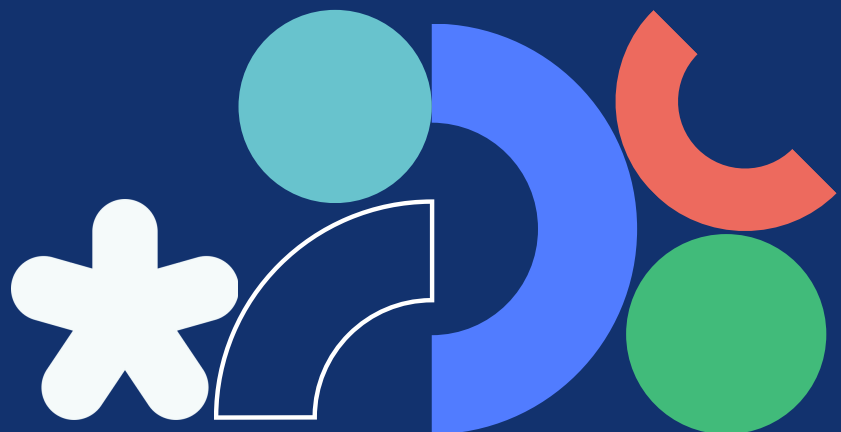


THE CELPIP CLB 9 SELF-AUDIT CHECKLIST

A diagnostic to find the small habits costing you points.

Most CELPIP test-takers who fall short of CLB 9 don't have an English problem. They have one of five small habits showing up across their responses. This audit takes about ten minutes. Score yourself honestly - the goal isn't to feel good, it's to find out exactly where your next two weeks of practice should focus.





How to Use This Audit

For each of the five sections below, rate yourself on a scale of 1 to 5:

- **1** = This is a real problem for me right now
- **3** = I do this sometimes, not consistently
- **5** = I have already built this into my practice

Your lowest score is your priority area.



SECTION 1: TIMER PRACTICE (Speaking, Writing, Listening)

When I practice Speaking responses, I use an actual timer (phone, laptop, or stopwatch) that matches CELPIP's exact prep and speaking times.

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

When I practice Writing tasks, I write under the official time limits (27 minutes for Task 1, 26 minutes for Task 2).

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

I have practiced full Listening sections without pausing, replaying, or stopping the audio.

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

My average for this section: ___ / 5



SECTION 2: VOCABULARY RANGE (Writing & Speaking)

I keep an active list of “vocabulary swaps” (basic words I overuse and 2–3 stronger alternatives for each).

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

In my last practice response, I used at least three vocabulary items more precise than “good,” “bad,” “big,” “small,” “a lot,” or “interesting.”

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

I read English material (Canadian news, blog posts, articles, etc.) at least 15 minutes per day specifically to absorb new vocabulary.

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

My average for this section: ___ / 5



SECTION 3: TONE MATCHING (Writing Task 1)

Before I begin writing my Task 1 email, I take 10 seconds to identify the recipient and adjust my tone (formal, professional, friendly, casual).

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

My Task 1 emails to friends sound noticeably different from my Task 1 emails to managers or service providers (greetings, vocabulary, phrasing).

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

I have practiced the same prompt with three different recipient types to feel the tone shift.

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

My average for this section: ___ / 5



SECTION 4: CONCESSION USE (Writing Task 2 & Speaking Tasks 5, 7)

Every time I write a Task 2 survey response, I include at least one “Admittedly... However...” sentence acknowledging the opposing side.

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

In Speaking Tasks 5 and 7, I briefly acknowledge the other option or perspective before defending my choice.

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

I can write or speak a concession sentence without having to think about it for more than 2–3 seconds.

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

My average for this section: ___ / 5



SECTION 5: NOTE-TAKING (Listening)

I have a personal short-form symbol system for note-taking (initials, arrows, ticks, crosses) that I use every time I practice Listening.

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

For Listening Parts 5 and 6, I draw two-column notes (one column per speaker) before the audio even begins.

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

I write keywords during the audio, not full sentences, and I let small details go to focus on main ideas.

☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

My average for this section: ___ / 5



YOUR RESULTS

Section	Your Average
1. Timer Practice	_____ / 5
2. Vocabulary Range	_____ / 5
3. Tone Matching	_____ / 5
4. Concession Use	_____ / 5
5. Note-Taking	_____ / 5

Your **lowest-scoring section** is your priority area for the next two weeks. Pick that one. Do nothing else for fourteen days. Then re-take this audit.



WHAT TO DO NEXT

If your priority is **timer practice** → Start every practice session this week with a stopwatch. Match exact CELPIP timings. Don't allow yourself to pause.

If your priority is **vocabulary** → Pick five basic words you overuse. Write 2–3 alternatives for each. Use the new words 3–4 times in your written practice this week before adding new ones.

If your priority is **tone matching** → For the next 7 days, write the same Task 1 prompt three different ways: to a friend, to a manager, and to a service provider. Notice the tone shift.

If your priority is **concession use** → For 14 days, never write or speak an opinion response without one "Admittedly... However..." sentence. Force yourself.

If your priority is **note-taking** → Practice 10 minutes of Listening per day using only your symbol system. No replays. Build the habit before test day.

Want a structured plan for the next two weeks?

E2's CELPIP courses include live classes, full mock tests, expert feedback on your Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking, and access to over a thousand practice items - built by people who know exactly what raters are looking for.

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