Guidebook for Teachers

CELPIP is the leading English proficiency test for immigration to Canada

CELPIP®

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How We Work with Teachers

Paragon Testing Enterprises is proud to support teachers who are working to help prospective test takers improve their English language skills and reach their target scores on the CELPIP Test. To assist in preparing prospective test takers, we are pleased to provide a range of resources to instructors. These include:

- a monthly instructor newsletter to keep subscribers up-to-date with test tips, study materials, and new developments

- a free CELPIP Teacher Support Pack, accessible <u>here</u>, which includes lesson planning strategies, activity ideas, and PDF resources for using CELPIP practice tests in the classroom. See page 16 for more information about the CELPIP Teacher Support Pack.

- free Level 1 and Level 2 instructor training: self-paced courses that provide teachers with a grounding in the format and structure of CELPIP, teaching strategies and activity ideas, and information about preparation materials. See page 17 for more information about CELPIP instructor training.

- the option for large-scale prep providers such as language schools and tutoring companies to join the CELPIP Network, a partnership program that offers benefits such as discounts on CELPIP materials, access to the CELPIP Preparation Program, and free Level 3 instructor training. See page 18 for more information about the CELPIP Network.
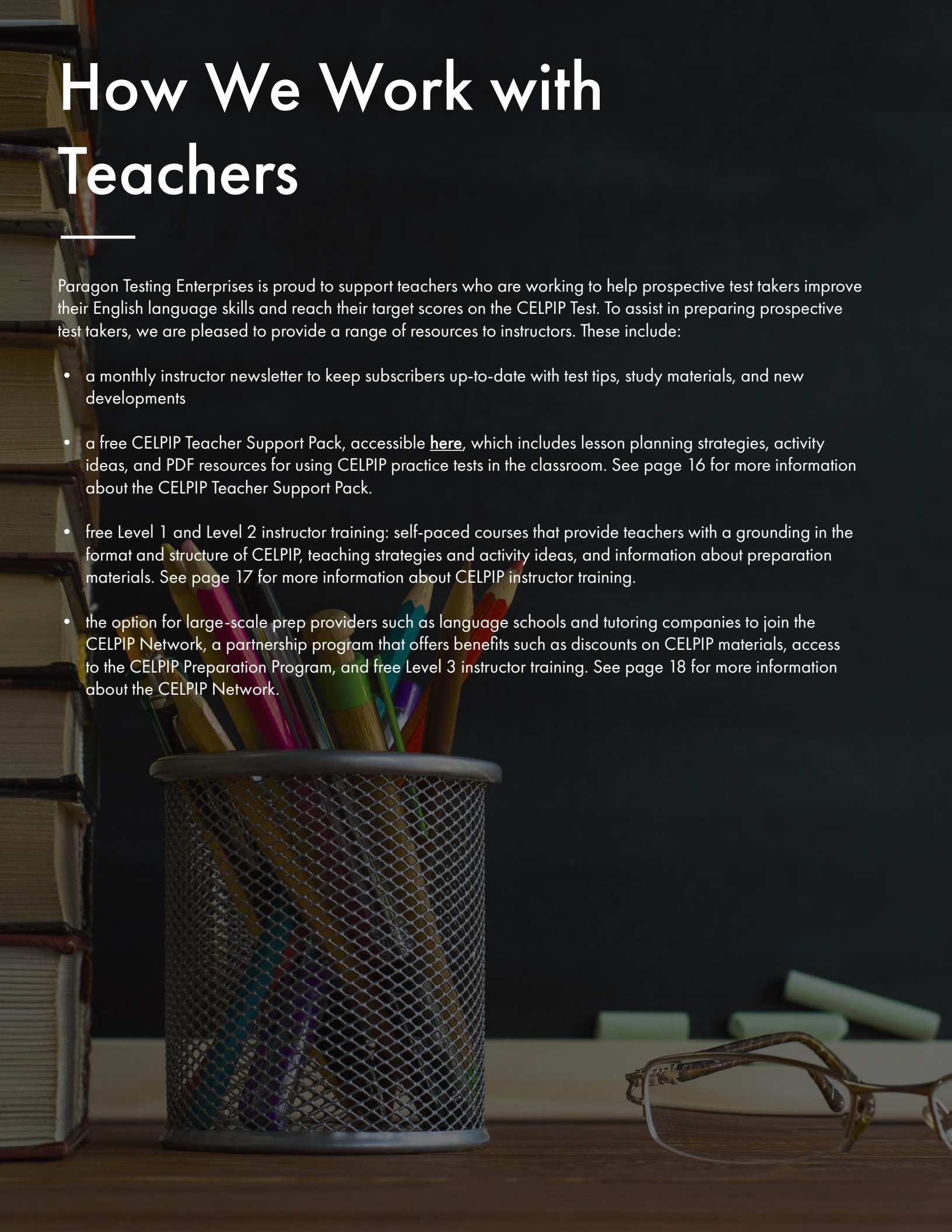
About CELPIP

The Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program (CELPIP) is a general English language proficiency test.

