Aptis Practice Tests

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What is Aptis?

English is one of the most preferred languages for educational institutions, and government and corporate organisations across the world. Good English skills open doors to global opportunities for students and professionals alike.

Aptis is a new generation, industry-agnostic English language test that provides reliable results and can be delivered conveniently at a time and place of your choice. Developed by the British Council, the global experts in English language assessment and training, it tests your English language ability in all four skills – reading, writing, listening and speaking.

Once you have taken the test, the results are reported within 48 hours on a numerical scale (0 – 50) and as per the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), which ranges from A1 (Beginner) to C (Advanced).

Why is Aptis the right choice for you?

Aptis is a flexible and reliable assessment tool that tests your performance closely, and reflects your understanding of English within a functional context, making it easier to measure your English skills.

This practice test book has been created to help you experience and prepare for the actual Aptis test. It covers all four English skills – speaking, writing, reading and listening – with grammar and vocabulary as the core component. As a replica of the Aptis test, it shows you what types of questions to expect, how to answer them, and how much time you should spend on each task.
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

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Reading Test Format

The Reading test has 25 questions divided into four tasks that take 30 minutes to complete. The tasks become more difficult as the test progresses.

There are four types of questions:

1. **Sentence comprehension**: This part tests your ability to read a sentence and to complete the sentence with a suitable word. You need to choose one word, from three possible options, to complete the sentence. There are five sentences to be completed, and each sentence is free-standing, which means, it is not necessary to understand all the sentences to complete an individual sentence.

2. **Text cohesion**: In this part, you will see seven sentences, which belong to a single story that has been jumbled up. There is only one correct way in which the sentences go together to form the story. You have to look for clues in each sentence, that show how it links to other sentences, click on the sentences and drag them to the correct position in the story. This part assesses your knowledge of the cohesion of text.

3. **Short text comprehension**: This part tests your ability to read and understand short texts. Your task is to read a text (about 150 words), and then complete the text by selecting the appropriate words from a list and filling in the gaps. To complete the text, you need to understand more than just a sentence.

4. **Long text comprehension**: This part consists of a long text (about 750 words) with a series of headings. Your task is to match the headings to the paragraphs in the text (there are seven to be done). Be careful as there will be an extra heading that does not fit with any paragraph. This task tests your ability to read and understand long texts, and also shows your proficiency in understanding the relationship between a headline and the content in the paragraphs (sometimes they match by similar words, sometimes using similar ideas, or by sharing a common 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

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Listening Test Format

The Listening test has 25 multiple-choice questions and takes between 50-55 minutes. To answer each question, you will have to choose from four 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 24, 49 and 75 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
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
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

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The test has two sections:
Grammar – 25 questions (about 12 minutes)
Vocabulary – 25 questions (about 13 minutes)

Total time – 25 minutes
**Grammar**

(25 questions – 12 minutes)

Write your answers (A-C) to questions 1-25 on your answer paper. Do not write on this question paper. The answer to question 0 is given as an example on your answer paper (A).

0. How old ______ you? **EXAMPLE**

   A. are  
   B. age  
   C. have

01. The woman ________ sold me those flowers spent twenty minutes wrapping them.

   A. what  
   B. that  
   C. which

02. A: I’ve just seen Mark.  
    B: You ________ have seen him. He’s on holiday at the moment.

   A. can’t  
   B. shouldn’t  
   C. needn’t

03. He emphasised in his speech that ________ education he received when younger had been excellent.

   A. (-)  
   B. an

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C. the

She takes the bus to work _________ day.

A. early  
B. many  
C. every

I’ll call you when I ________ home.

A. get  
B. will get  
C. getting

We ate dinner and __________ we watched a film.

A. then  
B. since  
C. so

We’re ________ in a beautiful holiday home at the moment.

A. stay  
B. staying  
C. stayed

When I got home, Jenny ________ on the telephone.

