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CELPIP Practice Test 1 — Full Test

All four skills · Listening 38 questions · Reading 38 questions · 2 Writing tasks · 8 Speaking tasks · answer key and band 10 samples

Listening — 6 parts
38 questions · about 47–55 min · audio on YouTube

Reading — 4 parts
38 questions · about 55–60 min

Writing — 2 tasks
Email + survey response · 53 min

Speaking — 8 tasks
About 15–20 min · record yourself

HOW TO USE THIS TEST

- Sit the skills in the official order — Listening, Reading, Writing, Speaking — in one sitting of about three hours, with short breaks only between skills.
- Listening: play each part once from the YouTube link at the start of the part. On the real test you see the questions only after the audio, so cover them while you listen.
- Reading and Listening: mark against the key at the back. Writing and Speaking: compare with the band 10 samples, or score the same responses online for free.
- Your Listening and Reading scores out of 38 convert to an approximate level with the table at the back.

ABOUT THIS TEST

A complete CELPIP-General practice test with original material. The Listening section is the same as CelpipRise's Listening Practice Test 1 video; the Reading section matches the Reading Practice Test 1 PDF. Every set here is free online with the real timers, instant marking and AI feedback on Writing and Speaking at celpiprise.com/practice/free.

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Listening

Questions in this section are printed in full; on test day each appears on screen after the audio for that part.

Part 1 — Listening to Problem Solving

Apartment rental — security deposit dispute · 8 questions

A former tenant is speaking with their building manager about a security deposit that has not been refunded after move-out. Listen to their conversation.

> **Audio:** play Part 1 once, without pausing — YouTube, Listening Practice Test 1, from 00:12, or the same set online with the timer: celpiprise.com/practice/free/apartment-rental-security-deposit-dispute-4321e3.

1. **Why is the tenant initially calling the building manager?**
   A. To schedule a final move-out inspection
   B. To request an extension on his lease agreement
   C. To inquire about his unreturned security deposit
   D. To report damage discovered after moving in

2. **What two pieces of information does the manager request at the start?**
   A. The move-out date and forwarding address
   B. The lease number and emergency contact
   C. The inspector's name and walkthrough time
   D. The unit number and rental payment history

3. **What does the tenant point out about the timing of the refund?**
   A. The lease specified a seven-day refund window
   B. He needs the money for a new damage deposit immediately
   C. Deposits should be returned within fifteen days under the regulations
   D. The bank requires thirty days to process the transfer

4. **What deduction was made from the deposit?**
   A. A fee for repainting the bedroom walls
   B. A penalty for breaking the lease early
   C. A cost of one hundred and eighty dollars for carpet cleaning
   D. A charge for replacing damaged appliances

5. **Why does the tenant dispute the deduction?**
   A. The previous tenant caused the staining
   B. He was never given a move-out checklist
   C. He had the carpets professionally steam-cleaned before returning the keys
   D. The lease did not mention any cleaning requirements

6. **In addition to the receipt, what does the tenant ask the manager to send?**
   A. The inspector's written report
   B. A breakdown of all monthly utility charges
   C. A list of approved cleaning contractors
   D. A copy of the original lease agreement

7. **What does the manager offer as a gesture of goodwill?**
   A. A waiver of the next month's rent
   B. A free carpet replacement
   C. A partial credit of seventy dollars
   D. A full refund of the original deposit

8. **What does the manager explain about escalating to the Residential Tenancy Board?**
   A. Hearings normally take place within two days of filing
   B. The disputed amount remains withheld until the Board issues a decision
   C. Only landlords can submit evidence during the hearing
   D. The disputed amount is released immediately while the case is reviewed

Part 2 — Listening to a Daily Life Conversation

Catching up over coffee — weekend plans · 5 questions

Two friends meet for coffee and talk about their plans for the weekend.

> **Audio:** play Part 2 once, without pausing — YouTube, Listening Practice Test 1, from 09:41, or the same set online with the timer: celpiprise.com/practice/free/catching-up-over-coffee-weekend-plans-6b7a34.

1. **Why is Amy's weekend going to be busy?**
   A. She is travelling to Montreal for an anniversary.
   B. She is moving into a new neighbourhood.
   C. She is hosting relatives at her apartment.
   D. She is house-sitting for her sister in Leslieville.

2. **What does Ben initially suggest doing with Amy's dog?**
   A. Taking him to a dog park near Queen East.
   B. Leaving him at a boarding kennel for the weekend.
   C. Bringing him on a Saturday afternoon hike along the Don Valley trail.
   D. Dropping him off at Ben's apartment for the day.

3. **Why is Amy hesitant about Ben's first suggestion?**
   A. Biscuit is too small for long hikes.
   B. She has a conflicting appointment that afternoon.
   C. Biscuit gets anxious and reactive around crowds.
   D. She doesn't enjoy hiking in the Don Valley.

4. **What compromise do Amy and Ben reach?**
   A. A short walk with the larger hiking group at noon.
   B. A late-evening walk followed by dinner at a restaurant.
   C. Cancelling the outing and meeting another weekend.
   D. An early-morning walk followed by brunch at a pet-friendly café.

5. **What does Ben say he will do later that evening?**
   A. Confirm the brunch reservation at the café.
   B. Check the weather forecast for Saturday.
   C. Pick Amy up from her sister's house.
   D. Send Amy the location of the trailhead.

Part 3 — Listening for Information

Municipal recycling tour — orientation talk · 6 questions

A tour guide gives new volunteers an orientation at a municipal recycling facility.

> **Audio:** play Part 3 once, without pausing — YouTube, Listening Practice Test 1, from 16:32, or the same set online with the timer: celpiprise.com/practice/free/municipal-recycling-tour-orientation-talk-7bcc62.

