · Speaking: 90 seconds

Getting Ready for a First Pet

Your neighbour Gordon recently retired, and he is thinking about adopting a dog from the animal shelter in Fredericton. He has never owned a pet before, so he isn't sure what he should prepare or what daily life with a dog will be like. Advise Gordon on how he can get ready to bring home his first pet.

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Task 2: Talking about a Personal Experience

Preparation: 30 seconds · Speaking: 60 seconds

A Cultural Misunderstanding

Tell me about a time when you experienced a cultural misunderstanding. What happened, how did you resolve it, and what did you learn from the experience?

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Task 3: Describing a Scene

Preparation: 30 seconds · Speaking: 60 seconds

Pastry Cases at a Neighbourhood Bakery

Describe some things that are happening in the picture below as well as you can. The person with whom you are speaking cannot see the picture.



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Task 4: Making Predictions

Preparation: 30 seconds · Speaking: 60 seconds

Forest Trail

In this picture, what do you think will most probably happen next?



Task 5: Comparing and Persuading

Preparation: 60 seconds · Speaking: 60 seconds

City Transportation Expansion

Your city is considering expanding its transportation system, and two options have been proposed. After making your decision, you'll persuade your city council why your choice is better.

Option 1: Expanding the Bus Network

- Adding more bus routes and increasing frequency
- Accessible to most areas of the city
- More affordable than building a new subway system
- Estimated cost: \$30,000 for setup
- Expected completion time: 6 months

Option 2: Building a New Subway Line

- New subway route connecting key city areas
- Fast and efficient, especially for longer distances
- Can handle a higher volume of passengers
- Estimated cost: \$80,000 for setup
- Expected completion time: 1 year

Your City Council's Choice:

- Expanding bicycle lanes and bike-sharing programs
- Promotes eco-friendly transportation
- Limited to short-distance travel
- Estimated cost: \$20,000 for setup
- Expected completion time: 4 months

Task 6: Dealing with a Difficult Situation

Preparation: 60 seconds · Speaking: 60 seconds

Moving Furniture Dilemma

You've been asked to help a friend move furniture, but you already have plans and can't fit it in your schedule.

Choose ONE: EITHER Talk to your friend and explain that you can't help move the furniture because of your other commitments, but offer to help in another way. **OR** Talk to another friend and explain why you think you should just cancel your plans to help with the furniture move.

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Task 7: Expressing Opinions

Preparation: 30 seconds · Speaking: 90 seconds

Mandated Nap Time at Work

Do you think employers should mandate nap time at work? Why or why not?

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Task 8: Describing an Unusual Situation

Preparation: 30 seconds · Speaking: 60 seconds

Surprising Community Mural

You notice a large, vibrant mural painted overnight on a prominent wall in your neighborhood. Describe the mural and explain why it has sparked so much interest among the residents.

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Sample answers

One strong answer for each task. Use them for ideas, structure and vocabulary, not to memorise: examiners notice memorised answers.

Task 1: Getting Ready for a First Pet

Excellent sample answer (written at around CLB 11–12, an estimate, not an official score)

Gordon, I think a dog would be perfect for you. You've got the time now, and it'll get you out walking every day.

My first suggestion is to be really honest with the shelter staff about your routine and energy level. Puppies are adorable, but they're exhausting. A two- or three-year-old dog is usually calmer, often already house-trained, and still has lots of good years ahead.

Before the big day, set up a quiet corner with a bed and bowls, buy a sturdy leash and a bag of the food the shelter has been using, and move anything chewable off the floor.

As for what to expect, the first couple of weeks can be a bit bumpy. A rescue dog might be nervous or have the odd accident, so patience is key. Book a vet appointment in the first week, and think about pet insurance, because surprise bills can be huge.

And honestly, a basic obedience class is great for both of you.

Whenever you go away, I'd be happy to dog-sit.

Basic and good answers for this task: celpass.com/celpip/speaking/task-1-giving-advice/samples/adopting-a-pet

Task 2: A Cultural Misunderstanding

Excellent sample answer (written at around CLB 11–12, an estimate, not an official score)

One cultural misunderstanding I'll never forget happened during my first business trip to South Korea.

I was invited to a dinner with my colleagues, and I didn't realize that it's customary to wait for the eldest person at the table to start eating before you begin.

I started eating right away, and I noticed everyone looking at me awkwardly.

Thankfully, one of my colleagues gently explained the tradition, and I quickly apologized and waited.

I felt mortified at the time, but the experience taught me the importance of understanding and respecting cultural etiquette.

Since then, I've made it a point to educate myself about local customs before traveling, and it's helped me build stronger connections with people from different backgrounds.