The CELPIP Test allows test takers to demonstrate their ability to function in English. The test clearly, accurately, and precisely assesses a test taker's English abilities in a variety of everyday situations, such as communicating with co-workers and superiors in the workplace, interacting with friends, understanding newscasts, and interpreting and responding to written materials.

There are two versions of the CELPIP Test: the CELPIP-General Test and the CELPIP-General LS Test. The CELPIP-General Test assesses functional Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking skills. In addition to being the IRCC-approved test for permanent residency applications, the CELPIP-General Test is accepted by some professional organizations, such as the Real Estate Council of British Columbia and Immigration Consultants of Canada Regulatory Council. The CELPIP-General LS Test assesses functional Listening and Speaking proficiency and is the IRCC-approved test for Canadian citizenship applications.

Why Choose CELPIP

The CELPIP Tests are Canada's leading English language proficiency tests. Since all components are completely computer-delivered in just one sitting, they offer a unique testing experience that requires no additional appointments. The computer-delivered Speaking component allows test takers to demonstrate their English proficiency without experiencing the anxiety or self-consciousness that often accompany the interview-style Speaking assessments employed by other testing systems.

Test Features

Computer-delivered Test
Done in just one sitting and includes features such as a personal timer, word counter, and spell-check

Quick Online Results
Available to test takers online in just 4 to 5 calendar days

Free Study Materials
Sample Tests, videos, online information sessions, and online preparation courses

Single Test Sitting
Taken in a single 3-hour sitting with no separate Speaking test

Single North American Accent
Easy-to-understand English and vocabulary taken from everyday situations

Online Identification System
Test taker identity verification system that allows you to directly validate identity and scores

Easy Online Registration

Registering for CELPIP online is fast and easy:

1 **Create a CELPIP Account**
Visit **celpip.ca** and click on the "Sign In" link at the top of the page. This will take test takers to the account page, where they can create a CELPIP account.

2 **Sign into a CELPIP Account**
After creating a new CELPIP account or signing into an existing account, test takers can register for a test.

3 **Register for CELPIP**
During registration test takers select the country, region, and city in which they will take the CELPIP Test. Test takers can then choose an available test centre and testing date.

4 **Choose the identification to bring**
Test takers can choose the type of personal identification that they will provide on test day from a list of acceptable identification choices.

5 **Confirm information and payment option**
Test takers can pay via credit card online, or submit a paper test registration form through the mail with an alternative form of payment.

Viewing Test Results

CELPIP Test scores are available online through a CELPIP Account in 4 to 5 calendar days after a test date. Test takers will also be notified that their scores are ready via email, and can choose to receive SMS notifications about their scores as well. Test takers will receive two print copies of the Official CELPIP Score Report via registered mail, with priority shipping available.

Updates via SMS

Test takers can select to receive SMS updates when their CELPIP scores are available

Quick Online Results

Available to test takers online in just 4 to 5 calendar days

Updates via Email

Test takers will receive test day confirmations and score results via email
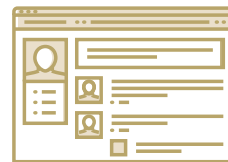
Account Dashboard

Test takers can sign into their accounts at celpip.ca to see their results

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CELPIP Test Format

The CELPIP Test is available in two versions: the CELPIP-General Test and the CELPIP-General LS Test.

The CELPIP-General Test has four components: Listening, Reading, Writing, and Speaking. The CELPIP-General LS Tests has two components: Listening and Speaking.

The CELPIP Test is fully computer delivered, providing test takers the opportunity to complete all test components in one sitting with no additional appointments, interviews, or test sittings required. CELPIP test takers use a computer mouse and keyboard to complete the Reading and Writing components of the test, and a computer microphone and headset to complete the Listening and Speaking components. Computerized tests offer test takers a quick and reliable testing experience.

