

Aptis Core

Grammar test format

The Grammar section has 25 questions. Each question offers you three multiple-choice answers, and you will have up to 12 minutes to answer all the questions.

Advice: Please read the questions and all the answers before you make your final choice. Read the whole sentence carefully and then look at the words on either side of the gap, to help you make your choice. Reading the whole sentence before the options is always advisable.

Vocabulary test format

The Vocabulary section has 25 questions. You will have up to 13 minutes to answer all the questions. There are four types of questions:

1. Synonym matching:

Word matching – synonyms are words with the same, or similar meaning. For example, 'speak' is a synonym of 'talk', but it is not a synonym of 'walk'. Your task is to match two words with the same or similar meaning from the drop-down list (you will have to select five words from ten options).

2. Meaning in context:

Sentence completion – you have to complete the sentence by selecting a word from the drop-down list that perfectly fits in the blank space. Choose the answer only after you have understood the meaning of the words from the context (select five words from ten options).

3. Definition matching:

Matching words to definitions – you have to select a word from the drop-down list that best fits the definition (select five words from ten options).

4. Collocation matching:

Word matching – match the words most commonly used together by selecting a word in the drop-down list that matches the word on the left (choose five words from ten options).

Marking

- Each question is marked according to the answer key provided.
- Each correct answer is worth one mark.
- Each incorrect answer is worth zero marks.



Aptis Reading Test

Reading test format

The Reading test has 29 questions divided into four tasks that take 35 minutes to complete. The tasks become more difficult as the test progresses. There are four types of questions:

1. Sentence comprehension:

In this first section, you will read a short text in the form of a note or an email. For five of the sentences in the text, you need to choose a word to complete each sentence. This part tests your ability to read and understand simple sentences. Make sure you read each sentence and all the possible answers carefully before making your choice.

2. Text cohesion:

In this section, there are two different texts. Each text consists of six sentences, but only the first sentence is in the correct place. For each text, you will be asked to put the other five sentences in the correct order to make a complete text. There is only one correct way to organise the sentences.

3. Opinion matching:

This part tests your ability to read and understand short texts. Your task is to read four people's opinions on the same topic. Then you need to read seven statements and decide which person's opinion matches each statement.

4. Long text comprehension:

This part consists of a long text (about 750 words) with a series of headings. Your task is to match seven of the headings to paragraphs in the text. There is always an extra heading that does not fit with any paragraph. This part is designed to test your ability to read and understand a long text. To get the correct answers you need to be able to demonstrate an understanding of how the headings reflect the paragraphs in different ways (sometimes using similar words, sometimes similar ideas, or by sharing a topic).

Marking

- Each question is marked according to the answer key provided.
- Each correct answer is worth one mark.
- Each incorrect answer is worth zero marks.



Aptis Listening Test

Listening test format

The Listening test has 17 multiple-choice questions and takes between 40 minutes. To answer each question, you will have to choose from three options.

If you are taking the test on pen and paper, you will hear each question twice. If you are taking the test on a computer, you may choose to hear the questions twice.

For better understanding, take a Listening practice test. The practice tests are on page numbers 23 and 43 of this practice book.

Advice: The Listening tasks get more difficult as the test progresses. In the beginning, you listen for keywords in the message, whereas later in the test, the speech becomes faster and the language used is more complex.

Marking

- Each question is marked according to the answer key provided.
- Each correct answer is worth one mark.
- Each incorrect answer is worth zero marks.



Aptis Writing Test

Writing test format

The Writing test has four parts and takes up to 50 minutes to complete. The types of tasks are:

1. Word-level writing:

In this first part, you are a member of a club and must respond to five messages. This part does not involve writing sentences, but just individual words or phrases. You should take no more than three minutes to complete this part.

2. Short text writing:

This part is about form filling as well, but this time you will have to write sentences. You should take no more than seven minutes to complete this part.

3. Three written parts of the text, all of which require responses:

Here, you will have a social network type of interaction, and receive three questions to respond to. You should spend a maximum of ten minutes on this part.

4. Formal and informal writing:

In this final part, you have to write an informal email to a friend and a more formal email to an unknown person. Both emails are in response to information about a change. You should spend no more than 20 minutes on this part.

Please note that the timings for each section are recommendations only.

Marking

- All writing tasks are marked by a human rater.
- Each task has a different marking scale.
- Each incorrect answer is worth zero marks.



Aptis Speaking Test

Speaking test format

The Speaking test is only available on computer and takes about 12 minutes to complete. This test has four parts:

1. Personal information:

Here, you are asked to answer three questions on personal topics, and have to speak for 30 seconds per question.

2. Describe, express your opinion, and provide reasons and explanations:

This part requires you to first describe a photograph and then answer two questions related to the topic depicted in the photograph. The three questions (from description to opinion) intensify in complexity, and you have to speak for 45 seconds per question.

3. Describe, compare, and provide reasons and explanations:

In this part, you first have to compare two pictures, and then answer two questions related to the topic. The three questions (from description to speculation) increase in complexity, and you will be asked to speak for 45 seconds for each question.

4. Discuss personal experience and opinion on an abstract topic:

In this final part, you will have to see a picture and answer three questions about an abstract topic. You can take notes and will be given one minute to prepare an answer. You will have to speak for two minutes.

Marking

- Your answers are recorded and a human rater marks each response according to a marking scale.
- Each task has a different marking scale.

