By Sakshi Khattar

CELPIP - Reading

Objective

- The Reading Test measures how well you can understand what you read in personal, social and workplace contexts.
- Do your reading skills allow you to understand a wide variety of print materials, including email messages, charts, personal and business correspondence, and short informative texts?
- Can you recognize and interpret several different opinions that have been presented in a short passage?
- Each section of the test allows you to demonstrate specific reading skills and contributes to a profile of your overall reading ability.
- You have 60 minutes to complete all four parts of the Reading Test.

Time allotted: 55-60 minutes

NUMBER OF QUESTIONS	COMPONENT SECTIONS
1	Practice Task
11	Part 1: Reading Correspondence
8	Part 2: Reading to Apply a Diagram
9	Part 3: Reading for Information
10	Part 4: Reading for Viewpoints

Components

There are four parts in the Reading Test.

	PART AND TYPE	DESCRIPTION	QUESTIONS	SUGGESTED TIME
1	Reading Correspondence (2 readings)	First read a letter and answer 6 questions; then read a reply letter and fill in 5 blanks by selecting the best choice.	11	11 minutes
2	Reading to Apply a Diagram (1 reading and 1 diagram)	Read a letter, refer to the diagram, and find the best answers for the questions.	8	9 minutes
3	Reading for Information (1 reading)	Read a text and decide which paragraph (if any) supports each statement.	9	10 minutes

Components

4	Reading for Viewpoints (2 readings)	First read an opinion report and answer 5 questions; then read a response and fill in the 5 blanks by selecting the best choice.	10	13 minutes
5	Unscored Items*	Unknown	8-11	9–13 minutes

^{*} The unscored items are used for test development purposes and may be placed anywhere within the Reading Test. They will have the same format as one of the other parts of the Reading Test. The unscored items will not affect your official score. However, you will not know which part of the test contains the unscored items, so apply your best effort to all parts of the test.

The Reading Test

Overview

Reading



- Main reading passage is on left side.
- Instructions and work area are on right side.
- Countdown timer helps you manage your time.
- · Passages and questions get harder.

The Reading Test

Time Management

How should you spend your time during a Reading task?



The Reading Test

Time Management



FOLLOW THIS PLAN

- · Preview the test screen
- Skim the passage
- Read the questions
- Scan the passage for answers
- Answer all the questions

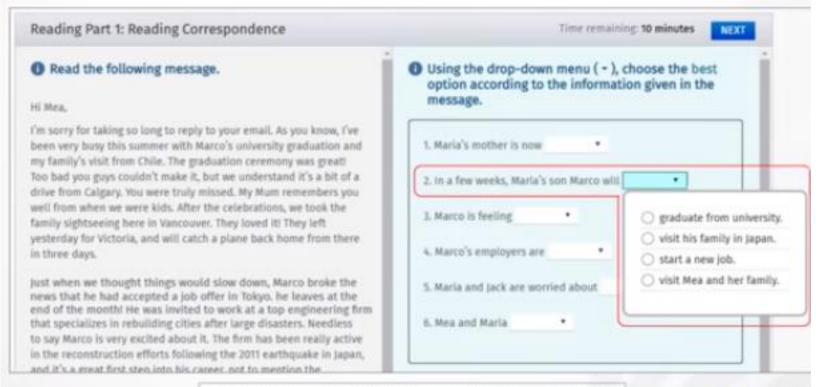
The Reading Test

Reading Skills

SKILL	QUESTIONS ASK YOU TO	FOCUS ON
1. GENERAL MEANING	Identify the topic, theme, or main ideas	Understanding the overall idea in a text
2. SPECIFIC INFORMATION	Identify key information, supporting details, opinions, or examples	Understanding specific details
3. INFERENCE	Identify implicit information, including an author's purpose, tone, or attitude	Drawing conclusions and making assumptions based on information in the text