A. was speaking
09 Coffee ______ to be much cheaper a few years ago.

A. would  
B. has  
C. used

10 I’m not sure about my future. __________ I will start a business.

A. Perhaps  
B. Shall  
C. Might

11 They ate their lunch while they ______ coming home from school.

A. were  
B. was  
C. are

12 She bought it herself, __________ she?

A. hasn’t  
B. didn’t  
C. shouldn’t
13 If the dress _________ been so expensive, she would have bought it.

A. hadn’t
B. weren’t
C. aren’t

14 I __________ a great book this morning – I really want to finish it.

A. was reading
B. read
C. have read

15 Excuse me? Can I try _____ this jacket to make sure it fits?

A. under
B. with
C. on

16 I saw Wi Joo this morning and she ___________ if you were free tomorrow.

A. told
B. asked
C. said
When I go to university, I may ________ history.

A. study  
B. to study  
C. studying  

It ________ be meat free – it tastes just like chicken!

A. could  
B. can  
C. can’t  

It was a dark, moonlit night when the traveller ________ at the inn.

A. arrived  
B. was arriving  
C. had arrived  

If I hadn’t gone out last night, I ________ be so tired now.

A. won’t  
B. wouldn’t  
C. hadn’t
21. I _________ like mushrooms, but I can’t stop eating them now.
   A. wouldn’t
   B. didn’t use to
   C. couldn’t

22. The newspaper *China Today* ________ published for over 60 years.
   A. is being
   B. has been
   C. was being

23. They said they ________ been studying for ages.
   A. will have
   B. are
   C. had been

24. My father, _________ is a dentist, told me not to drink sugary drinks.
   A. who
   B. which
   C. that
______ memory of the day I met the president is very special to me.

A. The
B. A
C. (-)
Vocabulary
(25 questions – 13 minutes)
You need to write all answers on your answer paper. Do not write on this question paper.

Write the letter (A-K) of the word that is most similar in meaning to a word on the left (1-5). Use each word once only. Write your answers (A-K) on your answer paper. You will not need five of the words (A-K). The answer to question 0 is given on your answer paper as an example (L).

0. create
1. choose
2. close
3. improve
4. care
5. practise

A train
B look after
C make
D decide
E take
F shut
G propose
H believe
J develop
K worry
L make

Finish each sentence (6-10) using a word from the list (A-K). Use each word once only. Write your answers (A-K) on your answer paper. You will not need five of the words (A-K).

6. To oppose someone is to...
7. To teach someone is to...
8. To accept something is to...
9. To get something is to...
10. To pay someone is to...

A concern
B challenge
C instruct
D appear
E worry
F obtain
G wish
H compensate
J assume
K approve

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Write the letter of the word on the right (A-K) that matches the definition on the left (11-15). Use each word once only. Write your answers (A-K) on your answer paper. You will not need five of the words (A-K).

11. Wanting to know or learn something. A artificial
12. Not natural or real. B brave
13. Not clear and difficult to understand or see. C crucial
14. Having a flat, even surface. D curious
15. Having a lot of strong emotion. E fierce

Finish each sentence (16-20) using a word from the list (A-K). Use each word once only. Write your answers (A-K) on your answer paper. You will not need five of the words (A-K).

16. He had to walk down a long dark _______ to get to his room. A atmosphere
17. The teacher should maintain _______ in the classroom to make the lesson effective. B canteen
18. She opened the _______ and took a coat out of it. C ceiling
19. You should cut your _______ regularly otherwise your hair will get in your eyes. D corridor
20. The local _______ has an exhibit about the history of this area. E discipline

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Write the letter of the word on the right (A-K) that is most often used with a word on the left (21-25). Use each word once only. Write your answers (A-K) on your answer paper. You will not need five of the words (A-K).

21. abstract
22. athletics
23. congested
24. frantic
25. housework

A  clean
B  club
C  efforts
D  food
E  friends
F  painting
G  roads
H  speed
J  status
K  tasks
Reading

Aptis Practice Test

Version 1

Instructions

- Please do not write on the question paper. Use the answer paper.
- Answer as many questions as you can.
- Time yourself properly to finish all the tasks.

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Hi Pete,

Can you ___A___ some things after you finish work today?

We need ______ milk and eggs.

Don’t ______ to get a can of dog food.

