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CELPIP Writing Practice Test

Two Task 1 emails · two Task 2 survey responses · band 8 and band 10 sample answers for every task

Writing Task 1 — Writing an Email (set A)
Complaint · 27 min · 150–200 words

Writing Task 1 — Writing an Email (set B)
Request · 27 min · 150–200 words

Writing Task 2 — Responding to Survey Questions (set A)
· 27 min · 150–200 words

Writing Task 2 — Responding to Survey Questions (set B)
· 27 min · 150–200 words

HOW TO USE THIS TEST

- Do one Task 1 and one Task 2 in a single 53-minute sitting, as on test day: about 27 minutes for the email, 26 for the survey response.
- Write by hand or type with spell-check off. Stop at the time limit even if you are mid-sentence.
- Count your words, then compare with the band 8 and band 10 samples at the back. The notes under each sample point to what moves a response from one band to the next.
- Want a score? Paste the same response into the task online for an AI band score per criterion.

ABOUT THIS TEST

Original prompts written to the CELPIP-General Writing format. Each task is free online with AI feedback on the four criteria — Content/Coherence, Vocabulary, Readability and Task Fulfillment — at celpiprise.com/practice/free.

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Writing tasks

Writing Task 1 — Writing an Email (set A)

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 1 — Writing an Email (set B)

About 27 minutes · 150–200 words

You recently moved to a new city and have been using a local library. You would like to request access to some additional services that the library currently does not offer to you.

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

- Ask about getting a library card that allows borrowing from multiple branches
- Request access to the library's online database and digital resources
- Ask whether the library offers any study rooms or quiet workspaces that you can book

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 (set A)

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.

Writing Task 2 — Responding to Survey Questions (set B)

About 27 minutes · 150–200 words

You work in a very big office. There is a popular and cheap restaurant in the building. The management is thinking of removing the restaurant and replacing it with a childcare facility for the working parents in the office. You have been asked to respond to an opinion survey.

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

- I think we should keep the restaurant.
- I think we should replace the restaurant with a childcare facility.

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

Sample answers

Writing Task 1 — Writing an Email (set A)

Band 8 sample

Dear Mr. Johnson,

I am writing to express my disappointment about my recent dinner experience at Le Belmont on Saturday, October 12th. As a long-time customer, I was truly shocked by the quality of both the food and the service that evening.

First of all, the food was very disappointing. I ordered the grilled salmon, but it arrived undercooked in the middle and cold on the outside. My wife ordered the mushroom risotto, which was extremely salty and had a strange smell. We could barely eat half of our meals.

In addition, the service was unacceptable. We waited almost 40 minutes just to place our order, and our waiter seemed rushed and impatient. When I asked to speak with you to explain the situation, I was told that you were not available, and no other staff member offered to help us.

To resolve this problem, I would like a full refund of our bill, which was $187. I would also appreciate a written apology. If these steps are taken, I may consider returning in the future.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,
David Chen

This response fully addresses all three bullet points with clear organization and appropriate professional tone. Vocabulary is accurate and varied but not sophisticated, and while grammar is largely correct, sentence structures remain fairly conventional — placing it solidly at Band 8 rather than higher.

- **Task Fulfillment:** Opens with a clear purpose and specific details, establishing the appropriate formal complaint register expected at Band 8.
- **Content/Coherence:** Provides concrete, specific details about the food problem, satisfying the first bullet point clearly.
- **Vocabulary:** Uses appropriate word choice for a formal complaint, though the vocabulary remains functional rather than sophisticated — typical of Band 8.
- **Task Fulfillment:** Directly addresses the resolution bullet with specific, reasonable requests, showing complete task coverage.

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 1 — Writing an Email (set B)

Band 8 sample

Dear Library Services Team,

My name is Daniel Cruz, and I recently moved to Brampton and joined your Main Street branch about a month ago. I have been enjoying the library so far, but I would like to ask about a few additional services that could make my visits even more useful.

First, I currently have a basic membership that only works at one location. Could you please tell me how I can upgrade to a card that allows me to borrow materials from multiple branches across the city? I often travel for work, so this would be very helpful.

Second, I would like to request access to the library's online database and digital resources. I am especially interested in e-books and academic journals, since I am taking an evening course and need reliable sources for my assignments.

Finally, I was wondering if your branch offers any study rooms or quiet workspaces that I can book in advance. If so, please let me know the booking process and whether there is a time limit for each session.

Thank you for your help. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,
Daniel Cruz

This response fulfills all three tasks clearly, uses a consistent professional tone, and shows organised paragraphing with mostly accurate grammar. Vocabulary is appropriate but not particularly sophisticated, and sentence structures are competent rather than complex, which places it solidly at Band 8 rather than higher.

- **Content/Coherence:** Provides clear context for the request, though the double 'and' makes the sentence slightly less polished than a Band 10 opener would be.
- **Task Fulfillment:** Directly addresses bullet 1 with a polite, specific question — clear task completion typical of Band 8.
- **Content/Coherence:** Adds a supporting reason that develops the request, showing adequate expansion expected at this band.
- **Readability:** Uses a clear discourse marker and a polite indirect question; grammar is accurate but the structure is fairly standard rather than sophisticated.

Band 10 sample

Dear Library Services Team,

I recently relocated to Vancouver and have been thoroughly enjoying the resources at your Kitsilano branch over the past few weeks. As I plan to visit the library more frequently, I would like to inquire about a few additional services.

First, could you let me know whether it is possible to obtain a library card that allows me to borrow materials from multiple branches across the city? I often travel between neighbourhoods for work, so having borrowing privileges at various locations would be extremely convenient.

Secondly, I would like to request access to the library's online database and digital resources. I am particularly interested in e-books, academic journals, and any language-learning platforms you may subscribe to. Could you explain how I can activate these services with my current membership?