CELPIP-General Test Format & Price

$280 + Taxes
Total test time is about 3 hours, and is done in one sitting.

Listening
Listen to passages and answer questions

47–55 minutes

Reading
Read passages and answer questions

55–60 minutes

Writing
Respond to questions with written answers

53–60 minutes

Speaking
Reply to on-screen prompts verbally

15–20 minutes

CELPIP-General LS Test Format & Price

$195 + Taxes
Total test time is about 1 hour, and is done in one sitting.

🍁 Only in Canada

Listening
Listen to passages and answer questions

47–55 minutes

Speaking
Reply to on-screen prompts verbally

15–20 minutes

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CELPIP Components

🎧 Listening

Number of Questions	Component Sections
1	Practice Task (unscored)
8	Part 1: Listening to Problem Solving
5	Part 2: Listening to a Daily Life Conversation
6	Part 3: Listening for Information
5	Part 4: Listening to a News Item
8	Part 5: Listening to a Discussion
6	Part 6: Listening to Viewpoints

Listening Tip
While test takers will never have access to a transcript on the CELPIP Test, they can be a valuable study aid in the classroom. All CELPIP practice tests come with Listening transcripts which can be used in activities such as dictation, speaking practice, vocabulary learning, and more.

📖 Reading

Number of Questions	Component Sections
1	Practice Task (unscored)
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

Reading Tip
Provide a variety of relevant sources for reading practice, such as correspondence, flyers, short descriptive passages, and opinion pieces. Guide test takers in noticing the content, register and structure of different kinds of writing, and provide practice recognizing and responding to general meaning, specific detail, and inference questions.

⌨ Writing

Number of Questions	Component Sections
1	Task 1: Writing an Email
11	Task 2: Responding to Survey Questions

Writing Tip
Teach test takers to take a few minutes to brainstorm and create an outline before they begin to write, and leave themselves some time to check over their work after they finish writing. Test takers should be advised that using the full 26-27 minutes to type as many words as possible is likely to result in disorganization, repeated ideas, unnecessary errors, and a word count penalty.

💬 Speaking

Number of Questions	Component Sections
1	Practice Task (unscored)
1	Task 1: Giving Advice
1	Task 2: Talking about a Personal Experience
1	Task 3: Describing a Scene
1	Task 4: Making Predictions
1	Task 5: Comparing and Persuading
1	Task 6: Dealing with a Difficult Situation
1	Task 7: Expressing Opinions
1	Task 8: Describing an Unusual Situation

Listening Tip

Facilitate both timed and untimed practice in brainstorming ideas and delivering responses. Have test takers use the Performance Standards for peer- or self-assessment, and use them yourself when assessing their speaking. Remind them that organized and well-developed content that relates fully to the question is just as important as strong vocabulary and accurate grammar.

More Teaching Tips

Computer Practice: Encourage test takers to familiarize themselves with the "tech" side of the test, such as listening to audio through headphones, using a mouse to choose answers to Listening and Reading questions, and typing Writing responses by working through one of the free CELPIP practice tests (**available here**). Encourage them to practice their writing on a computer, and facilitate computer practice in your own classroom if possible.

Timed and Untimed Practice: Provide opportunities for test takers to develop their skills through untimed exercises such as extended or group brainstorming, editing their writing, and answering a set of Reading questions in their own time. In addition, ensure that they become familiar with test timing and learn strategies for making the most of their time.

Spontaneous Content: Ensure that test takers are aware of the importance of giving their own spontaneous responses for the Writing and Speaking tasks. They must respond in their own words and the content of their responses should apply very specifically to the questions. Teach strategies for brainstorming original ideas and details, and never encourage memorization of "model" responses or templates.

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CELPIP Levels

Each component of the CELPIP-General Test and the CELPIP-General LS Test is given a CELPIP Level. Below is a chart of each CELPIP Level and its corresponding description. Since the CELPIP test scores have been calibrated against the Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB) levels, we have included the CLB level equivalencies for your information.