1. **According to the guide, which items belong in the green bin?**
   A. Rigid plastics and metal cans
   B. Cardboard and clean paper
   C. Cling wrap and bread bags
   D. Food scraps, soiled paper, and yard trimmings

2. **What does the guide identify as the number one cause of rejected loads?**
   A. Yard waste in the black bin
   B. Food residue in the blue bin
   C. Plastic bags placed inside the blue bin
   D. Soiled cardboard mixed with recyclables

3. **Where is the compost site that processes green-bin material located?**
   A. Richmond
   B. Delta
   C. Strathcona
   D. Cache Creek

4. **Where does black-bin waste ultimately end up?**
   A. The Strathcona recovery facility
   B. The Delta compost site
   C. The residual landfill in Cache Creek
   D. A depot in the Lower Mainland

5. **Under the new rule, what must residents do with soft plastics?**
   A. Bundle them separately for curbside pickup
   B. Bring them directly to the sorting facility
   C. Drop them off at designated depot locations
   D. Place them in the green bin instead

6. **What will volunteers primarily do at the Earth Day event?**
   A. Collect soft plastics from attendees
   B. Lead tours of the sorting facility
   C. Distribute new curbside bins to residents
   D. Staff the sorting demonstration booth

Part 4 — Listening to a News Item

News — Manitoba flood preparation grant · 5 questions

A news anchor reports on a provincial grant program to help towns prepare for spring flooding.

> **Audio:** play Part 4 once, without pausing — YouTube, Listening Practice Test 1, from 24:35, or the same set online with the timer: celpiprise.com/practice/free/news-manitoba-flood-preparation-grant-2f4654.

1. **What is the main purpose of the announcement described in the news item?**
   A. To compensate farmers for damage caused by last year's floods
   B. To fund permanent relocation of communities from flood-prone areas
   C. To establish a new federal agency overseeing flood response in Manitoba
   D. To launch a provincial grant helping rural municipalities prepare for spring flooding

2. **Which type of project was NOT mentioned as eligible for funding?**
   A. Repair of dykes
   B. Upgrades to pump stations
   C. Construction of new water treatment plants
   D. Planning of emergency evacuation routes

3. **When the mayor calls the exclusion a "glaring oversight," what does he mean?**
   A. A temporary budgeting issue
   B. A minor administrative delay
   C. A deliberate political strategy
   D. An obvious and serious mistake

4. **How did the Minister of Municipal Relations respond to the criticism?**
   A. By noting that Indigenous flood preparedness is being addressed through a separate funding stream
   B. By referring the matter to the federal government for further review
   C. By promising to expand the current grant program to include First Nations
   D. By denying that First Nations communities face elevated flood risk

5. **What can be inferred about the urgency of applying for the grant?**
   A. Only municipalities that applied last year are eligible to reapply
   B. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis throughout the year
   C. The deadline will likely be extended due to public criticism
   D. Municipalities have only a short window, as the deadline is next month

Part 5 — Listening to a Discussion

Should Main Street go car-free on weekends? · 8 questions

A radio panel debates whether the city should close Main Street to cars on weekends. Watch the discussion, then answer the questions.

> **Audio:** play Part 5 once, without pausing — YouTube, Listening Practice Test 1, from 31:05, or the same set online with the timer: celpiprise.com/practice/free/should-main-street-go-car-free-on-weekends-c3acad.

1. **The host opens the discussion by introducing**
   A. a permanent ban on downtown driving
   B. a new downtown parking garage
   C. a weekend car-free street pilot
   D. a transit expansion for weekends

2. **Guest A's overall position on the proposal is**
   A. clearly in favour of it
   B. undecided until more data arrives
   C. supportive only of weekday closures
   D. cautiously opposed to it

3. **One reason Guest A gives in support is that a comparable city saw**
   A. a sharp drop in traffic accidents
   B. a fifteen percent drop in rents
   C. a doubling of transit ridership
   D. a thirty percent rise in foot traffic

4. **Guest B objects mainly because her customers**
   A. prefer shopping online now
   B. dislike crowded pedestrian streets
   C. buy heavy items and need nearby parking
   D. already avoid the downtown core

5. **Guest B suggests weekend transit in the area is**
   A. infrequent, roughly every forty minutes
   B. free but overcrowded
   C. reliable and frequent
   D. under review by council

6. **When Guest A says stores with bulky goods "need a tailored plan," she means a plan that is**
   A. identical for every business
   B. specifically adapted to their needs
   C. designed to phase out cars entirely
   D. delayed until after the pilot ends

7. **Guest B concedes that the street does look lively**

   A. on quiet weekday mornings

   B. during festival weekends

   C. whenever transit is free

   D. after the delivery window closes

8. **Guest B's remark that a hardware store "isn't an impulse stop" implies that pedestrian traffic**

   A. is irrelevant to any business

   B. harms cafés more than shops

   C. may not translate into her sales

   D. will still fill her aisles easily

Part 6 — Listening to Viewpoints

Viewpoint — the case for a year-round school calendar · 6 questions

A commentator argues for switching schools to a year-round calendar. Listen to the viewpoint.

> **Audio:** play Part 6 once, without pausing — YouTube, Listening Practice Test 1, from 41:14, or the same set online with the timer: celpiprise.com/practice/free/viewpoint-the-case-for-a-year-round-school-calendar-d88fac.

1. **The speaker's central proposal is to**
   A. redistribute existing school days more evenly
   B. shorten the total school year
   C. extend summer break by two weeks
   D. eliminate standardized testing in June

2. **According to the speaker, the summer slide costs schools roughly**
   A. a full semester of progress
   B. a decade of curriculum reform
   C. a month of learning each year
   D. two weeks of new material

3. **The speaker argues that the current summer break most harms**
   A. children from lower-income families
   B. recent immigrant families
   C. teachers approaching retirement
   D. students in rural regions

4. **The family-life advantage the speaker highlights is**
   A. reduced homework during holidays
   B. more predictable and affordable planning
   C. longer weekends throughout the year
   D. additional paid parental leave

5. **In addressing the counter-argument, the speaker suggests**
   A. abandoning the plan for high schools
   B. installing air conditioning nationwide first
   C. letting each family opt out voluntarily
   D. beginning the rollout with elementary schools

6. **The closing line implies that the traditional summer break is**
   A. an outdated holdover from agriculture
   B. too expensive for governments to keep
   C. essential for teacher well-being
   D. a cherished cultural tradition

Reading

Part 1 — Reading Correspondence

11 questions · 11 min

Dear Colleagues,

After several months of planning, I'm writing to confirm that our company will be relocating to a new office on Riverside Drive at the end of next month. The current building has served us well for more than a decade, but the team has simply outgrown the space, and our lease is coming to an end. Rather than renew it, the leadership team decided this was the right moment to move somewhere that better fits how we work today.