The Reading Test

Sample Question

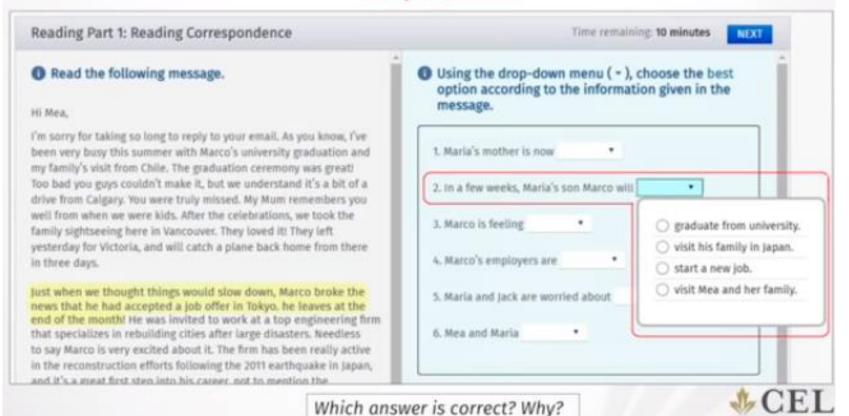


Where can you find the answer in the passage?



The Reading Test

Sample Question



Reading Strategies

- ✓ Skim main text in 1 minute max.
- ✓ Aim for general understanding.
- ✓ Read questions, then scan text to find answers.
- Watch for main ideas and key details to be paraphrased in answer choices.
- Keep moving through the questions, and make sure you answer each one before the time is up.
- ✓ Answer every question, even if you're not sure.

Reading Problems & Strategies

- My reading skills are not so good
- Practice reading short, medium, and long Internet and newspaper stories for 5 minutes every day
- Just try to understand the main point of each story
- Write down a basic summary of each story
- The passages are very long and difficult
- Focus only on vocab and ideas that you understand, NOT on what you DON'T understand

- During your CELPIP reading test you need to know how to find answers quickly.
- These <u>CELPIP reading tips</u> will help you understand:
- * where to look for answers
 - * how to find answers
 - * how to fill in gaps with the right words
 - * how to choose the right answer
- When you prepare for the CELPIP Reading section, you need to be comfortable reading about a lot of different topics.
- These CEPIP reading topics will increase your vocabulary and comfort level with a range of CELPIP reading topics including:
- * education
 - * entertainment
 - * changing situations
 - * current events

READ IN ENGLISH.

 On a regular basis, try to read as much as possible in English. Whether it's English magazines, online articles, or full novels, any English reading will help you improve your overall comfort and speed when reading.

EXTRACT INFORMATION.

Do not try to memorize information! The CELPIP Test is not a memory test. You will not need to use the
information from one section later in another section of the test. Instead of trying to memorize, read the content
carefully and try to extract information by identifying key ideas and important details. Also, practice inferring
from context.

USE DIFFERENT READING STRATEGIES.

- You don't have to read every single word in the article to successfully answer the questions; instead, use reading strategies, such as skimming and scanning, as you move through each section of the Reading Test. First, skim through the text to get the main idea. Then read the questions and find some key words for which you can scan the text.
- These reading strategies may help you with some of the simpler questions, leaving more time to spend with the more difficult questions.

DON'T STRESS THE VOCABULARY.

It's alright if you can't understand every word in a text, as you don't need to understand everything to be able to get the main ideas and answer the questions. If you find a word that you don't know, try to determine its meaning based on its context in the sentence or in the passage as a whole. If that doesn't work, skip the problematic word and keep reading.

ANTICIPATE THE CORRECT ANSWER.

- After reading a question, you may find it useful to think of the correct answer before reading all the answers to that question. If you think that you know the answer already, see if you can find a multiple-choice answer that matches your first impulse.
- PROVIDE ANSWERS ACCORDING TO THE PASSAGES.
- Although you may not be familiar with the topic of a passage, on the CELPIP Test you can always find all the answers in the passage. Therefore, you don't need any in-depth knowledge about the topic. If you are familiar with a topic used in the test, be careful! Remember that what you know might be different from the information in the text, so make sure that you still answer the questions based on the passage you read.
- WHEN EVERYTHING ELSE FAILS, MAKE A GUESS.
- Answer all of the Reading Test questions. There is no penalty for incorrect responses on the CELPIP Reading Test. If you don't know an answer, try to eliminate the options that you know are wrong, and then your chance of guessing the correct answer becomes even higher.

MANAGEYOURTIME.

Keep track of the time, and make sure you have enough time to complete all the questions in each part. Remember that each part of the Reading Test has a passage to read and several questions based on the reading. Remember not to spend all your time reading the passage because you also need time to read and understand the questions and answer choices. Make sure you have enough time to answer all the questions.

CHECK YOUR ANSWERS.

