APTIS GENERAL — READING COMPONENT

Practice Test 1

The reading component consists of four parts and 25 questions in total.
The level of difficulty increases as the test progresses.
Recommended time: 35 minutes.

PART 1 — Sentence Comprehension (Questions 1–5)

Level: A1/A2

Complete the email by choosing the correct word (A, B, or C) for each gap.

Subject: Weekend trip

Hi Maria,

I hope you (1)___ well. I'm writing to invite you to join us (2)___ the weekend trip to the lake on Saturday.

We (3)___ leave at 9 o'clock in the morning, so please don't be late!

It would be great if you (4)___ bring a few sandwiches for the journey.

I look forward (5)___ seeing you on Saturday.

Best wishes,
Anna

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1. A) is B) are C) be

2. A) on B) in C) at

3. A) will have B) would C) are going to

4. A) should B) could C) must

5. A) for B) at C) to

PART 2 — Text Cohesion (Questions 6–15)

Level: A2/B1

Put the sentences into the correct order to form a logical text. The first sentence is given as an example. Write the correct letter for each position.

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Text 1 — Learning to bake bread

Sentence 1 (given): *Last Saturday, I decided to learn how to bake bread for the first time.*

A. After kneading the dough for ten minutes, I left it to rise for an hour.
B. First, I watched a video online to learn the basic steps.
C. Next, I mixed the flour, water, yeast and salt together.
D. Finally, after baking it for thirty minutes, the bread came out of the oven smelling delicious.
E. Once it had doubled in size, I shaped it into a loaf and put it in the oven.

6. Second sentence: ___
7. Third sentence: ___
8. Fourth sentence: ___
9. Fifth sentence: ___
10. Sixth sentence: ___

Text 2 — Organising a surprise party

Sentence 1 (given): *My sister's birthday was coming up, so I decided to organise a surprise party for her.*

A. After everyone had arrived and hidden, we turned off the lights and waited quietly.
B. To begin with, I made a list of all her closest friends and sent them invitations.
C. Then, I booked a small room at our favourite restaurant for the celebration.
D. As soon as she opened the door, everyone shouted "Surprise!" and she burst into tears of joy.
E. Once the room was ready, I asked her friends to arrive fifteen minutes before she did.

11. Second sentence: ___
12. Third sentence: ___
13. Fourth sentence: ___
14. Fifth sentence: ___
15. Sixth sentence: ___

PART 3 — Opinion Matching (Questions 16–22)

Level: B1/B2

Four people give their opinion on the same topic: **working from home**. Read the four texts, then match each statement (16–22) to the correct person (A, B, C, or D).

A. Laura: *"I've been working from home for over a year now, and I really enjoy the flexibility it gives me. I no longer waste an hour every day commuting, which means I can spend more time with my family in the morning. The only thing I miss is chatting with my colleagues during coffee breaks — video calls just aren't the same as being in the same room."*

B. Carlos: *"Personally, I prefer going to the office most days. I find it much easier to collaborate with my team when we're all together, and having a clear routine helps me stay disciplined. That said, I do*

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appreciate being able to work from home occasionally when I need to concentrate on a task without interruptions."

C. Mei: *"Working remotely made me far more productive than I ever was in the office — there are simply fewer distractions. However, I quickly realised that without a clear boundary between work and home, I was answering emails late at night and on weekends. It's been difficult to switch off completely."*

D. Tom: *"Since my children were born, working from home has been a lifesaver because I can pick them up from school and still finish my tasks later in the evening. The biggest problem, though, is that my internet connection isn't always reliable, and I don't have a proper desk or office chair at home."*

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16. This person says that not having to travel to work gives them extra time with their family.
17. This person finds it difficult to stop working once the day is over.
18. This person says that working alongside colleagues makes teamwork easier.
19. This person mentions practical problems with their equipment at home.
20. This person misses informal conversations with co-workers.
21. This person values having time alone at home to focus on certain tasks.
22. This person says that being at home allows them to take care of their children's daily needs.

PART 4 — Long Text Comprehension (Questions 23–25)

Level: B2/C

Read the text below and match each paragraph (1–3) to the correct heading (A–E). There are two extra headings which you will not need to use.

(Note: this is a shortened practice version of the task — the real exam uses a text of around 750 words.)

The Growth of Urban Beekeeping

Paragraph 1. Over the past decade, a growing number of people living in cities have taken up beekeeping as a hobby. What was once seen as a rural activity has become increasingly common on rooftops, balconies and even small gardens in the heart of major cities. Several factors have driven this trend. Many people have become more aware of the dramatic decline in bee populations worldwide and want to do something practical to help. Others are simply attracted by the idea of producing their own honey, often just a few steps from their kitchen.

Paragraph 2. Despite its growing popularity, urban beekeeping is not without its difficulties. In many cities, strict regulations govern where hives can be placed, and beekeepers often need to obtain permission from local authorities before starting. Neighbours can also be a source of concern, particularly if they are worried about being stung or about allergic reactions. Furthermore, setting up a hive requires a reasonable financial investment in equipment and protective clothing, and new beekeepers usually need to complete a training course to learn how to look after their bees safely and responsibly.

Paragraph 3. The advantages of urban beekeeping, however, extend well beyond the beekeeper's own garden. As bees travel from hive to hive collecting pollen, they help to pollinate flowers, fruit trees and

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vegetable patches throughout the local area, supporting biodiversity in places where green space is often limited. Urban beekeeping projects have also proved to be an excellent way of bringing communities together, with many cities now home to local beekeeping clubs where members share knowledge, tools and, of course, honey.

Headings:

A. The benefits beyond the beekeeper's garden
B. Why more city residents are turning to beekeeping
C. The hidden dangers of pesticide use
D. Obstacles facing new urban beekeepers
E. How to harvest honey at home

23. Paragraph 1: ___
24. Paragraph 2: ___
25. Paragraph 3: ___

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