The new premises are larger, brighter, and far more comfortable. There is a dedicated quiet zone for focused work, several additional meeting rooms, and a proper staff kitchen with seating. The building is a ten-minute walk from Central Station, and there is secure indoor storage for anyone who cycles in. The one real downside is that on-site car parking will be limited, so we'll be encouraging carpooling and will circulate a sign-up sheet shortly.

The physical move will take place over the weekend of the 28th and will be handled by a professional moving company. You will not need to pack or carry your own equipment. However, please clear all personal items from your desk by the end of Friday the 27th, and clearly label anything fragile so it can be handled with care. The IT team will set up and test every workstation before Monday morning, so disruption to your work should be minimal.

We understand that a change of location affects everyone differently, and that for some of you the new commute may be a real concern. If the new address creates a serious difficulty, please speak with your manager as early as possible. We will look at flexible hours or hybrid arrangements on a case-by-case basis.

A short guided tour of the new space will be offered during the week before the move, with sign-up time slots to follow in a separate message.

Thank you all for your patience and flexibility during this transition.

Kind regards,
Helen Park
Facilities Manager

1. **The company is moving mainly because**
   A. the team outgrew the building and the lease is ending
   B. the rent was raised
   C. staff requested it
   D. the area is unsafe

2. **The new office is**
   A. in another city
   B. a ten-minute walk from Central Station
   C. next to the old one
   D. far from public transport

3. **One drawback of the new location is**
   A. fewer meeting rooms
   B. no kitchen
   C. no bicycle storage
   D. limited car parking

4. **Before the end of Friday the 27th, staff must**
   A. pack all equipment themselves
   B. clear personal items and label fragile things
   C. set up their own workstation
   D. move furniture

5. **The move itself will be done by**
   A. the staff
   B. the IT team
   C. a professional moving company
   D. the landlord

6. **Staff for whom the new commute is a serious problem should**
   A. email the landlord
   B. resign
   C. ignore the move
   D. speak with their manager

The reply: choose the best option for each numbered blank.

Dear Helen,

Thank you for the clear **7** . The new office honestly sounds like a big improvement. I'll **8** my desk and label my monitor before the end of Friday the 27th.

I usually drive, and parking will be tight, so I'd like to **9** the carpool sign-up as soon as it's ready. My commute does get noticeably longer, so I may ask my manager about a **10** arrangement. I'd also really like to join the **11** of the new space beforehand.

Thanks again,
Marcus

7. A. invoice
   B. apology
   C. notice
   D. complaint

8. A. ignore
B. keep
C. build
D. clear

9. A. skip
B. block
C. cancel
D. join

10. A. permanent
B. weekend
C. hybrid
D. temporary

11. A. tour
B. party
C. survey
D. meeting

Part 2 — Reading to Apply a Diagram

8 questions · 9 min

Read the email about the diagram on the left. Complete the email by filling in the blanks, then answer the questions.

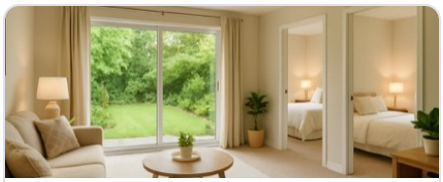
Halifax short-term rentals — nightly rates and amenities



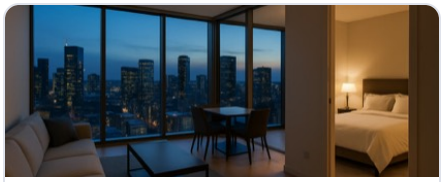
Harbourview Loft $145/night
Waterfront · 1 bedroom
Wi-Fi · Parking · Kitchen · Sleeps 2 · Fast Wi-Fi · 12 reviews



Old Town Studio $95/night
Historic district · Studio
Wi-Fi · Kitchen · Sleeps 2 · No parking · Quiet street



Garden Suite $120/night
South End · 2 bedroom
Parking · Kitchen · Laundry · Sleeps 4 · Free parking · Wi-Fi not listed



Skyline Apartment $175/night
Downtown high-rise · 2 bedroom
Wi-Fi · Parking · Gym · Pool · Sleeps 4 · Building gym · Fast Wi-Fi

Dana's email (subject: “Which place should we book?”). Choose the best option for each numbered blank.

Hi Priya,

I've gone through the four rentals for our Halifax weekend. If we want to keep costs down, the **1** is the cheapest at just $95, but it has no parking, which is a problem since we're driving. The Garden Suite has free parking and sleeps four, though it **2** list Wi-Fi, and we both need to work Friday morning.

That leaves the Harbourview Loft and the Skyline Apartment. The Skyline is the **3** option at $175, but it's the only one with a gym and a pool. The Harbourview is **4** at $145 and still has fast Wi-Fi and parking. Honestly, for two of us the loft is plenty — the extra bedroom in the Skyline would mostly go **5**.

I'm leaning toward the Harbourview. Let me know by tonight and I'll book it.

Dana

1.

