

CELPIP practice test: reading, writing and speaking

38 reading questions in 4 parts, two writing prompts and eight speaking prompts, with an answer key at the end.

Time each reading part with its own timer, as in the test. Choose one answer for each blank or question.

Then count your correct answers out of 38 and see your level range on our reading score chart:

www.celpiptrainer.com/celpip-score-chart/reading

Reading Part 1 · Reading Correspondence · 11 questions · 11 minutes

Reading Correspondence

Hi Joel,

I was so glad to hear that the clinic offered you the job. Congratulations. Since you start on Monday the 14th, I have gathered everything I promised to find out for you.

First, the apartment. The one-bedroom on Alder Street is still available, but the owner, Mr. Haddad, wants to meet you in person before he signs anything. He suggested Saturday the 12th at two o'clock. If that time doesn't suit you, phone him rather than emailing, because he rarely checks his inbox.

Getting to work should be easy. The number 9 bus stops outside the building and goes straight to the clinic, so you won't need a car right away. If you ride more than three days a week, a monthly pass works out cheaper than single fares, and you can buy one at any pharmacy.

You asked about your bike. The building has no storage room, but Mr. Haddad says you can keep it in the back hallway as long as it doesn't block the exit.

The pool at the community centre is closed for repairs until March, I'm afraid. The pool on Birch Road opens at six on weekday mornings, though, which might suit you before work.

Finally, please come for dinner on your first Sunday. My sister Mira will be here, and since she has worked at the clinic for years, she can tell you which people to ask for what.

See you soon,

Anika

1. Anika is writing mainly to ____.

- A invite Joel to stay with her while he looks for an apartment
- B pass on information she promised to find for Joel
- C ask Joel to help her move into a new apartment
- D tell Joel that the clinic has offered him a job

2. Joel will start his new job on ____.

- A Saturday the 12th
- B his first Sunday in the city
- C the first weekday in March
- D Monday the 14th

3. Before he signs anything, Mr. Haddad wants to ____.

- A meet Joel in person
- B see a letter from the clinic
- C speak to Anika about Joel
- D receive an email from Joel

4. If Saturday at two o'clock does not suit Joel, he should ____.

- A send Mr. Haddad an email
- B ask Anika to choose another time
- C call Mr. Haddad
- D go to the apartment on Sunday

5. Anika thinks that at first Joel ____.

- A should buy a car to get to work
- B will need to ride his bike every day
- C can get to work without a car
- D should look for an apartment closer to the clinic

6. A monthly bus pass would save Joel money if he ____.

- A takes the bus more than three days a week
- B buys it at the clinic
- C rides the bus only on weekends
- D keeps his bike in the hallway

7. Joel can buy a monthly pass ____.

- A from the bus driver
- B from Mr. Haddad
- C at the community centre
- D at any pharmacy

8. Joel may keep his bike in the back hallway as long as ____.

- A he pays a small monthly fee
- B it does not block the exit
- C he locks it to the stairs
- D the storage room is full

9. The pool at the community centre ____.

- A opens at six on weekday mornings
- B is open only on weekends
- C cannot be used until March
- D is next to the clinic

10. Anika mentions the pool on Birch Road because ____.

- A Joel could swim there before work
- B it is cheaper than the community centre
- C her sister swims there
- D it is closer to the apartment

11. Anika thinks her sister will be useful to Joel because Mira ____.

- A is looking for a roommate
- B knows Mr. Haddad well
- C lives on Alder Street
- D knows the people at the clinic

Reading Part 2 · Reading to Apply a Diagram · 8 questions · 9 minutes

Reading to Apply a Diagram

Hi Mateo,

The spring workshop list for Juniper Hall came out today, and I think we should finally sign up for something together, like we said we would. I've copied the schedule below.

Here's what I know. I work every Saturday until three, so anything that starts before then is out for me. You coach your son's soccer team on Sunday mornings, so that rules out Sunday before noon. I'm away for most of May, so the workshop can't be longer than four weeks.