The shop ______ late today.

I have an appointment at the _______.

I will see you at home at _______ 7 o’clock.

Love,

Samantha
Order the sentences (B-G) below to make a story. Write your answers on the answer paper (Questions 6-11).

The first sentence of the story (A) is given for you on the answer paper as an example.

A Life with Horses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXAMPLE:</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>William Bell was born in Argentina in 1953.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>He used his popularity to help many young people learn to ride and take care of horses.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>When he was a child, he lived on a farm and he loved animals.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>After his success, he went on to win many international competitions and he became very famous.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Eventually he retired and returned home to his farm in Argentina.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>He won his first riding competition when he was fifteen.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>He worked with horses on the farm after school and became a very good horse rider.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Occupational Stress

Occupational stress relates to the physical, emotional and psychological (0)________ on a person. It can be caused by a/an (12)________ between a person’s ability and the demands of a task, long hours, poor environment or difficult relationships. Stressful work environments can cause organisations (13)________ issues such as lower productivity, lackadaisical performance and increased absenteeism. If individuals do not avoid stress, it may result in physical or mental (14)________. Some options to manage stress related to work are regular exercise, healthy diet and (15)________ consumption of caffeinated beverages and cigarettes. In some cases, professional (16)________ may be unavoidable. Office workers who responded to a recent (17)________ suggested that employers should provide guidance on organising work tasks, balancing work and life demands and taking regular breaks. Some employees have reported improvements after attending time (18)________ workshops.

Example (0): K - effects

A - illness          B - assistance          C - complication          D - survey          E - increasing
F - significant      G - conflict          H - reducing          I - employers          J - management
K - effects
Read the text below. Match the headings A-H to the paragraphs 19-25. Write your answers (A-H) on the answer paper. There is one more heading than you need. The answer to paragraph 0 is given on the answer paper as an example (J).

The Kon-Tiki

0. In 1947, the strangest craft to set sail in 500 years crossed the South Pacific from Peru to Indonesia. A Norwegian scientist called Thor Heyerdahl built the boat, Kon-Tiki, named after the Indonesian Sun god, and made the massive journey across open seas with the aim of proving his theory about the origins of the Indonesian people.

19. Heyerdahl believed that the Indonesian people had come from Peru. He said, stone heads found on Easter Island were so similar to those around Lake Titicaca in Peru that there had to be a connection. But other scientists claimed that it would have been impossible for the Peruvians to make the journey across open sea. They said, the stone figures had been made by Indonesians to frighten a local enemy they were fighting. Heyerdahl thought these battles were really between Indonesian natives and Peruvian invaders, and that the Peruvians could have made the journey. It was this that he wanted to prove.

20. Kon-Tiki was designed by copying pre-Columbian illustrations and paintings. It was built in Peru using local materials like wood, reeds and rope made from plants. There was no metal used at all in the construction. The finished boat was 15 metres long and 5 metres wide. The six man crew, and a parrot called Lorita, shared a small cabin of 5 metres long and 2 metres wide. They also had to carry enough supplies for the 100-day crossing. They carried with them 1,250 litres of water and 200 coconuts as well as fruits and roots. The US Army had also given them emergency rations and survival equipment. Their diet was supplemented with the wide variety of fish that they were able to catch while at sea.

21. The crew members - four Norwegians and a Swede - who went with Heyerdahl included a steward, an engineer, a sociologist and translator, a guide and radio experts. The only modern equipment they carried was a compass and a radio, which was mainly used for giving weather reports and relaying their position to the Norwegian government.

22. They set out from the Peruvian sea port of Callao on April 28th, 1947. A navy boat pulled them 50 miles out to sea before releasing them. From there they sailed west, carried along by the Humbolt current. Their first sight of land, Puka-Puka island, was made 93 days later. Four days after that they saw Angatau Island and spoke to people from there but could not land. Finally, after 101 days at sea and sailing 6,980 kilometres, they touched dry land on the desert island of Raroia. However, people from nearby islands arrived in boats and took them to their village where they were welcomed with traditional dancing and parties.