A. Old Town Studio
B. Harbourview Loft
C. Skyline Apartment
D. Garden Suite

2.
A. should
B. does
C. doesn't
D. will

3.
A. smallest
B. cheapest
C. closest
D. most expensive

4.
A. less
B. the same
C. more
D. free

5.
A. to storage
B. unused
C. to guests
D. to Priya

6. **Dana seems**

A. practical and budget-aware
B. unwilling to compromise
C. indifferent to cost
D. in a hurry to leave

7. **The main purpose of Dana's email is to**

A. recommend a rental and ask Priya to confirm
B. cancel the trip
C. complain about the prices
D. describe Halifax attractions

8. **After this email, Dana will most likely**

A. book the Harbourview Loft once Priya agrees
B. book the Skyline Apartment immediately
C. drive without booking anything
D. look for more listings

Part 3 — Reading for Information

9 questions · 10 min

A The axolotl is a salamander native to a small network of lakes and canals near Mexico City, most famously Lake Xochimilco. Unlike most amphibians, it spends its entire life in water and never fully transforms into a land-dwelling adult. It has a broad head, feathery external gills that fan out behind its eyes, and a long finned tail. Wild axolotls are usually dark brown or grey, while the pale pink animals seen in laboratories and home aquariums are the result of captive breeding rather than their natural colouring.

B What draws scientists to the axolotl is its extraordinary ability to regrow lost body parts. If it loses a limb, it can regenerate a complete new one, with bone, muscle, and nerves, and often without forming a scar. This capacity extends to portions of the heart, the spinal cord, and even parts of the brain. Researchers study these processes closely, hoping that the underlying biological mechanisms might one day inform medical treatments for human tissue damage and improve recovery after serious injuries.

C The axolotl is a classic example of neoteny, a condition in which an animal keeps its juvenile features into adulthood. While closely related salamanders eventually lose their gills and move onto land, the axolotl normally retains its gills and its aquatic body plan for life. Remarkably, it can still reproduce while in this juvenile-like state. Under certain hormonal conditions in the laboratory, an axolotl can be induced to transform into a land form, but this almost never happens in the wild.

D Despite being common in captivity, wild axolotls are now critically endangered. Water pollution, the draining of wetlands, and the introduction of non-native fish that prey on young axolotls have all caused steep population declines. Conservation groups and local communities have begun restoring canal habitats and creating protected refuges where the animals can breed safely. Some programs also work with traditional farmers whose floating gardens help maintain the clean, slow-moving water that the species depends on.

Decide which paragraph, A to D, contains the information in each statement. If the information is not given in any paragraph, choose E.

1. Researchers are especially interested in the animal's powers of regrowth. A · B · C · D · E (not given)
2. There are physical differences between wild and captive animals. A · B · C · D · E (not given)
3. The animal can breed without fully becoming an adult. A · B · C · D · E (not given)
4. Several threats have reduced the wild population. A · B · C · D · E (not given)
5. The animal lives for a known number of years in the wild. A · B · C · D · E (not given)
6. There is a biological term for keeping juvenile features into adulthood. A · B · C · D · E (not given)
7. Communities are working to restore the animal's habitat. A · B · C · D · E (not given)
8. Research on the animal may one day benefit human medicine. A · B · C · D · E (not given)

9. The animal comes from a small area of lakes and canals. A · B · C · D · E (not given)

Part 4 — Reading for Viewpoints

10 questions · 13 min

The four-day work week has moved from a fringe idea to a serious policy debate, with several companies and even a few governments running large trials. Supporters and critics, however, draw very different conclusions from the same results.

Business consultant Rina Patel is enthusiastic. "The trials are clear: when people work four focused days instead of five distracted ones, output usually holds steady or even improves," she said. "Staff are less burned out, sick days fall, and firms that offer it attract stronger candidates. The five-day week is a habit from the industrial era, not a law of nature. We should treat the change as a competitive advantage, not a risk." In her consulting work, she says, firms that made the switch report sharper focus and fewer routine meetings within months.

Manufacturing association director Tom Walsh is far more cautious. "It is easy to celebrate four-day weeks in software offices, but most of the economy does not work that way," he argued. "Factories, hospitals, and shops need continuous coverage. Cutting a day either means hiring more people, which raises costs, or squeezing the same hours into fewer days, which tires workers out. For many employers the maths simply does not add up." He also points out that customers expect service five or six days a week, so shorter rosters can push extra pressure onto the remaining shifts.

Labour economist Dr. Helen Cho takes a middle position. "Both sides are partly right," she noted. "The strongest results come from organisations that redesign how work is done, not just remove a day. Where firms cut needless meetings and automate routine tasks, productivity can rise. Where they only shorten the week and change nothing else, it tends to fail. Policymakers should fund careful pilots rather than mandate a single model for every industry." Her own review of a dozen trials found that the redesign step, not the shorter week itself, predicted which firms kept their gains a year later.

1. **Rina Patel's main argument is that a four-day week**
   A. is required by law
   B. usually keeps or improves output while reducing burnout
   C. lowers product quality
   D. only suits factories

2. **Tom Walsh is mainly concerned about**
   A. employees becoming too rested
   B. software firms losing talent
   C. industries that need continuous coverage and the resulting costs
   D. the loss of the industrial era

3. **Dr. Cho believes success depends mostly on**
   A. hiring fewer managers
   B. keeping the five-day week
   C. redesigning how work is done, not just removing a day
   D. government mandates

4. **Who describes the five-day week as a habit from the industrial era?**
   A. Rina Patel
   B. Tom Walsh
   C. The interviewer
   D. Dr. Helen Cho

5. **Dr. Cho's advice to policymakers is to**
   A. ignore the trials
   B. force every firm to adopt it
   C. ban the four-day week
   D. fund careful pilots rather than mandate one model

A reader's comment: choose the best option for each numbered blank.

As a small-business owner, I found this debate useful. I __6__ with Patel that a well-rested team can be more productive, but Walsh's point about __7__ coverage matches my experience in retail. What convinced me most was Dr. Cho's argument that simply removing a day without __8__ how we work would fail. Before changing anything, I would want to __9__ a short trial and measure the results. A single national rule for every industry seems too __10__ for such different workplaces.

