
APTIS for Teachers: Reading

There are four parts to the Aptis for Teachers Reading Test, and four question-types. These get progressively more difficult as you move through the exam. It takes 35 mins to complete this component of the test. Here's a summary of the four parts:

Part 1: Sentence comprehension

This takes the form of a very short informal email, note or letter. There are six gaps in the text, and the first gap is filled for you as an example. You have to fill the remaining five gaps by choosing the correct word from a selection of three.

This is the easiest part of the reading test. It takes the form of a very short informal email, note or letter. There are six gaps in the text, and the first gap is filled for you as an example. You have to fill the remaining five gaps by choosing the correct word from a selection of three.

Tip: Read each of the three options of the multiple choice questions carefully before deciding how to fill the gap.

Part 2: Text cohesion

You have to put seven sentences in the correct order to form a very short text. The first sentence is done for you as an example. You have to click and drag the other six sentences into the correct order.

In the Aptis General Reading Test there are two tasks of the same type. You have to put six sentences in the correct order to form a very short text. The first sentence is done for you as an example. The only difference with the Aptis for Teachers test is that you only have one task to do, and there are seven sentences instead of six. You have to click and drag the other five (or six, for Teachers) sentences into the correct order. There's only one correct way to organise the sentences. In the text you'll find clues to help you with the activity.

Tip: These clues could be:

- **Sequencing words:** *then, after, before, next, etc.*
- **Numerical information:** *times, dates, ages, the first, the second, etc.*
- **Logical structure:** *you go to bed, then you wake up, etc.*

The texts are often about everyday activities – for example, taking a train journey. So using your common sense can help (you need to buy the ticket, get on the train, sit in your seat, show your ticket to the ticket collector, etc).

Part 3: Opinion matching

In this section you will read a text of four separate paragraphs on a common topic. Each paragraph represents a person's opinions or preferences about the topic. You will be asked to match the people to seven statements provided.

Four people respond in the comments section of an online magazine article about education and work. Read their comments and answer the questions below.

Part 4: Long text comprehension

You read a long text of seven paragraphs. You then read eight paragraph headings and choose the best heading for each paragraph. There will be one heading that you won't need.

This is the final and most difficult part of the reading test. In this part you read a long text of seven paragraphs (a total of around 750 words). You then read eight paragraph headings, and you have to choose the best heading for each paragraph. There will be one heading that you won't need, as it doesn't match any of the paragraphs.

Tip: The paragraphs are numbered, and you have to select the number of the paragraph from the drop-down box next to each heading.

Our tips on timing

It's very important to keep an eye on the time during the exam. Here are our suggestions of how to allot the 35 minutes you have.

Part	Number of items	Task-type	Suggested timing
1	5	Gap-fill	3 mins
2	10 (5 x 2)	Re-ordering texts	7 mins
3	7	Matching opinions / Gap-fill*	10 mins
4	7	Choosing headings	13 mins

Aptis for Teachers Reading Test

Part 1: Sentence Comprehension

Reading Test Part 1 is the same as for Teachers as the Aptis General, except for the content matter. This will be set in an educational context. It's a multiple-choice gap-fill exercise in the form of a very short informal email, note or letter. As you know by now, each component of the Aptis Test gets more difficult as it progresses. This means the first task is always the easiest.

The texts contain six sentences with gaps in, and the first gap is filled for you as an example. You have to choose the correct word from a drop-down menu with three options in order to fill the remaining five gaps.

Our tests in work in exactly the same way as the official Aptis exam. This will provide you with exam-style practice and help you get used to the format. The only difference is that we've included pop-up explanations if you make a mistake – obviously you don't get *that* in the exam! You only have to do one sentence comprehension task in Reading Test Part 1, but we've got two for you to do here.

Advice on how to approach the sentence comprehension task

First read the entire text before you look at any of the options. This will give you a general understanding on text-level, although in fact you're only being tested on sentence-level.

Then try to predict the answers. Think about the part of speech that you need – is it a verb, a noun, an adjective ...? If you already have an idea in your mind, you'll find it easier to choose the correct option.

Try not to take too long to make your choice, as the recommended timing for this task is only three minutes. When you've finished, always read the whole text again and see if your answers sound right. You can always change them if you think you've made a mistake.

Reading Test Part 1: Instructions

All you have to do is click on the drop-down menu and choose the correct option. In our practice tests we've given you only one option for the first gap (in the exam it's already filled in). So that leaves you five gaps to fill.

Reading Test Part 1: Sentence Comprehension 1

Read the message from Aida to her friend Olma. Choose one word from the list for each gap. The first one has been done for you.

Dear Aida,

How are you? I hope that you're **0. well**. At the moment I'm on a school **1. journey** to Paris with the students. The weather is fantastic – we've had **2. rain** every day so far. Tomorrow we're going to go **3. on** a boat trip down the River Seine. Next Friday we've **4. got** a walking tour.

See you **5. on** next week,

Olma

Example 0. **A. well**

B. ---

C. ---

1. A. travel

B. journey

C. trip

2. A. showers

B. sun

C. rain

3. A. in

B. at

C. on

4. A. got

B. having

C. had

5. A. on

B. ---

C. the

Choose one word from the list for each gap (5 in total). The first one is done for you.

Dear Luke,

Thanks for your email. I'm so happy in my new **0. __** at the high school. Yesterday I **1. __** my class for the first time. The students were great – they were all very **2. __**. Tomorrow I **3. __** lunch with the principal. We're going to **4. __** the plans for the syllabus.

Write back and tell me your **5. __**.