23. Heyerdahl’s trip sparked a number of reactions in other scientists. They said that he and his team hadn’t sailed but drifted, and that it was chance that they reached their destination. They also
claimed that there was more evidence that the people of the Indonesian islands had originally come from the West, and not from the East. However, as recently as 2011, genetic evidence has been found which supports Heyerdahl’s claims.

24. Since the Kon-Tiki’s ambitious crossing, there have been several similar expeditions. Not all of them were successful, but in 1970, the Spanish explorer, Vital Alsar, succeeded in crossing the Pacific Ocean in the longest recorded journey of its kind. Alsar was convinced that ancient sailors could read the ocean currents like road maps. He successfully proved the point in 1973 when he repeated the voyage. More recently still, a Norwegian team recreated the trip with a copy of Thor Heyerdahl’s craft and made an award-winning documentary of the experience.

25. Thor Heyerdahl’s impressive journey has captured the imagination of generations. His book, The Kon-Tiki expedition was published in 1948 and immediately became a best-seller. His documentary, made on 8mm film, taken during the journey and including interviews with the crew, won an Academy Award in 1951. The Kon-Tiki museum in Oslo is one of the most visited places in Norway. And as recently as 2012, Kon-Tiki, the most expensive Norwegian feature film of the journey was nominated for an Oscar.
Aptis Practice Test

Version 1

Instructions

- You will hear 25 short recordings.
- You will hear each recording twice.
- Answer as many questions as you can.
Listen to the Practice Test audio here:
https://www.britishcouncil.org/exam/aptis/listening-test

This is the Aptis Listening Test. You will hear 25 short recordings. You will hear each recording twice. Write your answers on the question paper. You will have five minutes at the end of the test to copy your answers onto the answer sheet. Before the test begins, listen to an example.

Brian planned to see his friend tonight. Why does he say he can’t come?
Brian said he can’t come because he is _______.

1. busy  
2. on holiday   
3. not well  
4. late

Ken calls to plan a visit. When does Ken want to visit?
Ken wants to visit _______.

1. at 8.30  
2. at 11.00  
3. before 7.30  
4. after 2.00

Alan calls his friend to suggest ways of travelling to his city. How do most people get there?
Most people travel to Alan’s city by _______.

1. boat
2. car
3. train
4. taxi

Monica leaves you a message about her son Mark. What does he eat every morning?
In the morning, Mark usually has _______.
1. cake
2. fish
3. milk
4. eggs

Ana calls you to change when her party is. What day will the party be?
Ana’s party next week will be on _______.
1. Saturday
2. Thursday
3. Friday
4. Tuesday

Martin leaves his friend Maggie a message after a party. What did he lose?
Martin lost his _______.
1. shoes
2. car
3. glasses
4. book
06. Listen to two friends discussing their plans. What do they decide to do?

The friends are going to _______.

1. go to the park
2. watch a football game
3. go swimming
4. go to the woods

07. Listen to a woman in a shop. What type of TV does she want to buy?

The woman wants to buy _______.

1. an old-fashioned TV
2. a flat screen TV
3. an expensive TV
4. a 40-inch screen TV

08. Listen to a person talking about a house. What doesn’t she like about it?

She is going to remove the _______.

1. floors
2. doors
3. carpet
4. windows
Listen to the radio announcement. Whose birthday is it in May?

The person who has a birthday in May is _______.

1. Pete
2. Kitty
3. George
4. Paul

Alana calls her colleague. What time is the car getting her?

The car is coming at _______.

1. 2.30
2. 12.45
3. 5.00
4. 12.30

Two friends are talking about a job. Why is the job difficult?

The difficult thing about the job is _______.