6. A. argue
   B. disagree
   C. compete
   D. agree

7. A. continuous
   B. unpaid
   C. reduced
   D. optional

8. A. ignoring
   B. redesigning
   C. copying
   D. delaying

9. A. run
   B. skip
   C. cancel
   D. avoid

10. A. rigid
    B. cheap
    C. flexible
    D. popular

Writing

Writing Task 1 — Writing an Email

About 27 minutes · 150–200 words

You recently made reservations for dinner at a very famous and expensive restaurant in town. However, the meal and the service were terrible. The restaurant manager was not available to solve the problem, so you left without a resolution. Write an email to the restaurant's manager.

Write an email in about 150-200 words. Follow the given instructions.

- State what problems you had with the food you ordered
- Complain about the service
- Describe how you want the restaurant to resolve the problem to your satisfaction

Continue on a separate sheet. Count your words when you finish: under 150 or well over 200 costs Task Fulfillment.

Writing Task 2 — Responding to Survey Questions

About 27 minutes · 150–200 words

You live in a small town of 10,000 people. A large green area in the centre of town is undeveloped. The city has sent out an opinion survey to see what residents would like to have built in that area.

Write a response in about 150-200 words. Follow the given instructions.

- Shopping Complex: a mall with restaurants, a large supermarket, and a movie theatre.
- Recreational Park: a sports complex, a large green area, and a small petting zoo.

Continue on a separate sheet. Count your words when you finish: under 150 or well over 200 costs Task Fulfillment.

Speaking

Speaking Task 1 — Giving Advice

30 seconds to prepare · 90 seconds to speak

Your friend has been spending too much time on social media and it is affecting his studies. He asks you for advice.
Give your friend advice about what he should do.

Speaking Task 2 — Talking about a Personal Experience

30 seconds to prepare · 60 seconds to speak

Talk about a memorable trip you took?
You can describe where you went, who you went with, what you did, and why the trip was special to you.

Speaking Task 3 — Describing a Scene

30 seconds to prepare · 60 seconds to speak

Describe the picture in as much detail as you can. You have 30 seconds to prepare and 60 seconds to speak.



Speaking Task 4 — Making Predictions

30 seconds to prepare · 60 seconds to speak

Look at the picture and describe what you think will happen next. You have 30 seconds to prepare and 60 seconds to speak.



Speaking Task 5 — Comparing and Persuading

60 seconds to prepare · 60 seconds to speak

Your family has agreed to get a pet, but everyone wants a different one. Compare the three options, decide which pet suits your family best, and persuade your family to choose it. You have 60 seconds to prepare and 60 seconds to speak.



Option A: Golden Retriever

- Great with kids
- Needs daily walks
- Sheds a lot



Option B: Domestic Cat

- Independent
- Low daily effort
- Fine in apartments



Option C: Budgie Pair

- Small & cheap
- Cheerful sounds
- Long lifespan

Speaking Task 6 — Dealing with a Difficult Situation

60 seconds to prepare · 60 seconds to speak

Your apartment building has a rule that guests should not stay more than three nights in a row. Your close friend recently lost her job and asks to sleep on your sofa for two weeks. Your roommate is worried that you could both get in trouble for breaking the building rules.

Choose ONE:

EITHER

Talk to your friend. Explain why she cannot stay for two full weeks at your place.

OR

Talk to your roommate. Explain why you should make an exception this time and let your friend stay longer.

Speaking Task 7 — Expressing Opinions

30 seconds to prepare · 90 seconds to speak

Do you think companies should monitor employees' internet use during work hours, or trust workers to manage their time responsibly? Give your opinion and explain your reason

Speaking Task 8 — Describing an Unusual Situation

30 seconds to prepare · 60 seconds to speak

You are at a café and you see a cozy corner designed like a small treehouse that your friend, Nora, might enjoy. Call Nora and describe in detail what the seating area looks like. Ask her if she would like to come study there this weekend.



Answer key — Listening

Part 1 — Listening to Problem Solving

#	ANSWER	WHY
1	C. To inquire about his unreturned security deposit	The tenant states his security deposit still hasn't been refunded more than two weeks after handing in the keys.
2	A. The move-out date and forwarding address	The manager asks the tenant to confirm the exact date he moved out and the forwarding address he left.
3	C. Deposits should be returned within fifteen days under the regulations	The tenant notes that under tenancy regulations deposits should normally be returned within fifteen days.
4	C. A cost of one hundred and eighty dollars for carpet cleaning	The manager explains an itemised deduction of one hundred and eighty dollars was made for professional carpet cleaning.
5	C. He had the carpets professionally steam-cleaned before returning the keys	The tenant says he had the carpets steam-cleaned by a licensed company two days before returning the keys.
6	A. The inspector's written report	The tenant asks the manager to attach the inspector's written report so he can compare it with his own photographs.
7	C. A partial credit of seventy dollars	The manager offers a partial credit of seventy dollars back to the tenant's account.
8	B. The disputed amount remains withheld until the Board issues a decision	The manager states the disputed amount stays withheld until the Board issues a decision.

Part 2 — Listening to a Daily Life Conversation

#	ANSWER	WHY
1	D. She is house-sitting for her sister in Leslieville.	Amy says she is house-sitting for her sister out in Leslieville this weekend.
2	C. Bringing him on a Saturday afternoon hike along the Don Valley trail.	Ben proposes bringing Biscuit along when his group heads down the Don Valley trail on Saturday afternoon.
3	C. Biscuit gets anxious and reactive around crowds.	Amy explains that Biscuit isn't great with crowds, barking at cyclists and freezing up around strollers on busy trails.
4	D. An early-morning walk followed by brunch at a pet-friendly café.	They agree to walk around seven in the morning and have brunch around nine at the pet-friendly café.
5	D. Send Amy the location of the trailhead.	Ben says he will text Amy the trailhead location that night so they aren't scrambling in the morning.