CELPIP Score	CLB Level	CELPIP Score Descriptor
12	12	Advanced proficiency in workplace and community contexts
11	11	Advanced proficiency in workplace and community contexts
10	10	Highly effective proficiency in workplace and community contexts
9	9	Effective proficiency in workplace and community contexts
8	8	Good proficiency in workplace and community contexts
7	7	Adequate proficiency in workplace and community contexts
6	6	Developing proficiency in workplace and community contexts
5	5	Acquiring proficiency in workplace and community contexts
4	4	Adequate proficiency for daily life activities
3	3	Some proficiency in limited contexts
M	0, 1, 2	Minimal proficiency or insufficient information to assess
NA	/	Not Administered: test taker did not receive this test component

CELPIP Scoring

CELPIP Listening Test

CELPIP Level	Listening Score /38
10-12	35-38
9	33-35
8	30-33
7	27-31
6	22-28
5	17-23
4	11-18
3	7-12
M (0, 1, 2)	0-7

The Listening Test is scored out of 38 points. Each correct answer receives one point, regardless of which part of the Listening Test it appears in. Points are not deducted for incorrect answers. Test takers should answer every question, and guess if they have to.

CELPIP Reading Test

CELPIP Level	Reading Score /38
10-12	33-38
9	31-33
8	28-31
7	24-28
6	19-25
5	15-20
4	10-16
3	8-11
M (0, 1, 2)	0-7

The Reading Test is scored out of 38 points. Each correct answer receives one point, regardless of which part of the Listening Test it appears in. Points are not deducted for incorrect answers. Test takers should answer every question, and guess if they have to.

Notes on Listening and Reading:

In addition to the four scored Listening parts and six scored Reading parts, each CELPIP Test includes some unscored content in the form of complete Listening and/or Reading parts. Unscored content is not identified as such, as it is being field tested for quality before potentially being used as scored content. Test takers should not worry about whether a particular Listening or Reading part is scored or not. They should simply do their best on every part of the test.

The numerical overlap in some places in the Listening and Reading score charts is due to score equating. Score equating is the process of correcting final scores for slight variations in difficulty between test forms. For example, if one test taker correctly answers 30 questions on a slightly easier form and another correctly answers 30 questions on a comparatively more challenging form, score equating will correct for the disparity in form difficulty. In this way, we ensure that the test taker's Level reflects their language proficiency and not the difficulty of the questions they received.

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CELPIP Writing Test

Category	Factors
1. Content/Coherence	• Number of ideas • Quality of ideas • Organization of ideas • Examples and supporting details
2. Vocabulary	• Word choice • Suitable use of words and phrases • Range of words and phrases • Precision and accuracy
3. Readability	• Format and paragraphing • Connectors and transitions • Grammar and sentence structure • Spelling and punctuation
4. Task Fulfillment	• Relevance • Completeness • Tone • Word count

At least 4 Writing raters, and up to 6, are involved in determining each test taker's Writing Level. Each rater rates the response they have received in each of the 4 categories of the Writing Performance Standards below. Each category includes a list of factors that the rater considers when assessing that category. The ratings are submitted electronically and the test taker's score is computer-calculated based on the ratings.

CELPIP Speaking Test

Category	Factors
1. Content/Coherence	• Number of ideas • Quality of ideas • Organization of ideas • Examples and supporting details
2. Vocabulary	• Word choice • Suitable use of words and phrases • Range of words and phrases • Precision and accuracy
3. Listenability	• Rhythm, pronunciation, and intonation • Pauses, interjections, and self-correction • Grammar and sentence structure • Variety of sentence structure
4. Task Fulfillment	• Relevance • Completeness • Tone • Length

At least 3 Speaking raters, and up to 5, are involved in determining each test taker's Speaking Level. Each rater rates the response they have received in each of the 4 dimensions of the Speaking Performance Standards below. Each category includes a list of factors that the rater considers when assessing that category. The ratings are submitted electronically and the test taker's score is computer-calculated based on the ratings.

CELPIP Score Descriptors

The CELPIP Score Descriptors outline the abilities of a typical test taker in the productive skills (Speaking and Writing), at each CELPIP Level, in each dimension of the Performance Standards. They are available for download here.

To see the Score Descriptors in use, instructors are encouraged to refer to the CELPIP Score Comparison Chart, also located at the link above. The Score Comparison Chart consists of two sample Speaking and Writing responses at each CELPIP Level, with detailed analysis of how the responses align with the Score Descriptors for each category of the Performance Standards.

How to Use CELPIP Score Comparison Chart

To use the CELPIP Score comparison chart, click the test score type you want to study: Speaking or Writing. You can then choose the CELPIP Level you wish to study for and rotate through the score descriptor, sample question and response at that level, and an analysis of why that mark was given.