I'd also like to keep it to \$100 each or less, and I don't want to buy extra supplies. Neither of us is a member of the centre, so we'd pay the full fee.

If none of these work for you, I'll take the cooking class by myself.

Let me know by Friday, because registration closes on the 20th.

Grace

Juniper Hall Community Centre: spring weekend workshops

Workshop	Day and time	Length	Fee	Notes
Beginner pottery	Saturday, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.	6 weeks	\$140	Clay and tools included
Bike repair basics	Saturday, 1:00–3:00 p.m.	4 weeks	\$60	Bring your own bike

Cooking for one	Sunday, 10:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.	4 weeks	\$95	Ingredients included
Watercolour painting	Sunday, 1:30–3:30 p.m.	4 weeks	\$60	Paints and brushes extra, about \$30
Smartphone photography	Saturday, 4:00–5:30 p.m.	3 weeks	\$55	Bring a charged phone
Woodworking introduction	Sunday, 6:00–8:30 p.m.	4 weeks	\$120	Wood included; members save \$25

12. Grace is writing mainly to ____.

- A suggest that she and Mateo choose a workshop together
- B ask Mateo to coach a soccer team
- C tell Mateo that she has already registered them
- D invite Mateo to become a member of Juniper Hall

13. The only workshop that fits everything in Grace's email is ____.

- A Watercolour painting
- B Smartphone photography
- C Woodworking introduction
- D Cooking for one

14. Grace cannot take Bike repair basics because ____.

- A it costs more than \$100
- B it lasts longer than four weeks
- C it is on a Sunday morning
- D she is at work while it runs

15. Watercolour painting does not suit Grace because ____.

- A it starts before noon on Sunday
- B it would cost her more than \$100
- C students pay for their own paints and brushes
- D it lasts too many weeks

16. Woodworking introduction would fit Grace's plans if she and Mateo ____.

- A could go on Saturday instead
- B were members of the centre
- C brought their own wood
- D were free on Sunday mornings

17. For the workshop that suits them both, Grace and Mateo will pay ____ in total.

- A \$55
- B \$95
- C \$110
- D \$120

18. If Mateo cannot join her, Grace will probably spend ____ at Juniper Hall.

- A her Sunday mornings
- B her Saturday afternoons
- C her Sunday evenings
- D her Saturday mornings

19. Grace wants an answer by Friday because ____.

- A the workshops start that day
- B she is going away on Friday
- C the fees go up after Friday
- D registration closes on the 20th

Reading Part 3 · Reading for Information · 9 questions · 10 minutes

Reading for Information

The Maple Street Tool Library: how it works

Since last spring, the Maple Street branch of the Ashgrove Public Library has lent out more than 300 tools and household items, from drills and ladders to carpet cleaners and camping stoves. The idea behind the service is simple. Most people use a drill for only a few minutes a year, so it makes more sense for a neighbourhood to share one than for every household to buy its own. Here is how the service works and how to get the most out of it.

Any adult with an Ashgrove library card can borrow up to three items at a time. Cards are free for city residents, and people who live outside the city can buy one for \$25 a year. Before your first loan, you will need to sign a borrowing agreement at the branch. It takes about five minutes, and you only have to do it once.

You can browse the full catalogue and reserve items on the library's website. Most items can be kept for one week, but large or popular ones, such as ladders and pressure washers, must be returned after three days. The library emails you when your item is ready, and reserved items wait for you at the back counter, which is open from Tuesday to Saturday. If you do not pick up an item within two days, it goes to the next person on the waiting list.

Please return items clean and with all their parts. Late items cost \$1 a day, or \$5 a day for large items. If a tool stops working while you are using it normally, simply tell the staff when you bring it back; you will not be charged. However, if an item is damaged because it was used carelessly, the borrower pays for the repair.

On the first Thursday of every month, the branch holds a free fix-it evening, where volunteers with trade

experience help people repair their own lamps, chairs and small appliances. The library is always looking for new volunteers, especially people who can fix bikes. Finally, plan ahead in spring: garden tools are in such demand in April and May that most of them have a waiting list.