Part 3 — Listening for Information

#	ANSWER	WHY
1	D. Food scraps, soiled paper, and yard trimmings	The guide states that the green bin takes all organics, meaning food scraps, soiled paper, and yard trimmings.
2	C. Plastic bags placed inside the blue bin	He says the number one cause of rejected loads is plastic bags placed inside the blue bin, which tangle the sorting machinery.
3	B. Delta	The guide notes that green-bin contents travel to the Delta compost site to be processed into soil amendments.
4	C. The residual landfill in Cache Creek	He explains that whatever is in the black bin heads to the residual landfill in Cache Creek.
5	C. Drop them off at designated depot locations	The guide states soft plastics will no longer be accepted curbside and residents must drop them at designated depot locations.
6	D. Staff the sorting demonstration booth	He says the main responsibility will be staffing the sorting demonstration booth to help visitors identify the correct bin.

Part 4 — Listening to a News Item

#	ANSWER	WHY
1	D. To launch a provincial grant helping rural municipalities prepare for spring flooding	The anchor states the Manitoba government announced a twelve-million-dollar grant program to help small rural municipalities prepare for spring flooding.
2	C. Construction of new water treatment plants	The anchor lists dyke repair, pump station upgrades, and emergency evacuation route development, but does not mention water treatment plants.
3	D. An obvious and serious mistake	In context, "glaring oversight" refers to an obvious and significant error in failing to include First Nations communities.
4	A. By noting that Indigenous flood preparedness is being addressed through a separate funding stream	The minister said federal-provincial discussions on Indigenous flood preparedness are ongoing through a separate funding stream.
5	D. Municipalities have only a short window, as the deadline is next month	The anchor states the deadline for submissions is the fifteenth of next month, implying a limited timeframe.

Part 5 — Listening to a Discussion

#	ANSWER	WHY
1	C. a weekend car-free street pilot	The host says the panel is discussing a pilot that would close six blocks of downtown Main Street to cars on Saturdays and Sundays.
2	A. clearly in favour of it	The host introduces Priya as an urban planner who supports the pilot, and she argues the council should move ahead.
3	D. a thirty percent rise in foot traffic	Guest A states that a similar weekend closure produced roughly a thirty percent climb in downtown foot traffic.

4	C. buy heavy items and need nearby parking	Guest B explains that customers leave with lumber, paint, and toolboxes — heavy items that require a car parked close by.
5	A. infrequent, roughly every forty minutes	Guest B says weekend transit only runs every forty minutes, making car trips essential for her customers.
6	B. specifically adapted to their needs	Guest A proposes a reserved loading bay or short-stay pickup zone, showing "tailored" means customized to the shop's situation.
7	B. during festival weekends	Guest B admits she won't pretend the street doesn't look lively during festival weekends, though she believes cafés benefit most.
8	C. may not translate into her sales	She contrasts wandering in for a latte with buying screws, implying casual foot traffic won't convert into hardware purchases.

Part 6 — Listening to Viewpoints

#	ANSWER	WHY
1	A. redistribute existing school days more evenly	The speaker calls for "the same number of instructional days we already have, simply redistributed, with shorter, more frequent breaks."
2	C. a month of learning each year	The speaker states that students "lose roughly a month of learning over the long break."
3	A. children from lower-income families	The speaker notes that lower-income families cannot afford enrichment camps, so the break "quietly widens the achievement gap every single year."
4	B. more predictable and affordable planning	The speaker says off-season travel is cheaper and "childcare arrangements can actually be booked in advance rather than cobbled together in a panic."
5	D. beginning the rollout with elementary schools	The speaker recommends phasing the change in "starting with elementary schools, where the learning loss is sharpest."
6	A. an outdated holdover from agriculture	The speaker calls the long summer "a relic of a farming calendar nobody follows anymore."

Answer key — Reading

Part 1 — Reading Correspondence

#	ANSWER	WHY
1	A. the team outgrew the building and the lease is ending	The team outgrew the space and the lease is ending.
2	B. a ten-minute walk from Central Station	It is a ten-minute walk from Central Station.
3	D. limited car parking	On-site car parking will be limited.
4	B. clear personal items and label fragile things	Clear personal items and label anything fragile; movers handle equipment.
5	C. a professional moving company	Handled by a professional moving company over the weekend.
6	D. speak with their manager	Speak with your manager; flexible or hybrid arrangements considered.
7	C. notice	Reply blanks follow the writer's tone and the facts in the letter.
8	D. clear	Reply blanks follow the writer's tone and the facts in the letter.
9	D. join	Reply blanks follow the writer's tone and the facts in the letter.
10	C. hybrid	Reply blanks follow the writer's tone and the facts in the letter.
11	A. tour	Reply blanks follow the writer's tone and the facts in the letter.

Part 2 — Reading to Apply a Diagram

#	ANSWER	WHY
1	A. Old Town Studio	Each blank is fixed by a detail in the cards (price, amenities, size).
2	C. doesn't	Each blank is fixed by a detail in the cards (price, amenities, size).
3	D. most expensive	Each blank is fixed by a detail in the cards (price, amenities, size).
4	A. less	Each blank is fixed by a detail in the cards (price, amenities, size).
5	B. unused	Each blank is fixed by a detail in the cards (price, amenities, size).
6	A. practical and budget-aware	She weighs price against needs (parking, Wi-Fi) and picks a mid-priced option.
7	A. recommend a rental and ask Priya to confirm	She narrows the options, states a preference, and asks Priya to decide by tonight.
8	A. book the Harbourview Loft once Priya agrees	She says she'll book the loft once Priya replies.