Use Score Comparison Chart

Download CELPIP Score Descriptors

Learn what we look for at each CELPIP Level for speaking and writing scores.

Download Score Descriptors

CELPIP Score Comparison Chart

Learn what we look for at each CELPIP Level, review sample questions and responses, and study our analysis of why those scores were given.

Speaking Scores | Writing Scores

— Level 12

Level 12. Advanced proficiency in workplace and community contexts

Level Descriptors | Sample Responses | Response Analysis

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Accepting Organizations

The CELPIP Tests are officially accepted by several governments, professional organizations, and employers. The CELPIP Tests currently prove English language proficiency for:

- Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC):
    - Permanent Resident Status
    - Canadian Citizenship
    - Canadian Experience Class (CEC)
    - Federal Skilled Trades Program (FSTP)
    - Federal Skilled Worker Program (FSWP)
    - Start-up Visa Program
    - Various Provincial Nominee Programs
- Alberta Human Services – Child Care Staff Certification
- Alberta Institute of Massage
- BC Health Care Assistant (HCA) Program
- Immigration Consultants of Canada Regulatory Council (ICCRC)
- NorQuest College ELP (English Language Proficiency)
- Real Estate Council of Alberta (RECA)
- Real Estate Council of British Columbia (RECBC)
- Saskatchewan Apprenticeship and Trade Certification Commission
- Saskatchewan Real Estate Commission (SREC)
- TLC-Edmonton Training for Foreign Caregivers

For a complete list of organizations that accept CELPIP scores, visit celpip.ca.

CELPIP Teacher Support Pack

The CELPIP Teacher Support Pack is a free resource that provides information and suggestions related to the use of practice tests in the classroom. It includes:

- a detailed guide to using practice tests in a variety of teaching scenarios, such as intensive workshops and longer courses
- CELPIP-focused lesson ideas and homework suggestions for all 4 skills
- printable materials, including a vocabulary journal, a teacher checklist, and the Speaking and Writing Performance Standards

Access the Teacher Support Pack here.

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CELPIP Instructor Training

Paragon Testing Enterprises offers two levels of self-directed instructor training to all interested teachers at no cost, and a third level to teachers employed by CELPIP Network partners. Each level of training is offered monthly; the schedule and registration links are available here. Please note that it is necessary to create a CELPIP account prior to registration.

Level 1

Level 1 training is a self-directed, video-based course that covers a variety of CELPIP topics, with a short comprehension quiz at the end of each video. The videos comprise about five hours of material and can be watched at the instructor's convenience over a two-week period. Level 1 training includes:
- a thorough overview of the CELPIP Test and a description of each question type
- scoring information
- skills and strategies for test takers
- discussion of resources available to test takers and instructors
- teaching suggestions
- analysis of sample Writing and Speaking responses

Instructors who complete the training in full receive a Certificate of Completion and a PDF Instructor Training Manual.

Level 2

Level 2 training is a self-directed, text-based course covering roughly 10 hours of material to be completed at the instructor's own pace over a three-week period. It has been designed for experienced teachers who possess an English level at CLB 10 or higher and a firm grasp of the structure and content of the CELPIP Test. Quizzes and reflection exercises are integrated into the modules. This training includes:
- a discussion of how CELPIP differs from other language tests
- language learning and test preparation strategies for each part of the test
- detailed Speaking and Writing sample response analysis
- classroom management tips and activity ideas

Instructors who complete the training in full receive a Certificate of Completion.

Note that Level 1 training is a prerequisite for Level 2 registration.

CELPIP Network

The CELPIP Network is a partnership program designed to support large-scale prep providers, such as language schools and tutoring companies. While individual instructors are not eligible to join, those whose employers meet the application criteria are encouraged to bring the Network to the attention of their institution.

CELPIP Network member benefits include:

- exclusive pricing and discounts on CELPIP study materials
- access to Paragon branding and marketing materials
- access to the 72-hour CELPIP Preparation Program curriculum that includes detailed lesson plans and classroom resources
- access to Level 3 CELPIP Instructor Training for instructors who have completed Levels 1 and 2. Level 3 training is an opportunity for instructors to demonstrate their comprehension of the CELPIP Test by completing a written assignment.

