

CELPIP Reading Practice Test 1

Four parts · 38 questions · about 55–60 minutes · answer key with explanations on the last pages

Part 1 — Reading Correspondence

Reading Task 1 – Office Relocation Notice · 11 min

Part 2 — Reading to Apply a Diagram

Reading Part 2 — Choosing a short-term rental (Halifax) · 9 min

Part 3 — Reading for Information

Reading Task 3 – The Axolotl · 10 min

Part 4 — Reading for Viewpoints

Reading Task 4 – The Four-Day Work Week · 13 min

HOW TO USE THIS TEST

- Sit all four parts in one go with a timer — the part times add up to the real section length. On the test, each part has its own clock.
- Answer on paper, then mark against the key. Every answer has a one-line explanation pointing to the line in the passage.
- Do not look up words. The real test has no dictionary, and the words you do not know are part of what is measured.
- A score of 29–30 of 38 is roughly level 9 on CelpipRise's estimate; 22–25 is roughly level 7. The full table is at celpiprise.com/learn/celpip-score-to-clb-chart.

ABOUT THIS TEST

Built to the CELPIP-General Reading format: Part 1 Reading Correspondence (11 questions), Part 2 Reading to Apply a Diagram (8), Part 3 Reading for Information (9) and Part 4 Reading for Viewpoints (10). The same four sets can be taken online with the real timer and instant marking, free, at celpiprise.com/practice/free.

CELPIP® is a registered trademark of Paragon Testing Enterprises Inc. CelpipRise is independent and not affiliated with, endorsed by, or sponsored by Paragon Testing Enterprises. This practice test is original material for study purposes.

Part 1 – Reading Correspondence

Reading Task 1 – Office Relocation Notice

READ THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE.

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.

QUESTIONS

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

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

Kind regards,
Helen Park
Facilities Manager

COMPLETE THE REPLY BY CHOOSING THE BEST OPTION FOR EACH 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

Reading Part 2 — Choosing a short-term rental (Halifax)

READ THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS.

Harbourview Loft

Waterfront · 1 bedroom

\$145/night

Wi-Fi · Parking · Kitchen

- Sleeps 2
- Fast Wi-Fi
- 12 reviews

Old Town Studio

Historic district · Studio

\$95/night

Wi-Fi · Kitchen

- Sleeps 2
- No parking
- Quiet street

Garden Suite

South End · 2 bedroom

\$120/night

Parking · Kitchen · Laundry

- Sleeps 4
- Free parking
- Wi-Fi not listed

Skyline Apartment

Downtown high-rise · 2 bedroom

\$175/night

Wi-Fi · Parking · Gym · Pool

- Sleeps 4
- Building gym
- Fast Wi-Fi

READ THE EMAIL ABOUT THE OPTIONS ABOVE AND COMPLETE IT BY CHOOSING THE BEST OPTION FOR EACH BLANK.

From: Dana <dana@example.com> | To: Priya <priya@example.com> | Subject: Which place should we book?

Hi Priya,

I've gone through the four rentals for our Halifax weekend. If we want to keep costs down, the 12 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 13 list Wi-Fi, and we both need to work Friday morning.

That leaves the Harbourview Loft and the Skyline Apartment. The Skyline is the 14 option at \$175, but it's the only one with a gym and a pool. The Harbourview is 15 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 16.

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

Dana

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

13. A) should B) does C) doesn't D) will

14. A) smallest B) cheapest C) closest D) most expensive

15. A) less B) the same C) more D) free

16. A) to storage B) unused C) to guests D) to Priya

QUESTIONS

17. Dana seems

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

18. 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

19. 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

Reading Task 3 – The Axolotl

READ THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE.

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

DECIDE WHICH PARAGRAPH, A TO D, HAS THE INFORMATION GIVEN IN EACH STATEMENT. CHOOSE E IF THE INFORMATION IS NOT GIVEN IN ANY OF THE PARAGRAPHS.

20. Researchers are especially interested in the animal's powers of regrowth. **A B C D E**

21. There are physical differences between wild and captive animals. **A B C D E**

22. The animal can breed without fully becoming an adult. **A B C D E**

23. Several threats have reduced the wild population. **A B C D E**

24. The animal lives for a known number of years in the wild. **A B C D E**

25. There is a biological term for keeping juvenile features into adulthood. **A B C D E**

26. Communities are working to restore the animal's habitat. **A B C D E**

27. Research on the animal may one day benefit human medicine. **A B C D E**

28. The animal comes from a small area of lakes and canals. **A B C D E**

floating gardens help maintain the clean, slow-moving water that the species depends on.

Part 4 – Reading for Viewpoints

Reading Task 4 – The Four-Day Work Week

READ THE FOLLOWING PASSAGE.

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.

QUESTIONS

29. 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

30. 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

31. 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

32. 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

33. 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

COMPLETE THE READER'S COMMENT BY CHOOSING THE BEST OPTION FOR EACH BLANK.

As a small-business owner, I found this debate useful. I 34 with Patel that a well-rested team can be more productive, but Walsh's point about 35 coverage matches my experience in retail. What convinced me most was Dr. Cho's argument that simply removing a day without 36 how we work would fail. Before changing anything, I would want to 37 a short trial and measure the results. A single national rule for every industry seems too 38 for such different workplaces.

34. A) argue B) disagree C) compete D) agree
35. A) continuous B) unpaid C) reduced D) optional
36. A) ignoring B) redesigning C) copying D) delaying
37. A) run B) skip C) cancel D) avoid
38. A) rigid B) cheap C) flexible D) popular

Answer key

Explanations point to where in the passage the answer comes from.

#	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	
8	D. clear	
9	D. join	
10	C. hybrid	
11	A. tour	Reply blanks follow the writer's tone and the facts in the letter.
12	A. Old Town Studio	
13	C. doesn't	
14	D. most expensive	
15	A. less	
16	B. unused	Each blank is fixed by a detail in the cards (price, amenities, size).
17	A. practical and budget-aware	She weighs price against needs (parking, Wi-Fi) and picks a mid-priced option.
18	A. recommend a rental and ask Priya to confirm	She narrows the options, states a preference, and asks Priya to decide by tonight.
19	A. book the Harbourview Loft once Priya agrees	She says she'll book the loft once Priya replies.
20	B	Paragraph B describes its regeneration ability.
21	A	Paragraph A describes the head, gills, tail, and colour.
22	C	Paragraph C says it reproduces in the juvenile-like state.
23	D	Paragraph D lists pollution, wetland draining, and non-native fish.
24	E (not given)	Lifespan is not stated in any paragraph.

25	C	Paragraph C defines neoteny.
26	D	Paragraph D describes habitat restoration and refuges.
27	B	Paragraph B mentions informing treatments for human tissue damage.
28	A	Paragraph A names the lakes and canals near Mexico City.
29	B. usually keeps or improves output while reducing burnout	Patel says output holds or improves and staff are less burned out.
30	C. industries that need continuous coverage and the resulting costs	Walsh stresses factories/hospitals/shops needing coverage and added cost.
31	C. redesigning how work is done, not just removing a day	Cho: strongest results when work is redesigned, not merely shortened.
32	A. Rina Patel	Patel calls it an industrial-era habit, not a law of nature.
33	D. fund careful pilots rather than mandate one model	Cho urges funding pilots, not a single mandated model.
34	D. agree	
35	A. continuous	
36	B. redesigning	
37	A. run	
38	A. rigid	Comment blanks follow the viewpoints in the article.

More free practice — 40 Listening and Reading sets with audio and timers, plus Writing and Speaking with AI feedback:
celiprise.com/practice/free · Guides for every part: celiprise.com/learn