Part 3 — Reading for Information

#	ANSWER	WHY

1	Paragraph B	Paragraph B describes its regeneration ability.
2	Paragraph A	Paragraph A describes the head, gills, tail, and colour.
3	Paragraph C	Paragraph C says it reproduces in the juvenile-like state.
4	Paragraph D	Paragraph D lists pollution, wetland draining, and non-native fish.
5	E. Not given	Lifespan is not stated in any paragraph.
6	Paragraph C	Paragraph C defines neoteny.
7	Paragraph D	Paragraph D describes habitat restoration and refuges.
8	Paragraph B	Paragraph B mentions informing treatments for human tissue damage.
9	Paragraph A	Paragraph A names the lakes and canals near Mexico City.

Part 4 — Reading for Viewpoints

#	ANSWER	WHY
1	B. usually keeps or improves output while reducing burnout	Patel says output holds or improves and staff are less burned out.
2	C. industries that need continuous coverage and the resulting costs	Walsh stresses factories/hospitals/shops needing coverage and added cost.
3	C. redesigning how work is done, not just removing a day	Cho: strongest results when work is redesigned, not merely shortened.
4	A. Rina Patel	Patel calls it an industrial-era habit, not a law of nature.
5	D. fund careful pilots rather than mandate one model	Cho urges funding pilots, not a single mandated model.
6	D. agree	Comment blanks follow the viewpoints in the article.
7	A. continuous	Comment blanks follow the viewpoints in the article.
8	B. redesigning	Comment blanks follow the viewpoints in the article.
9	A. run	Comment blanks follow the viewpoints in the article.
10	A. rigid	Comment blanks follow the viewpoints in the article.

What your Listening and Reading scores mean

CELPIP level (= CLB)	Listening: correct of 38	Reading: correct of 38
10–12	35–38	33–38
9	33–35	31–33
8	30–33	28–31
7	27–31	24–28
6	22–28	19–25
5	17–23	15–20
4	11–18	10–16
3	7–12	8–11

Paragon Testing Enterprises' approximate charts (celpip.ca). Test forms are equated, so the ranges overlap and the cut-off can move by a question or two; treat your result as a zone, not a prediction. More: celpiprise.com/learn/celpip-score-to-clb-chart.

Band 10 samples — Writing

Writing Task 1

Band 10 sample

Dear Mr. Thompson,

I am writing to express my deep disappointment regarding my recent dining experience at Le Château on Saturday, October 12th. Given the restaurant's outstanding reputation, my expectations were extremely high, but unfortunately the evening fell far below what I had anticipated.

To begin with, the food itself was seriously flawed. My steak, which I had ordered medium-rare, arrived overcooked and cold, while my partner's seafood pasta had a distinctly unpleasant smell, suggesting the ingredients were not fresh. We attempted to send both dishes back, but the replacements took nearly forty minutes to arrive.

Equally frustrating was the service we received. Our server was dismissive when we raised our concerns, and at one point disappeared for almost half an hour. When we asked to speak with you directly, we were told you were unavailable, leaving us with no option but to pay in full and leave.

Given that our bill came to $340, I would appreciate a full refund, along with an apology from the staff involved. I hope you will address this matter promptly.

Sincerely,
Daniel Chen

This response demonstrates band 10 writing through varied sentence structures, precise vocabulary, and clear organization across all three tasks. Minor stylistic choices prevent it from reaching band 12, but errors are essentially absent and communication is highly effective.

- **Task Fulfillment:** Opens with an appropriate formal register and clear purpose, immediately signaling the complaint context.
- **Vocabulary:** Uses idiomatic phrasing and past perfect naturally, showing range beyond band 8.
- **Vocabulary:** Precise descriptive language with an embedded participial clause reflects strong lexical control.
- **Coherence:** Inverted sentence structure creates smooth transition between paragraphs and signals cohesion typical of band 10.

Writing Task 2

Band 10 sample

After carefully considering both proposals, I strongly believe the recreational park would be the better choice for our small town, and I would like to explain my reasoning.

First and foremost, our community already has reasonable access to shopping. There are supermarkets in neighbouring towns, and most residents make weekly trips to larger centres anyway. Building a mall would likely draw customers away from the small, family-run businesses on Main Street, which give our town much of its character. Losing those shops would be a real blow to the local economy.

Secondly, a recreational park would benefit residents of every age. Children could enjoy the petting zoo, teenagers and adults could use the sports facilities, and seniors would appreciate having a peaceful green space to walk in. In a town of only 10,000 people, having a shared gathering place is genuinely valuable for building a sense of community.

Finally, once green space is paved over, it is almost impossible to get back. Preserving and enhancing what we already have seems far wiser than replacing it with concrete.

For these reasons, I hope the city will choose the recreational park.

This response demonstrates band 10 writing through varied sentence structures, natural transitions, and precise vocabulary, with a clear position supported by three well-developed reasons. Minor phrasing could still be tightened, but errors are rare and meaning is never compromised.

- **Task Fulfillment:** Opens with a clear, confident thesis that directly addresses the survey, establishing purpose immediately.
- **Vocabulary:** Idiomatic and precise phrasing shows a strong lexical range typical of band 10.
- **Coherence:** Cohesive discourse markers structure the argument logically without feeling mechanical.
- **Content/Coherence:** Parallel structure develops the point with concrete, well-organised supporting detail across demographics.

Band 10 samples — Speaking

Task 1 — Giving Advice

Band 10 sample

Okay, so I understand the problem, and honestly a lot of students have the same issue. My advice is to start with something small. First, you should check how much time you are really spending on social media. Most phones have a screen time feature, and when you see the number, it is usually a shock. That number will motivate you more than any advice from me.

Second, I think you should keep your phone in another room when you study. Not just face down on the table, because that is not enough. Put it in the kitchen or in your bag. If it is close to you, you will pick it up without thinking.

Another thing you can do is set a fixed time for social media, maybe thirty minutes after dinner. That way you are not stopping completely, you are just controlling it. Stopping completely is very hard and most people fail.

Finally, tell your roommate about your plan so someone is checking on you. I really think if you try this for two weeks, you will see a difference in your grades.

A clear, well-organized answer that gives several practical pieces of advice with reasons. Vocabulary is accurate but mostly everyday, and a few phrasings are slightly repetitive, which is typical of Band 10 rather than higher.