Basic and good answers for this task: celpass.com/celpip/speaking/task-2-personal-experience/samples/a-cultural-misunderstanding

Task 3: Pastry Cases at a Neighbourhood Bakery

Excellent sample answer (written at around CLB 11–12, an estimate, not an official score)

This is a cozy bakery, and the first thing you notice is a pair of long glass display cases packed with pastries. Each glass shelf is lined with golden-brown, twisted pastries on white plates, and some of them are dusted with icing sugar. On the right, a young man in a dark grey T-shirt, probably the baker or a server, is leaning over the counter, carefully arranging a tray of pastries on top of the case. In the middle, two women are studying the display, one with long blonde hair and the other with her dark hair pulled back, and a man in a grey T-shirt is standing just behind them. Over on the left, a man in a dark jacket and jeans seems to be waiting his turn, while a woman in a pink sweater walks past. At the back, there are wooden shelves stocked with loaves of bread, and the warm lighting and wooden floor make the whole place feel inviting.

Basic and good answers for this task: celpass.com/celpip/speaking/task-3-describing-a-scene/samples/a-bakery-shop

Task 4: Forest Trail

Excellent sample answer (written at around CLB 11–12, an estimate, not an official score)

This serene forest trail offers a perfect glimpse into a tranquil autumn day. As the person walks further along the path, I imagine they might pause near the small wooden bridge to listen to the sound of the babbling creek and take in the beauty of the changing leaves. The squirrels collecting acorns will continue their foraging, adding to the quiet activity of the forest. The warm rays of the sun filtering through the trees will gradually shift as the day progresses, casting new light on the vibrant leaves. The person, enjoying the peace, will likely continue their walk deeper into the forest, perhaps finding a quiet spot to sit and fully immerse themselves in the beauty of the fall season.

Basic and good answers for this task: celpass.com/celpip/speaking/task-4-making-predictions/samples/forest-trail

Task 5: City Transportation Expansion

Excellent sample answer (written at around CLB 11–12, an estimate, not an official score)

While building a new subway line is an exciting prospect, I believe expanding the bus network is the most efficient and effective solution for our city's transportation needs. The bus network expansion is a more affordable and quicker option that can immediately improve access to various parts of the city. It will serve a larger portion of the population and provide a more flexible and accessible solution than the subway. Additionally, expanding bicycle lanes is a great eco-friendly initiative, but it is limited in its reach and effectiveness for long-distance travel. Given the cost, feasibility, and speed of implementation, the bus network expansion is the best choice for our city's transportation future.

Basic and good answers for this task: celpass.com/celpip/speaking/task-5-comparing-and-persuading/samples/city-transportation-expansion

Task 6: Moving Furniture Dilemma

Excellent sample answer (written at around CLB 11–12, an estimate, not an official score)

I understand that my friend really needs help moving the furniture, but unfortunately, I already have other plans that I can't cancel. I'll explain this to my friend politely and apologize for not being able to assist. However, I'll offer to help in another way, such as running errands or offering advice on how to arrange the furniture. I want to be supportive, but I also need to respect my own commitments.

Basic and good answers for this task: celpass.com/celpip/speaking/task-6-difficult-situation/samples/moving-furniture-dilemma

Task 7: Mandated Nap Time at Work

Excellent sample answer (written at around CLB 11–12, an estimate, not an official score)

I strongly believe that employers should mandate nap time at work for several compelling reasons. First, research shows that short naps can significantly improve cognitive function, alertness, and creativity. By encouraging employees to rest during the workday, employers can enhance productivity and performance, leading to better outcomes for both employees and the company. Second, mandatory nap time could help reduce stress and prevent burnout, which are common problems in today's fast-paced work environment. By allowing employees to recharge, employers would contribute to a healthier workforce with lower rates of absenteeism. Lastly, fostering a culture that prioritizes rest and well-being would help employees feel valued, improving job satisfaction and retention rates. In conclusion, mandating nap time at work is a smart investment in both employee health and organizational success.

Basic and good answers for this task: celpass.com/celpip/speaking/task-7-expressing-opinions/samples/mandated-nap-time-at-work

Task 8: Surprising Community Mural

Excellent sample answer (written at around CLB 11–12, an estimate, not an official score)

Hi, I was walking around my neighborhood when I came across a stunning, large-scale mural that had been painted overnight on a prominent wall. Its striking use of vibrant colors and dynamic patterns has captivated residents and sparked a lively discussion about its artistic merit and the mystery behind its sudden appearance. Have you noticed how art can transform public spaces so dramatically?

Basic and good answers for this task: celpass.com/celpip/speaking/task-8-unusual-situation/samples/surprising-community-mural

How would your answer score? Create a free account at celpass.com for a free diagnostic with a predicted CLB in all four skills, and AI scoring of your own Speaking answers.