Bobby

Example 0. A. job

B. ---

C. ---

1. A. metted

B. meet

C. met

2. A. lazy

B. lovely

C. friendly

3. A. am having

B. had

C. have

4. A. talk

B. discuss

C. speak

5. A. news

B. notices

C. new

Choose one word from the list for each gap (5 in total). The first one is done for you.

Dear Mum and Dad,

I **0. __** a great time with my friends in Hanoi. I've been here **1. __** Monday. Yesterday we spent all day **2. __** around the Old Quarter. My friends took me to see Train Street – it was incredible! It looks like a **3. __** street, but with a train track running down the middle of it. Then we **4. __** to Dong Xuan Market, where I bought some souvenirs.

Tomorrow we're going to see the water puppets – I'm so **5. __**!

See you soon,

Love Omar

Example 0. A. 'm having

B. ---

C. ---

1. A. to

B. from

C. since

2. A. walked

B. walking

C. to walk

3. A. normal

B. normally

C. usual

4. A. go

B. went

C. have been

5. A. exciting

B. excited

C. excitement

Choose one word from the list for each gap (5 in total). The first one is done for you.

Dear Leila,

Malcolm and I are on holiday in Ibiza. The weather is **0.** _____. We have an amazing **1.** _____ from our hotel window. Yesterday we took a **2.** _____ trip and we **3.** _____ some fish. In the evening we had dinner in a traditional bar and **4.** _____ we visited the harbour.

Tomorrow we're going to the beach.

I hope it won't be **5.** _____ hot!

Big hugs,

Mona

Example 0. A. great

B. ---

C. ---

1. A. panoramic

B. look

C. view

2. A. train

B. bus

C. boat

3. A. caught

B. catch

C. caught

4. A. after

B. so

C. then

5. A. enough

B. some

C. too

Choose one word from the list for each gap (5 in total). The first one is done for you.

Hi Olma,

How **0.** _____ things? I hope that all's well. Anyway, I **1.** _____ to ask you a favour. My English exam is on Friday, so I haven't got **2.** _____ time to prepare. Would you mind **3.** _____ me revise tomorrow? If you could, it **4.** _____ be fantastic!

Please **5.** _____ me know as soon as possible,

Thanks in advance!

Ramón

Example 0. A. are

B. ---

C. ---

1. A. write

B. 'm writing

C. writing

2. A. a lot

B. many

C. much

3. A. help

B. helping

C. to help

4. A. would

B. is

C. will

5. A. let

B. allow

C. to let

Read the message from a teacher to a colleague. Choose ONE word for each gap. The first one is done for you.

Hi Marta,

I hope you're 0. ___ well. I wanted to tell you about my new class this term. Yesterday I 1. ___ the students for the first time, and they were very enthusiastic. We 2. ___ working on a project about environmental awareness. Some students are shy, so I try to give them 3. ___ time to speak in pairs first. Tomorrow I'm going to 4. ___ their homework and give feedback.

Let me know if you want to visit the lesson 5. ___ Friday.

See you soon,

Luis

Example 0. A. feeling

1. A. meet
2. A. start
3. A. little
4. A. check
5. A. in

B. ---

- B. met
- B. started
- B. few
- B. checking
- B. at

C. ---

- C. meeting
- C. starting
- C. enough
- C. checked
- C. on

Read the email from a trainee teacher to her mentor. Choose ONE word for each gap. The first one is done for you.

Dear Sam,

I'm really enjoying my teaching practice at the school. The staff are 0. ___ friendly and helpful. Yesterday I 1. ___ a lesson about past tense verbs. At first, the students didn't understand, so I used more examples and asked them to 2. ___ in small groups. This made the activity more interactive. I also gave them a short quiz to 3. ___ their understanding. Next week, my tutor is coming to 4. ___ my class, so I'm preparing carefully.

Wish me 5. ___!

Best,
Nina

Example 0. A. very

1. A. teach
2. A. discuss
3. A. check
4. A. observe
5. A. lucky

B. ---

- B. taught
- B. discussing
- B. checking
- B. observed
- B. luck

C. ---

- C. teaching
- C. discussed
- C. checked
- C. observing
- C. luckily

Read the email from a trainee teacher to her mentor. Choose ONE word for each gap. The first one is done for you.

Dear Mrs Brown,

I'm writing to tell you that Tom is doing 0. ____ well in English this term. He always listens carefully and 1. ____ part in classroom activities. Last week he 2. ____ a short presentation about his favourite book, and the class enjoyed it very much. Sometimes he forgets to bring his notebook, so please remind him to 3. ____ it to school every day. Tomorrow we will 4. ____ a small vocabulary test.

If you have any questions, please 5. ____ me know.

Kind regards,
Ms Harris

Example: 0. **A. very**

1. A. takes

2. A. give

3. A. bring

4. A. have

5. A. let

B. ---

B. taking

B. gave

B. brings

B. having

B. allow

C. ---

C. take

C. giving

C. bringing

C. had

C. tell

Read the email from a trainee teacher to her mentor. Choose ONE word for each gap. The first one is done for you.

Hi Daniel,

The science trip yesterday was 0. ____ great success. The students arrived on time and we 1. ____ the museum at ten o'clock. First, the guide showed us an interactive exhibition, and then the students 2. ____ some experiments in small groups. They were very excited and asked many questions. After lunch, we 3. ____ back to school by bus.

Could you please 4. ____ the photos on the school website? I think parents will enjoy seeing them.

Thanks for your help and 5. ____ you tomorrow at the meeting.

Best,
Carla

Example

0. **A. a**

1. A. visit

2. A. do

3. A. travel

4. A. upload

5. A. see

B. ---

B. visited

B. did

B. travelled

B. uploads

B. seeing

C. ---

C. visiting

C. done

C. travelling

C. uploading

C. saw