- Before moving on to the next question on the Reading Test, make sure that you have clicked on your answer choice. This is important because on many parts of the Reading Test, there is no opportunity to go back and change your answer.
- Key to passing the Reading section of the CELPIP test is getting the *gist*, or the general idea of the text in question. This requires you to pay attention to the overall message so that you can eliminate wrong answers from the choices presented.

- Questions in the CELPIP Reading section become more difficult as you progress in the test. Some
 questions ask you to draw inferences from information that is present in the text, using different words.
- A great way to practice is to regularly read short texts in English. News websites are a great place to practice reading diagrams, charts, information and opinions. But even reading a novel can be very useful in building reading speed and vocabulary. When you practice, you should try to guess the meaning without using a dictionary, because you won't have access to one on the day of the test.
- It is also very important on the day of the test, be sure to answer all questions! Don't leave any blanks, because you won't be penalized for a wrong answer, and if you guess, you might just stumble on the right one

Read well written passages

- Read well-written passages.
- As you read, concentrate on the sentence structure, phrasing, and vocabulary.
- Pay attention to the structure of the article.
- Study the structure of the paragraphs.

Practice Predicting

- One way of practicing prediction is to:
- Pick a well-written article.
- Read a paragraph and predict what information the article is going to give you.
- You can also use these <u>speaking topics</u> and their transcripts to practice predicting.
- There may be more than one, and they may appear before or after the answer.
- Practice reading for specific information
- One way of practicing reading for information is to:
- Pick a well-written article and read for specific information.
- Look for What, Where, Who, Why, When, and How.
- WhoWhatWhenWhereWhy
- Clean up Your Tenses
- Practice your tenses. Know your tenses inside out, back to front, and upside down!
- Read and listen to Current Affairs
- Read about current affairs to familiarize yourself with phrases and vocabulary.

- During the Test
- Study the question
- Always know exactly what type of information is required and what you have to do with it.
- Study the Examples
- Read examples carefully because they:
- * illustrate the form that your answer must take.
 - * provide information about the main topic that helps you predict what is to come.
 - * tell you where to look for information.

Know where to find the answers

- The answers to questions are sequential.
- The example and the last question often define the area in which the answers to the section's questions will be found.

Turn Statements into questions

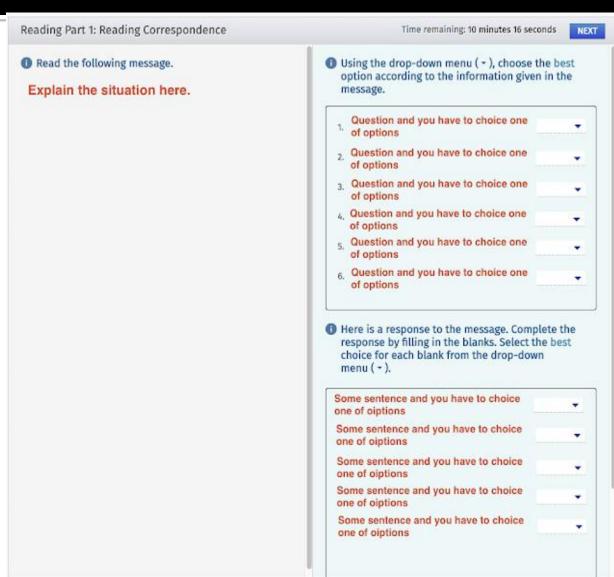
- Turn statements into questions before trying to find the answers to True, False, Not Given, and Yes, No, Not Given questions.
- It's much easier to find the answer to a question than match a statement.
- If the answer is no, then write no or false.
- If the answer is yes write yes or true.
- If there is no answer, write not given.

Use Keywords

Use keywords or keyphrases in the questions to help you find answers.

1) About Reading Task 1

- * Task Total Time: 11 minutes
- * Number of questions: 11
- Reading Task 1 screen.



Part 1: Read the following letter:

Hi Abdul,

[S1] I arrived in Tofino yesterday evening. [S2] It's a pretty amazing place. [S3] We have a cabin by the sea, and we can see hundreds of little islands receding all the way to the horizon. [S4] The town of Tofino is little more than a few blocks of shops, houses, and restaurants, which is a refreshing change from the traffic and offices of downtown Calgary. [S5] If they needed a structural engineer here, I'd be very tempted to apply for the position.