1. getting up early
2. working with the doctors
3. working many hours
4. working at weekends
12. Listen to an announcement in a department store. Which items have the best reductions this weekend?
   This weekend, the best reductions are on _______.
   1. fridges
   2. shirts
   3. casual shoes
   4. beauty products

13. Listen to the announcement about a new shop. Who is the new shop for?
   The new shop is for people who _______.
   1. like good deals
   2. like a good read
   3. like a bit of luxury
   4. love to cook

14. Listen to the recorded information. What film is on in the morning only?
   The film that’s only on in the morning is _______.
   1. Abdul’s Adventures
   2. Alice
   3. Nasty Shark
   4. Swimming with Pink Fishes

15. Listen to the announcement about some sports events. When and where will the 3K race start?
   The 3K race starts at the _______.
1. main gate at 8.00
2. east gate at 7.30
3. main gate at 7.00
4. east gate at 5.00

Listen to the guide introducing the tour. Where will you have lunch?
You will have lunch at the _______.

1. museum
2. gallery
3. castle
4. department store

Listen to the message from David’s friend. How does he advise David to get the equipment?
David should _______.

1. hire it
2. buy it second hand
3. buy it new
4. get it from his brother

Listen to the news announcement about a robbery. Where did the robbery take place?
The robbery took place at a _______.

1. bank
2. pet shop
3. petrol station
4. church

Listen to the message.
Why does Paul call Anita?
1. To say sorry.
2. To say goodbye.
3. To say thank you.
4. To say hello.

Listen to a message about a house. When is the house available?
The house is available from _______.
1. next Tuesday
2. next Thursday
3. this Tuesday
4. this Thursday

Listen to the message. What is Miss Jones’ telephone number?
Miss Jones’ telephone number is ________.
1. 071 367714
2. 071 366714
3. 071 336714
4. 071 367414

Listen to the message.
Where does Tom want to meet Ameera?
1. In the park.
2. At work.
3. At the station.
4. At Pete’s house.

Listen to the conversation.
Why hasn’t Khalid finished his report?
1. His computer isn’t working.
2. He’s feeling sick.
3. He didn’t sleep well.
4. He’s got a cold.

Listen to two friends, Amal and Sally.
What does Amal decide to buy as a present?
1. A hat.
3. Chocolates.
4. A belt.

Listen to Anya talking about Pawel. Why is he unsuitable for the new job?
Pawel is unsuitable for the new job because ________.
1. he doesn’t work hard
2. he doesn’t like other people
3. he can’t make decisions
4. he doesn’t have experience

You now have five minutes to copy your answers on to the answer sheet.
Aptis Practice Test
Version 2

**Instructions**
- Please do not write on the question paper. Use the answer paper.
- Answer as many questions as you can in the time allowed.
- Follow the recommended times for each section.

**The test has two sections:**
Grammar – 25 questions (about 12 minutes)
Vocabulary – 25 questions (about 13 minutes)

**Total time – 25 minutes**
Grammar
(25 questions – 12 minutes)

Write your answers (A-C) to questions 1-25 on your answer paper.
Do not write on this question paper. The answer to question 0 is given as an example on your answer paper (A).

0
How old ______ you? EXAMPLE

A. are
B. age
C. have

01
A: Do you think you will get the job?
B: ________, but I’m not sure.

A. Possible
B. Possibility
C. Possibly

02
I ________ 25 years old.

A. have
B. am
C. (-)

03
I have ________ English for three years.

A. studied
B. study
C. studying

A: I enjoy working on challenging projects at work.
B: So ________ !

A. am
B. do
C. can

We could cook dinner. ________, we could buy some takeaway food.

A. Therefore
B. On the other hand
C. Although

You really should ________ to Barcelona – it’s a wonderful city.

A. go
B. to go
C. going

You need ________ new shoes – those ones are too old!

A. to buy
B. buy
C. buying

When I was at school I used ________ a good student.

A. to be
I've got no plans for the weekend. Maybe ________ visit my parents.

A. I  
B. I’m  
C. I’ll

I’m reading a really ________ book on the history of Europe.

A. interest  
B. interesting  
C. interested

He’s about 40, but in this photograph he looks much ________.

A. young  
B. younger  
C. youngest

She has ________ two books.

A. written  
B. wrote  
C. write
I don’t recommend driving in the morning because there’s too ________ traffic.

A. much  
B. many  
C. most

I never do my homework ________ I hate studying at home.

A. so  
B. because  
C. although

They’re so different. I ________, there’s no way they’ll be happy together.