Task 2 — Talking about a Personal Experience

Band 10 sample

The trip I remember most is a trip to Banff with my sister two years ago. We went in September, and we drove from Calgary, which took about two hours.

We stayed for four days. In the mornings we did short hikes, and one day we walked around Lake Louise, which was much bigger than I expected. The water was a strange blue colour, almost like paint. In the evenings we cooked in the hostel kitchen and met people from many countries.

The reason this trip was special is that my sister and I had not spent time together for a long time. We both work a lot and we usually only meet at family dinners. On that trip we talked for hours while walking, about things we never discuss at home.

I also remember the last morning, when we saw an elk beside the road and stopped the car to watch it. It was very quiet, and it felt like a good ending.

A clear, well-sequenced description that covers all four prompt points and gives a genuine reason the trip mattered. Language is accurate and comfortable, with a few simple descriptive choices.

Task 3 — Describing a Scene

Band 10 sample

This picture shows an outdoor farmers market on a sunny day. There are white tents on both sides and colourful triangular flags hanging above the path.

In the front on the left, there is a table full of fruit — apples, oranges, strawberries and some blueberries in wooden boxes. A man in a grey apron is standing behind the table. He is giving a paper bag to a woman in a denim jacket, and she is holding an apple in her other hand.

On the right side, a woman is crouching down next to a small child. The child is holding a bunch of carrots with the green leaves still on them.

In the background I can see an older man walking towards the camera with two shopping bags, and a light brown dog sitting on the ground next to a woman. The path is made of stones.

Covers the scene systematically from foreground to background with accurate present-continuous description and clear spatial markers. Vocabulary is correct but general, and a few objects are named rather than described.

Task 4 — Making Predictions

Band 10 sample

In this picture there is a farmers market, and I think it is going to continue as a normal busy morning.

The man in the apron is giving a paper bag to the woman in the denim jacket, so I think she will take the bag, put the apple inside, and pay him if she has not paid already. After that she will probably walk down the path and look at the other stalls.

The little boy is holding carrots, and his mother is beside him. I think she is going to take the carrots and buy them, because he is too small to pay. Maybe he will want something else as well, like the strawberries.

The old man with the two bags looks like he has finished shopping, so he will probably go home. The dog will wait until its owner finishes looking at her phone, and then they will walk away together.

Makes a prediction for each part of the scene and supports most of them with something visible. Future forms are used correctly, though the sentence patterns repeat and the vocabulary is simple.

Task 5 — Comparing and Persuading

Band 10 sample

I think we should get the cat.

Let me explain why, comparing the three options. The golden retriever is very good with children, and I know the kids want it, but it needs daily walks and it sheds a lot. With our schedules, somebody would have to walk it early every morning, even in winter, and I do not think anyone here will do that after the first month.

The budgies are small and cheap, and they make cheerful sounds, but they live for a very long time. That is a serious commitment, and the children may lose interest in a year.

The cat is the best fit for our family. It is independent, so it is fine when we are all at work or school, it needs low daily effort, and it is comfortable in an apartment like ours.

So I really think the cat is the right choice for us.

Weighs all three options against the family's actual routine and arrives at a clear, reasoned choice. Correct and fluent, with straightforward vocabulary and a slightly formulaic closing.

Task 6 — Dealing with a Difficult Situation

Band 10 sample

I want to talk to you about Nadia staying with us, because I think we should make an exception this time.

I know the rule says three nights, and I understand you are worried. You do not want a complaint or a problem with the building manager, and that is fair. But Nadia lost her job two weeks ago, and she has nowhere else to go right now. She is not a stranger, and it is only for two weeks, not forever.

I also think the risk is smaller than it looks. She leaves early in the morning for interviews and she comes back late, so the neighbours will hardly see her. She will not use the parking or bring guests.

How about this: we agree on two weeks maximum, and if anyone says anything, I will speak to the manager myself and take responsibility. Can we try that?

Addresses the roommate directly, acknowledges the concern, and offers a bounded compromise. Clear and appropriately polite, with simple sentence patterns and everyday vocabulary.

Task 7 — Expressing Opinions

Band 10 sample

In my opinion, companies should trust their employees rather than monitor their internet use.

The first reason is that monitoring does not really measure work. If someone finishes a project on time and does it well, it does not matter if they looked at the news for ten minutes. What matters is the result, not the browser history. Many people also work better when they take short breaks.

My second reason is about trust. When employees know that somebody is watching every website, the atmosphere in the office changes. People start to feel like suspects instead of professionals, and in my experience the good employees are the ones who leave first when that happens.

Of course, I understand the company's side. There are security risks, and some websites can bring viruses or leak information. So I would accept blocking dangerous sites, and I think that is reasonable.

But watching what every person clicks on, all day, is different. That is not security, that is control. I believe managers should judge people by their work, and only look deeper if there is a real problem.

A clear opinion with two developed reasons, a fair acknowledgement of the other side, and a firm conclusion. Language is accurate and the argument is easy to follow, with mostly everyday vocabulary.

Task 8 — Describing an Unusual Situation

Band 10 sample

Hi Nora, it is me. I am at that café near the library and I found something you will love.

In the middle of the room there is a big artificial tree, and it goes all the way up to the ceiling. There is a small wooden treehouse built into the branches, with a pointed roof and a little window with blue glass. Round lamps hang down from the branches like glowing balls.

Underneath, there is a long curved bench along the wall, with small round wooden tables in front of it. There are shelves on the wall with colourful books and vases, and big green plants in pots in the corners. The whole place is quite bright because there are windows behind, and you can see the city outside.

Right now some people are studying there with their coffees, and it is quiet.

So, would you like to come and study here this weekend? I think Saturday morning would be perfect.

A clear, organized description that moves from the main feature outward and ends with the invitation the task requires. Vocabulary is accurate and the phone register is right, though phrasing is plain.