Today, Jill and I went exploring. We took a tour to a small island just off the coast of Tofino. It is a tiny island and completely unspoiled. The entire island is covered in a forest of ancient trees. Each one is as wide as your truck and twice as tall as your house. In one tree we saw the outline of an immense eagle's nest, although the eagle was nowhere to be seen. Having said that, it was pretty tough to make out much at all as the weather was pretty grim. Shortly after we reached the island, it started to pour, and we were both completely soaked within minutes. They don't call it a rainforest for nothing.

We look forward to seeing you when you join us on Wednesday. I should warn you that it's quite a journey to get here. You're best off flying from Edmonton to Vancouver and then catching a flight on a small plane from Vancouver to Tofino. If your budget won't allow for that, you can get a bus from the Vancouver airport to the ferry terminal, then get a ferry to Nanaimo, and then finally a bus to Tofino. The views from the ferry are awesome, but given that you have to return on Sunday, it would be great if we could maximize our time in Tofino. Anyway, be sure to let me know how you decide to get here so I can meet you when you get in.

Also, be sure to come prepared for the weather. As I mentioned, the weather here is unpredictable, so you might be sunbathing on the beach one moment and then running for shelter in the cabin a moment later. Still, it's definitely worth the trip, and I can't wait to see you again after all this time.

Take care and see you soon,

Jared

- Example Prompt and Question
- Using the drop-down menu, choose the best way to complete each statement according to the information given in the letter.
- 1. Jared feels that Tofino is
- (a) somewhat bigger than he expected.
- (b) more boring than Calgary.
- (c) more pleasant than Calgary.
- (d) too small to be interesting

Tip:

- Read the letter once quickly for general understanding. Clarify who the writer and recipient are, how they know each other, and what the letter is describing.
- Your skimming skills may be helpful here.
- Make sure you understand the question.
- What do you need to know to answer it?
- In this example, you need to discover whether Jared likes or dislikes Tofino and how he thinks it compares to Calgary.
- Scan the letter to pick out key words and ideas that will help you find the answer in the letter.
- In this example, the first paragraph describes Tofino and compares it with Calgary

Eliminating the wrong answer:

Answer (a): somewhat bigger than he expected—Incorrect
This answer cannot be correct since Jared thinks that Tofino is small [S4].

Answer (b): more boring than Calgary—Incorrect

If Jared finds Tofino "amazing" [S2], then it's unlikely that he thinks it is boring.

Answer (d): too small to be interesting—Incorrect

Although Jared says that Tofino is small [S4], the adjective "too" is always used to indicate that something is excessive—too is always negative. Tofino's small size is what Jared actually finds "refreshing" about it.

The reply letter:

GUIDELINES

The second half of Part 1, the reply letter, is a response from the recipient of the first letter. This letter will directly reply to the content presented in the first letter, but may also present some new information. The questions here are in a fill-in-the-blanks format. There are five blanks, and you have four choices (words or phrases) for each blank. In most cases, you need to relate the reply letter to the first letter to find the answer.

Here is a response to the letter. Complete the response by filling in the blanks. Select the best choice for each blank from the drop-down menu.

Hi Jared,

Thanks for letting me know what is going on. I've taken your advice and booked a [Blank 1] from Vancouver to Tofino. I'll be arriving in Tofino at about 3 p.m. [Blank 2] just as we had planned. It so happens that I was in Tofino a couple of years ago. Like you, I [Blank 3] in a small town. Also, as you suggested, I will be ready for all possible kinds of [Blank 4]. Frankly, though, I am not too worried about what we do or what the weather is like, as long as we have a chance to catch up on each other's news. Just as you said, we should try to [Blank 5] as possible.

See you soon,

RESPONDING TO THE PROMPT

- Read the reply letter sentence by sentence. Click on the blanks in order to read the answer choices.
- Identify and choose any answers that seem immediately correct to you. This might be possible because you are now quite familiar with the subject from reading the first letter. If you have time afterwards, go back and check these more carefully.
- For those questions that you did not immediately know the answer to, try to recognize what you need to understand in order to choose the correct answer. In this example, you would need to know that the term "like you" means that Abdul has the same opinion as Jared.
- If you can't remember something from the original letter, go back and scan it to find the information you need. In this example for instance, you could scan the first letter

to remember that Jared likes small towns, confirming that the answer to Blank 3 is "enjoy being."

Select the best answer.

Blank 3

- a) am a bit bored
- b) enjoy being
- feel uncomfortable Therefore, this answer can't be right.
- have a job

Eliminating the wrong answer:

Answer (a): am a bit bored—Incorrect

If Abdul has the same opinion of small towns as Jared, this means he likes small towns.