A. mean  
B. decide  
C. wish

Because of computers, many people don’t watch a lot of ________ now.

A. the television  
B. a television  
C. television
I think, in the future, people ________ live much longer than they do now.

A. ought  
B. will  
C. would

Call me tomorrow after 8.30, because I will just _______ at home.

A. about to relax  
B. have relax  
C. be relaxing

The doctor says I will ________ much better by the end of the week.

A. to feel  
B. be feeling  
C. have felt

_______ been reading this book now for a week and it isn’t getting any better!

A. I’ve  
B. I’m  
C. I’d
21. The garden is looking untidy – you need to get rid ________ the weeds.

A. from
B. out
C. of

22. The next meeting ________ on the sixth of June.

A. is holding
B. will be held
C. holds

23. ________ of China is very interesting.

A. A history
B. History
C. The history

24. You ________ have bought that car. What a waste of money!

A. shouldn’t
B. mustn’t
C. couldn’t
This is a ________ train to London. It doesn’t stop on the way.

A. direction
B. directly
C. direct
Vocabulary
(25 questions – 13 minutes)
You need to write all answers on your answer paper. Do not write on this question paper.

01
Write the letter (A-K) of the word that is most similar in meaning to a word on the left (1-5). Use each word once only. Write your answers (A-K) on your answer paper. You will not need five of the words (A-K). The answer to question 0 is given on your answer paper as an example (L).

0. big
1. design
2. policy
3. fortune
4. wonder
5. opportunity

02
Finish each sentence (6-10) using a word from the list (A-K). Use each word once only. Write your answers (A-K) on your answer paper. You will not need five of the words (A-K).

6. The group of people who protect a country is a/an...
7. A covering for floors is called a/an...
8. A type of house in the country is call a/an...
9. A large group of people together is called a/an...
10. A type of table used for work is called a/an...

A  area
B  rule
C  money
D  base
E  chance
F  department
G  plan
H  approach
J  business
K  surprise
L  large

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03 Finish each sentence (11-15) using a word from the list (A-K). Use each word once only. Write your answers (A-K) on your answer paper. You will not need five of the words (A-K).

11. Just one more ________ is enough to end the project.  
   A    sock  
   B    hood  
   C    light  
   D    script  
   E    witness  
   F    error  
   G    port  
   H    call  
   J    champion  
   K    country

12. The jacket has a/an ________ to protect your head.  
   A    sock  
   B    hood  
   C    light  
   D    script  
   E    witness  
   F    error  
   G    port  
   H    call  
   J    champion  
   K    country

13. The ship sailed into the ________ on time.  
   A    sock  
   B    hood  
   C    light  
   D    script  
   E    witness  
   F    error  
   G    port  
   H    call  
   J    champion  
   K    country

14. The actors read their lines from the ________.  
   A    sock  
   B    hood  
   C    light  
   D    script  
   E    witness  
   F    error  
   G    port  
   H    call  
   J    champion  
   K    country

15. The cycling ________ broke the world record.  
   A    sock  
   B    hood  
   C    light  
   D    script  
   E    witness  
   F    error  
   G    port  
   H    call  
   J    champion  
   K    country

04 Finish each sentence (16-20) using a word from the list (A-K). Use each word once only. Write your answers (A-K) on your answer paper. You will not need five of the words (A-K).

16. The board will ________ the plan tomorrow.  
   A    fly  
   B    involve  
   C    approve  
   D    benefit  
   E    complicate  
   F    compete  
   G    focus  
   H    presume  
   J    borrow  
   K    catch

17. Can I ________ some money from you?  
   A    fly  
   B    involve  
   C    approve  
   D    benefit  
   E    complicate  
   F    compete  
   G    focus  
   H    presume  
   J    borrow  
   K    catch

18. This fact is going to ________ everything.  
   A    fly  
   B    involve  
   C    approve  
   D    benefit  
   E    complicate  
   F    compete  
   G    focus  
   H    presume  
   J    borrow  
   K    catch

19. Two teams are going to ________ in the race.  
   A    fly  
   B    involve  
   C    approve  
   D    benefit  
   E    complicate  
   F    compete  
   G    focus  
   H    presume  
   J    borrow  
   K    catch

20. She couldn’t ________ on the question.  
   A    fly  
   B    involve  
   C    approve  
   D    benefit  
   E    complicate  
   F    compete  
   G    focus  
   H    presume  
   J    borrow  
   K    catch

05 Write the letter of the word on the right (A-K) that is most often used with a word on the left (21-25). Use each word once only. Write your answers (A-K) on your answer paper. You will not need five of the words (A-K).