Finally, I was wondering whether the library offers bookable study rooms or quiet workspaces. As I occasionally work remotely, having a reservable space would be tremendously helpful. If such rooms exist, please let me know how far in advance I need to book them.

Thank you for your assistance. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,
Daniel Kwan

This response demonstrates highly proficient writing with clear organization, varied sentence structures, and precise vocabulary. All three tasks are fully addressed with appropriate context and polite professional register, with only minor stylistic imperfections keeping it from band 12.

- **Content/Coherence:** Effective opening that establishes context naturally and warmly before making requests, showing sophisticated task framing.
- **Vocabulary:** Uses precise, elevated diction ('inquire,' 'additional services') appropriate to a formal request email.
- **Task Fulfillment:** Addresses bullet 1 clearly and adds a supporting reason, showing thoughtful development beyond the minimum.
- **Content/Coherence:** Provides specific, concrete examples that make the digital-resources request feel purposeful and detailed.

Writing Task 2 — Responding to Survey Questions (set A)

Band 8 sample

After reading the survey, I would like to share my opinion about the undeveloped green area in our town centre. In my view, the city should build a Recreational Park instead of a Shopping Complex, for several reasons.

First of all, our town only has 10,000 people, and I believe a large mall with a movie theatre would not attract enough customers to stay open in the long term. On the other hand, a park can be used by everyone in the community, no matter their age or income.

Secondly, a recreational park would be better for people's health. My family and I like to go outside on weekends, but right now there is no proper place to jog or play sports. A sports complex and a green area would give residents a safe place to exercise and relax after work.

Finally, the small petting zoo would be a great activity for children and would also attract visitors from nearby towns, which could help local businesses.

For these reasons, I strongly hope the city decides to build the Recreational Park.

This response fully addresses the task, chooses a clear option, and provides three organised reasons within the target length. Vocabulary and grammar are mostly accurate with only minor awkwardness, which is typical of a solid Band 8.

- **Task Fulfillment:** A clear, appropriate opening that establishes purpose and matches the semi-formal survey register expected at Band 8.
- **Content/Coherence:** States the position directly and contrasts both options, showing clear task engagement typical of Band 8.
- **Coherence:** Simple but effective transitions organise the reasons clearly; at Band 8 this basic signposting is acceptable, though a higher band would vary the connectors more.
- **Vocabulary:** Reasonably natural collocation and phrasing show adequate lexical range for Band 8 without reaching the precision of higher bands.

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.

Writing Task 2 — Responding to Survey Questions (set B)

Band 8 sample

I have carefully considered both options presented in the survey, and I believe the management should replace the restaurant with a childcare facility for working parents in our office building.

First of all, many of my colleagues are young parents who struggle to find reliable and affordable childcare near their workplace. Having a facility right inside the building would save them a lot of commuting time and reduce their daily stress. Parents could also visit their children during lunch breaks, which would make them feel more comfortable and focused at work.

Secondly, an on-site childcare centre would benefit the company as well. Employees who feel supported by their employer tend to be more loyal and productive. It would also help the company attract new talent, especially working mothers who often leave their jobs due to childcare problems.

Finally, although the restaurant is popular and cheap, there are many other food options nearby. Employees can easily walk to another café or bring lunch from home. However, quality childcare is much harder to find, so I think the space should be used for something more valuable to families.

This response fully addresses the task with a clear position, three organised reasons, and appropriate professional register. Vocabulary and grammar are generally accurate with some variety, though sentences remain fairly straightforward and a few expressions are somewhat basic — characteristic of a solid band 8.

- **Task Fulfillment:** Opens with a clear thesis that directly selects one option, fulfilling the core task requirement expected at band 8.
- **Coherence:** Uses simple but effective transition markers to organise three reasons — organised but not sophisticated, typical of band 8.
- **Vocabulary:** Shows appropriate collocations and topic-specific vocabulary without reaching the more nuanced range of band 10+.
- **Content/Coherence:** Develops the reason with a logical cause-effect idea, showing adequate depth of support.

Band 10 sample

After careful consideration, I believe the office restaurant should be replaced with a childcare facility, as this change would deliver far greater long-term value to our workforce.

First and foremost, an on-site childcare centre would be a genuine lifeline for working parents. Many of my colleagues currently commute across the city to drop off their children before rushing back to work, which is both exhausting and expensive. Having a trusted facility just an elevator ride away would dramatically reduce their stress and allow them to focus more fully on their jobs.

Secondly, this shift would likely improve employee retention. Studies consistently show that family-friendly benefits are one of the top reasons skilled professionals stay with a company, and losing talented staff over childcare issues is a cost the business cannot afford to ignore.

Finally, while the restaurant is admittedly convenient, there are numerous other food options nearby, including food trucks, cafés, and delivery services. In contrast, affordable and reliable childcare is genuinely scarce in this area. Replacing something replaceable with something rare is simply the smarter decision for our office community.

This response demonstrates band 10 proficiency through clear organization, varied and precise vocabulary, and consistent use of complex sentence structures. Minor issues in nuance and a slightly formulaic conclusion keep it below band 12, but errors are rare and meaning is fully conveyed.

- **Task Fulfillment:** Opens with a clear, confident thesis that directly addresses the survey question — appropriate for band 10.
- **Vocabulary:** Idiomatic phrasing ('genuine lifeline') shows the natural, varied word choice expected at band 10.
- **Readability:** Complex sentence with subordinate clause and parallel adjectives is handled smoothly with correct punctuation.
- **Content/Coherence:** Supports the argument with a plausible general reference, though not attributed — typical of band 10 rather than 12 (which might integrate evidence more precisely).