20. The main purpose of the text is to ____.

- A ask residents to give their old tools to the library
- B compare the cost of buying and borrowing tools
- C explain how the library's tool-lending service works
- D announce that the Maple Street branch is moving

21. According to the text, sharing tools makes sense because most people ____.

- A use tools such as drills very rarely
- B cannot afford to buy their own tools
- C do not know how to use power tools
- D have no room to store large tools

22. Someone who lives outside Ashgrove can borrow tools if they ____.

- A borrow only one item at a time
- B come with a city resident
- C volunteer at a fix-it evening
- D pay \$25 a year for a library card

23. Before their first loan, borrowers must ____.

- A watch a safety video
- B sign an agreement at the branch
- C pay a deposit for each item
- D attend a fix-it evening

24. A borrower who reserves a pressure washer must return it ____.

- A after three days
- B after one week
- C within two days
- D on the first Thursday of the month

25. If a reserved item is not picked up within two days, ____.

- A the borrower pays a late fee
- B the library keeps it for one more week
- C the next person on the waiting list gets it
- D the library sends a second email

26. A borrower whose drill stops working during normal use will ____.

- A pay for the repair
- B pay \$1 a day until it is fixed
- C lose the right to borrow tools
- D not have to pay anything

27. At the fix-it evenings, people ____.

- A buy repaired tools at low prices
- B repair their own things with help from volunteers
- C leave broken items for the staff to fix
- D learn how to use the library's website

28. It can be inferred that someone who wants to borrow a rake in May should ____.

- A visit the branch on a Thursday evening
- B buy a library card for \$25
- C reserve it well in advance
- D ask a volunteer to repair an old one

Reading Part 4 · Reading for Viewpoints · 10 questions · 13 minutes

Reading for Viewpoints

Car-free Saturdays split opinion on Front Street

For the first time this summer, a six-block stretch of Front Street in Harlow Bay is closed to cars every Saturday. From 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., the street between Elm Avenue and the harbour belongs to people on foot and on bikes, with café tables, street musicians and a weekly craft market. The trial began in June and runs until the end of August, and opinions downtown are sharply divided.

Lena Fischer, who manages the trial for the city, explained how it works. Delivery trucks may use the street before 8 a.m., and the number 4 bus moves one block west to King Street for the day. The city has added bike racks at both ends of the closed blocks, and residents can give their views in an online survey until September 15. "Nothing about next summer will be decided until we have looked at the survey, the sales figures and the traffic counts together," Fischer said.

For Tariq Bello, who owns the Copper Kettle café, the change has been good news. On a normal Saturday he serves about 150 customers; since the trial began, that number has nearly doubled, and he has hired two more staff for weekends. "Last weekend we put six tables out on the street, and people stayed for hours," he said. "Families walk over from the market, have lunch and come back later for ice cream. I would close the street every Saturday, all year."

Hye-jin Park, who runs Park Home Hardware two blocks away, sees things differently. Her Saturday sales are down by about a fifth, she says, because customers buying heavy items such as paint or bags of soil can no longer park near her door. "I am not against the idea," Park said. "People enjoy the street, and so do I. But if the city keeps it, there has to be a short-term loading zone at the corner of Elm so my customers can

pick up what they buy. Without that, I will lose them to stores with parking lots.”

Arthur Mensah, a retired teacher who has lived above a shop on Front Street for twenty years, is less positive. He enjoys the quieter mornings, but he says the moved bus stop has made his weekly trip to the library twice as long. “The street is pleasant, but it is pleasant mostly for visitors and for the cafés,” he said. “The people who actually live here pay the price. I would rather the city spent the money fixing the broken sidewalks on the side streets. I hope this is the only summer they try it.”

Fischer says every kind of comment helps. “A trial is meant to show us what works and what does not,” she said. “If the street stays closed next year, it will not look exactly like this.”

29. The article is mainly about ____.

- A a plan to close Front Street to cars permanently
- B a summer trial that closes part of Front Street to cars on Saturdays
- C a new bus route along King Street
- D a survey about parking prices downtown

30. During the trial, delivery trucks can use Front Street on Saturdays ____.

- A at any time
- B between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.
- C if they have a city permit
- D before 8 a.m.