Answer (c): feel uncomfortable—Incorrect

For the same reason as in answer (a), Abdul shouldn't feel uncomfortable in a small town.

Answer (d): have a job—Incorrect

The first letter tells us that Jared does not have a job in Tofino [S5], so this answer can't be correct.

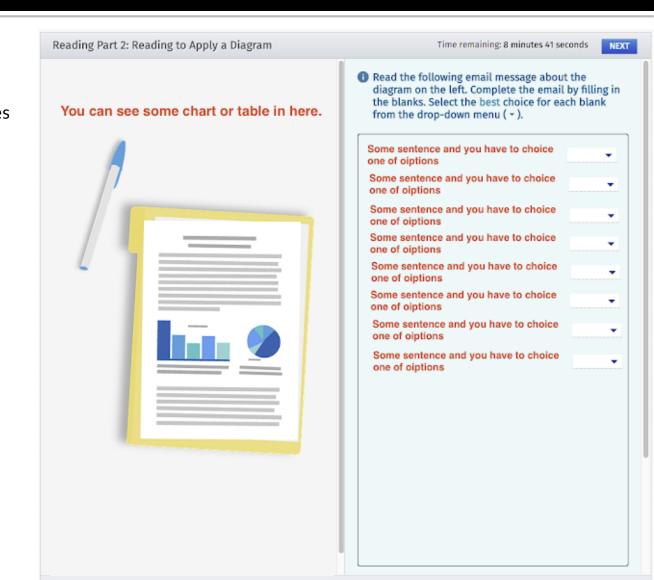


- Practice Answers
- Q1. Remind to appointment
- Q2. Sign
- Q3. Treated from other doctor
- Q4. Take cash or debit card
- Q5. Go office with someone
- Q6. Treatment in hospital
- Q7. I must cancel the appointment
- Q8. hospitalized
- Q9. I anticipate
- Q10. However
- Q11. I look forward to see you



CELPIP Reading Task 2 - Reading to Apply a Diagram

- 1) About Reading Task 2
 - * Task Total Time: 9 minutes
 - * Number of questions: 8
 - Reading Task 2 screen.



CELPIP Reading Task 2 - Reading to Apply a Diagram

3) Practice Answers



Q1. in the morning on the first day.

Q2. Dress rehearsals

Q3. Send us an email

Q4. last day is no perforance.

Q₅. positive

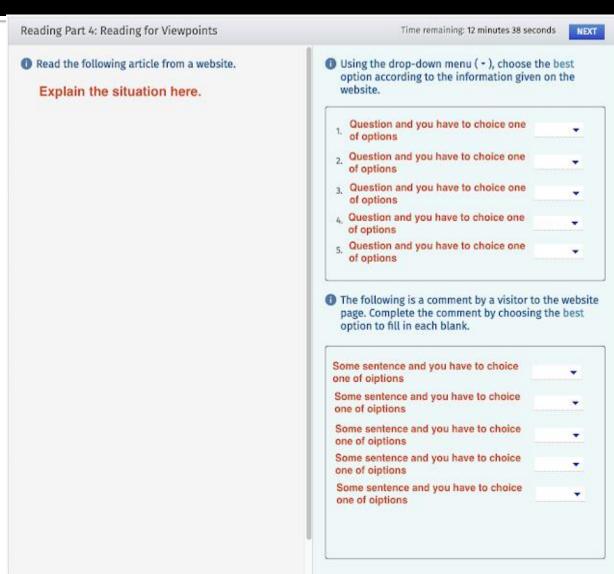
Q6. Teacher

Q7. Announce schedule

Q8. Enthusiastic

CELPIP Reading Task 4 - Reading for Viewpoints

- 1) About Reading Task 4
 - * Task Total Time: 13 minutes
 - * Number of questions: 10
- Reading Task 4 screen.



CELPIP Reading Task 4 - Reading for Viewpoints

Practice Answers

- Q1. How to Better Bones in Kids
- Q2. Families should be responsible
- Q3. Vitamins important to baby
- Q4. Many activities and healthy food.
- - Q5. Have a significant impact child.
- Q6. no problem develope bones.
- •

Q7. develop strong, healthy bones.

- Q8. regulator of bone growth.
- Q9. a living tissue
- Q10. a cycle that is influenced



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