Click **here** to learn more about the CELPIP Network application process and admission criteria.
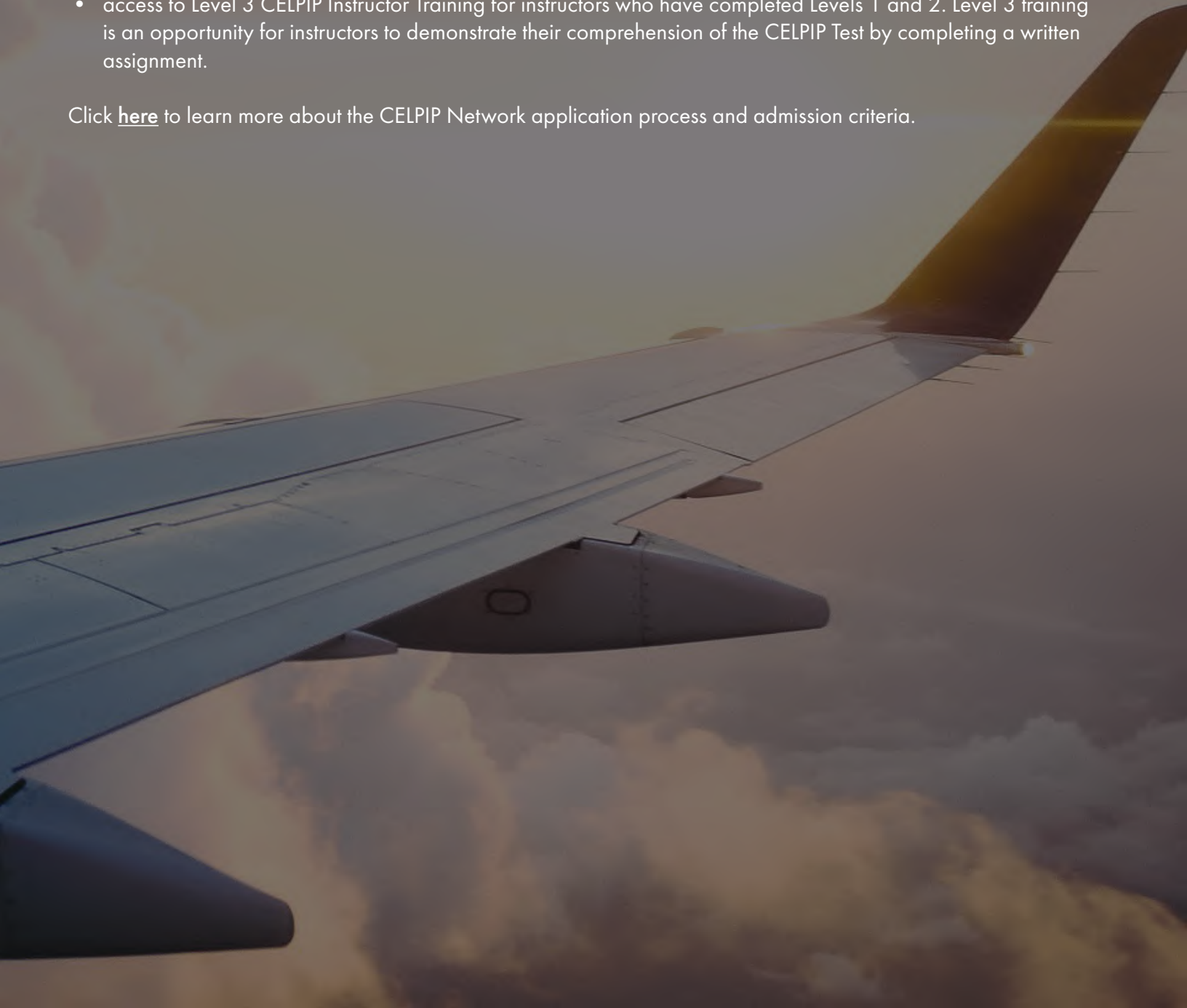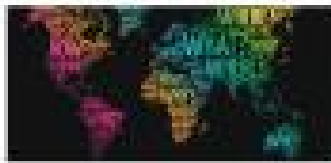
Test Research

A Research Leader

Paragon's Test Operations team includes assessment professionals with a background in Applied Linguistics, Education, Statistics, and Psychometrics. In support of the company's overall mission, the unit is responsible for producing innovative and high-quality language tests through collaboration within the team and with external stakeholders.