31. According to Lena Fischer, the decision about next summer will ____.

- A wait until the survey and other results have been reviewed
- B be made by the business owners on Front Street
- C depend mainly on the number of café customers
- D be announced at the end of August

32. Tariq Bello mentions the six tables on the street to show that ____.

- A his café needs more space indoors
- B the city lets cafés use the street for free
- C people now stay longer on the street
- D he has hired more staff for weekends

33. Tariq Bello would like Front Street to be closed to cars ____.

- A every Saturday of the year
- B only during the summer
- C every day of the week
- D only while the craft market is on

34. Hye-jin Park says her Saturday sales have fallen because ____.

- A the craft market sells the same products
- B her store is two blocks from the market
- C the bus no longer stops near her store
- D customers with heavy items cannot park close by

35. Hye-jin Park would accept car-free Saturdays if ____.

- A they ended earlier in the day
- B a short-term loading zone were added at the corner of Elm
- C the bus stop moved back to Front Street
- D her store could put tables on the street

36. Arthur Mensah's main complaint is that the trial ____.

- A makes his mornings too noisy
- B has closed the library on Saturdays
- C helps visitors and cafés more than residents
- D has made the side streets busier

37. Which person would most likely agree that the trial should not be repeated?

- A Tariq Bello
- B Arthur Mensah
- C Hye-jin Park
- D Lena Fischer

38. Lena Fischer's last comment suggests that if Front Street closes again next year, ____.

- A the plan will probably be different
- B it will also close on Sundays
- C the cafés will pay for the closure
- D the bus will stay on King Street all week

Writing

Task 1 · 27 minutes · 150–200 words

Last month you went to a free evening workshop on household budgeting at your local library, and it helped you a lot. Write an email of 150–200 words to the organizer, Ms. Adebayo. In your email:

- Thank her, and say which part of the workshop was most useful to you.
- Describe one change you have made since the workshop.
- Suggest a topic for a future workshop, and explain why people would find it useful.

Task 2 · 26 minutes · 150–200 words

Your employer is planning a new work schedule and has asked all staff to answer a short survey. Choose the option you prefer and explain the reasons for your choice. Write 150–200 words.

Option A: Work four 10-hour days a week and have every Friday off.

Option B: Keep five 8-hour days, but choose your own start time between 7 and 10 a.m.

Speaking

Task 1 · Giving Advice · prepare 30 s, speak 90 s

Your cousin has just moved to a new city for work and is finding it hard to make friends. Give your cousin advice on how to meet people.

Task 2 · Talking about a Personal Experience · prepare 30 s, speak 60 s

Talk about a time when you had to change your plans at the last minute. What happened, and how did you deal with it?

Task 3 · Describing a Scene · prepare 30 s, speak 60 s

Imagine a picture of a busy train platform on a rainy morning. Commuters with umbrellas wait under a large clock. A man in a suit is running down the stairs with a coffee in one hand. A family with two suitcases is reading the departure board, and a young woman is playing the guitar beside a bench. Describe the scene to someone who cannot see it.

Task 4 · Making Predictions · prepare 30 s, speak 60 s

Think again about the train platform from Task 3. What do you think will probably happen next? Describe several things that are likely to happen.

Task 5 · Comparing and Persuading · choose 60 s, prepare 60 s, speak 60 s

Your family is buying a used car and has found two options. Option A is a small hatchback, five years old, cheap to run, with room for four people. Option B is a minivan, eight years old, with room for seven and a large trunk. Choose the option you prefer, then persuade a family member who prefers the other one that your choice is better.

Task 6 · Dealing with a Difficult Situation · prepare 60 s, speak 60 s

You promised to help a close friend move to a new apartment this Saturday. Today your manager asked you to work an extra shift that day, and you could use the money. Choose one: talk to your friend and explain that you cannot help on Saturday, or talk to your manager and explain that you cannot take the shift.