21. adverse  
   A    property  
   B    hygiene  
   C    mechanism  
   D    effort  
   E    agreement  
   F    formula  
   G    personnel  
   H    profile  
   J    effect  
   K    origins

22. vacant  
   A    property  
   B    hygiene  
   C    mechanism  
   D    effort  
   E    agreement  
   F    formula  
   G    personnel  
   H    profile  
   J    effect  
   K    origins

23. collaborative  
   A    property  
   B    hygiene  
   C    mechanism  
   D    effort  
   E    agreement  
   F    formula  
   G    personnel  
   H    profile  
   J    effect  
   K    origins

24. unanimous  
   A    property  
   B    hygiene  
   C    mechanism  
   D    effort  
   E    agreement  
   F    formula  
   G    personnel  
   H    profile  
   J    effect  
   K    origins

25. humble  
   A    property  
   B    hygiene  
   C    mechanism  
   D    effort  
   E    agreement  
   F    formula  
   G    personnel  
   H    profile  
   J    effect  
   K    origins
Aptis Practice Test

Version 2

Instructions

- Please do not write on the question paper. Use the answer paper.
- Answer as many questions as you can.
- Time yourself properly to finish all the tasks.
Dear Simon,

Can you give me some ______ about the meeting tomorrow?

Is the meeting in the morning or the ________?

Can you ________ me the number of the meeting room?

I don’t know ________ the meeting is about.

Please call me ________ today.

I will be at ________ all day.

Regards,

Samantha
Order the sentences (B-G) below to make a story. Write your answers on the answer paper (Questions 6-11).

The first sentence of the story (A) is given for you on the answer paper as an example.

### A Writer’s Life

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EXAMPLE:</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>Kim was born in 1890 into a rich family in the English city of Leeds.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Kim wrote her last book at the age of 90, and two months later died peacefully at home.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>When she was a young girl she was sent to France by her parents to live with her aunt.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Kim’s first full book, The Vengeance, was also very successful.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>As a young adult she achieved success writing short stories in England.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Kim returned from the continent to England after five years.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>She eventually wrote over 100 books, for which she won the Grand Master Award.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bread

Bread is (0) _______ of the oldest foods made by man. There is archaeological (12) _______ that it was prepared in Europe as long as 30,000 years ago. Throughout history, bread has been a/an (13) _______ food in many cultures. The ancient Egyptians encouraged mothers to give their children (14) _______ of bread to take to school with them. Nowadays, bread is potentially the one food (15) _______ is eaten by people from every race and culture. A vast variety of traditions and beliefs connected with it have developed. In Scandinavia, it is (16) _______ that if a boy and girl eat from the same piece of bread, they will fall in love. Different types of bread include white and brown baked in a/an (17) _______ of sizes and shapes. It is widely (18) _______ and is cheap and easy to produce.

Example (0): K - one

A - which      B - whose      C - wondered      D - evidence      E - variety
F - believed   G - available  H - plenty       I - basic         J - hold
K - one
0. Many adults and children love the hula hoop, either for exercise or simply for fun. You can whirl it around your waist; spin it on your arms or legs or even rotate it around your neck at an extremely high speed. Hula hoops can be made from bendy wood or even strong grass twisted together. However, these days they are primarily solid plastic tubes. Hula hoops have endured throughout history, never quite fading away, and are still popular today.