The goals of the unit are as follows:

- Maintain current assessment products and develop new assessments
- Ensure the security and integrity of Paragon's assessments
- Provide evidence for the validity of Paragon's testing products
- Show leadership in language assessment design and research in Canada and internationally

For a complete list of research publications, conference presentations, working papers, and more, visit paragontesting.ca/research.
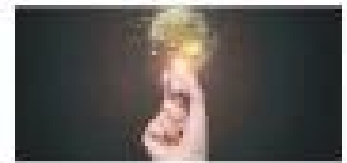
Research Publications

Paragon Research Blog: Context

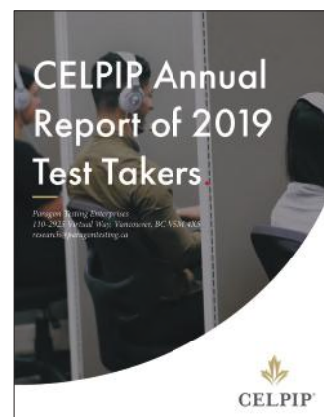Paragon Research Blog: Achieving Fairness in Developing Content for Standardized Language Tests

Paragon Research Blog: Understanding Test Response Process: A Study of Test-Taking Strategies in a Reading Comprehension Test

Linking CAEL CE Scores to IELTS – Academic Scores: Full Report
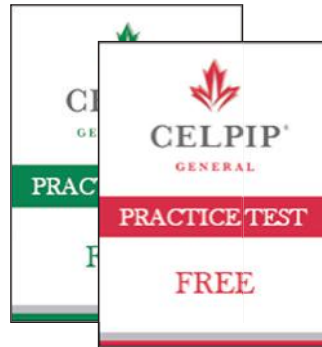

CELPIP Test 2019 Report

Official CELPIP Prep Resources

Free Resources

CELPIP Webinars
8 live, interactive lessons that run monthly and cover test content, prep strategies, scoring, and sample responses. Register here. Recordings available on YouTube here.

Free CELPIP Practice Tests
2 complete online sample tests with answer keys and Listening transcripts, available here.

CELPIP Live
Twice-monthly YouTube livestreams covering a wide range of CELPIP topics, from response analysis and test prep to life in Canada. Subscribe and access the episode playlist here.

Paid Resources

CELPIP Accelerate
A self-directed online course that includes over 30 hours of material in the form of videos, quizzes, worksheets, and the content of a complete practice test.
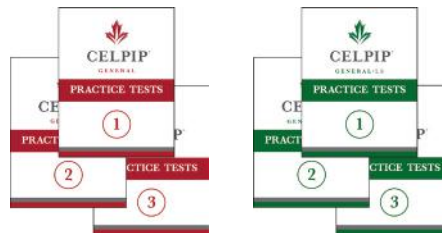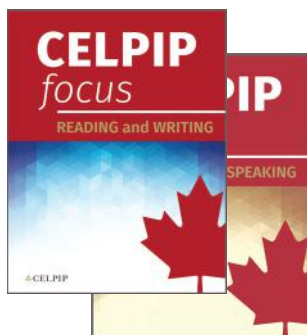
Online Practice Tests
Complete online tests sold in sets of 2, with Listening transcripts and detailed answer keys. One test from each set includes sample Writing and Speaking responses with analysis.
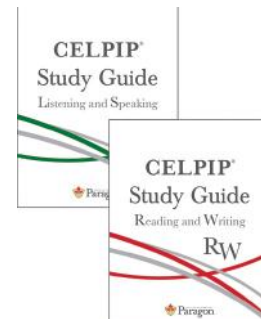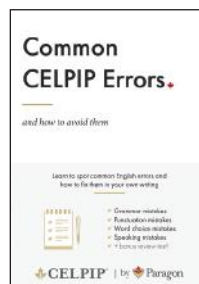
CELPIP Study Guides
CELPIP practice exercises framed around the content of a complete practice test.

CELPIP Focus
Textbooks that include a broad range of CELPIP-focused skill-building activities

Common CELPIP Errors
A guide to the most common grammar, punctuation, vocabulary and speaking mistakes made on the CELPIP test and how to avoid them

For pricing, availability, and additional information, please visit our online store

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Contact Us

Visit **celpip.ca** to learn more about Canada's leading English language proficiency tests for immigration and professional certification, or email **info@celpip.ca** for more information.

youtube.com/CELPIPOfficial

instagram.com/CELPIPTestOfficial

twitter.com/CELPIPTest

facebook.com/CELPIPTest