Task 7 · Expressing Opinions · prepare 30 s, speak 90 s

Some people think employers should let staff work from home at least two days a week. Others think teams work better when everyone is in the office. What is your opinion? Explain your reasons.

Task 8 · Describing an Unusual Situation · prepare 30 s, speak 60 s

In a store you see a very unusual backpack. It has two wheels and a pull-out handle like a suitcase, a seat that folds out from the back, and a small lamp clipped to one strap. Your friend is shopping for a backpack and is on the phone with you. Describe the backpack so that your friend can picture it.

Answer key

Part 1: Reading Correspondence

1. B She writes: "I have gathered everything I promised to find out for you."
2. D Anika writes: "Since you start on Monday the 14th..."
3. A "...the owner, Mr. Haddad, wants to meet you in person before he signs anything."
4. C "If that time doesn't suit you, phone him rather than emailing, because he rarely checks his inbox."
5. C "The number 9 bus stops outside the building and goes straight to the clinic, so you won't need a car right away."
6. A "If you ride more than three days a week, a monthly pass works out cheaper than single fares..."
7. D "...and you can buy one at any pharmacy."
8. B "...you can keep it in the back hallway as long as it doesn't block the exit."
9. C "The pool at the community centre is closed for repairs until March, I'm afraid."
10. A "The pool on Birch Road opens at six on weekday mornings, though, which might suit you before work."
11. D "...since she has worked at the clinic for years, she can tell you which people to ask for what."

Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram

12. A "I think we should finally sign up for something together, like we said we would."
13. B The schedule lists Smartphone photography on Saturday, 4:00–5:30 p.m., for 3 weeks at \$55 with nothing to buy, which fits every limit in Grace's email.
14. D The workshop runs on Saturday from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., and Grace writes: "I work every Saturday until three."
15. C The notes say "Paints and brushes extra, about \$30", and Grace writes: "I don't want to buy extra supplies."
16. B Members save \$25 on the \$120 fee, which would bring it under Grace's \$100 limit, but she writes: "Neither of us is a member of the centre."
17. C Smartphone photography costs \$55 each, so the two of them will pay \$110.
18. A Grace will "take the cooking class by myself", and the schedule shows Cooking for one on Sunday, 10:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.
19. D "Let me know by Friday, because registration closes on the 20th."

Part 3: Reading for Information

20. C The first paragraph ends: "Here is how the service works and how to get the most out of it."
21. A "Most people use a drill for only a few minutes a year, so it makes more sense for a neighbourhood to share one..."
22. D "...people who live outside the city can buy one for \$25 a year."
23. B "Before your first loan, you will need to sign a borrowing agreement at the branch."
24. A "...large or popular ones, such as ladders and pressure washers, must be returned after three days."
25. C "If you do not pick up an item within two days, it goes to the next person on the waiting list."
26. D "If a tool stops working while you are using it normally, simply tell the staff when you bring it back; you will not be charged."
27. B "...volunteers with trade experience help people repair their own lamps, chairs and small appliances."
28. C "Finally, plan ahead in spring: garden tools are in such demand in April and May that most of them have a waiting list."

Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

29. B "For the first time this summer, a six-block stretch of Front Street in Harlow Bay is closed to cars every Saturday."
30. D "Delivery trucks may use the street before 8 a.m., and the number 4 bus moves one block west to King Street for the day."
31. A "Nothing about next summer will be decided until we have looked at the survey, the sales figures and the traffic counts together," Fischer said.
32. C "Last weekend we put six tables out on the street, and people stayed for hours," he said.
33. A "I would close the street every Saturday, all year."
34. D Her sales are down "because customers buying heavy items such as paint or bags of soil can no longer park near her door."
35. B "But if the city keeps it, there has to be a short-term loading zone at the corner of Elm so my customers can pick up what they buy."
36. C "The street is pleasant, but it is pleasant mostly for visitors and for the cafés," he said.
37. B Arthur Mensah says: "I hope this is the only summer they try it."
38. A "If the street stays closed next year, it will not look exactly like this."

Count your correct answers out of 38. Practice estimate only, not an official score.