19. So, when did this fascination for hula hooping really begin? Many believe it started in the 1950s, simply as a means of pleasure. However, it actually dates back much further, as far back as the fifth century in ancient Greece where it was a means of exercising. It re-emerged in thirteenth century Scotland as a therapy for those who suffered from heart disease or back conditions. In those early days it was simply called the ‘hoop,’ the word ‘hula’ was added by British soldiers on a visit to Hawaii in the nineteenth century; they believed that the action was similar to that of the traditional island Hula dance.

20. In 1950s America, Californian toy company Wham-O perfected a plastic version of the toy which attracted global interest. In as little as four months, 25 million of the hoops were sold. Within two years, over 100 million had been sold, starting a trend which swept throughout the country. In the USA alone, 50,000 were produced in a single day. Many people in countless corners of the world developed a passion for the trend, from infants to grandparents and from factory workers to CEOs.

21. Many popular songs were written about the hula hoop during the 1960s. Nevertheless, the toy’s popularity began to fade over the next few decades. However, the hula hoop never completely vanished from the public arena and most toys stores continued to stock the toy. Recently it staged a spectacular revival, rallying a new generation of fans. Even the wife of the President of the USA was spotted ‘hooping’ on the White House Lawn. Nowadays, the circular toy has been incorporated in a range of fitness schemes. These use special weighted hoops to suit individual needs, including ‘collapsible’ ones designed for easy storage.

22. The hula hoop is associated with many different world records. In 1960, a group of American 11 year olds established a record for the longest ‘non-stop’ spinning session, lasting precisely 11 hours and 34 minutes. In 1976, an even younger contestant won an uninterrupted 10 hour 47 minutes contest at just eight years old. The present-day record holder, Bric Sorenson, was able to keep his hula hoop spinning from April 2 to April 6, 1987, accumulating an incredible 90 non-stop hours.

23. Another record is for 132 hoops spun by an individual at once. This record was established by Paul Blair on November 11, 2009, earning him the nickname “Dizzy Hips.” This act involves participants holding all the hula hoops without any help from anyone else and spinning them between the shoulders and hips. As soon as the hoops have started to rotate competitors cannot touch them again with their hands. If they do, their record attempt fails.
24. In another record event, the contestant runs while simultaneously spinning. A ribbon tied around the hoop allows the judges to check if it is still revolving. The hoop must be rotating before crossing the starting line. If it ceases to spin, then contestants must stop and start it again. This is the only time that they can touch the hoop with their hands. The current female holder for this record is Australian Boo Crystal Chan, who completed 10 Km in one hour, 27 minutes and 25 seconds on March 12th 2009. The male champion, Paul “Dizzy Hips” Blair, was 20 minutes and 50 seconds faster than Boo.

25. In 2005, an American man, Ashrita Furman, successfully spun the world’s largest hula hoop at 13.88 metres in diameter. While the heaviest recorded was actually a tractor tyre which weighed 53 pounds! This monster was spun for a total of 71 seconds in Austria, 2000, by Roman Schedler. And in Chung Cheng sport arena, Taiwan, on October 28, 2,496 people managed to spin their hula hoops at the same time for over three minutes without dropping one, making it the world record for mass simultaneous hula hooping.

Headings

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>A Collection of Records</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Without a Single Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Hooping Back In Fashion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Hooping Appeals to Both Genders Alike</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Fun, Fitness or Treatment?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>The Hula Hoop Goes Global</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Spinning Multiple Hoops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Hooping and Running at the Same Time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J</td>
<td>What is it? (EXAMPLE)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Aptis Practice Test

Version 2

Instructions

- You will hear 25 short recordings.
- You will hear each recording twice.
- Answer as many questions as you can.
Listen to the Practice Test audio here:
https://www.britishcouncil.org/exam/aptis/listening-test

This is the Aptis Listening Test. You will hear 25 short recordings. You will hear each recording twice. Write your answers on the question paper. You will have five minutes at the end of the test to copy your answers onto the answer sheet. Before the test begins, listen to an example.

**0**
Brian planned to see his friend tonight. Why does he say he can’t come?

Brian said he can’t come because he is ______.

1. busy
2. on holiday
3. not well
4. late

**01**
You have to collect someone from the station. What kind of bag will she have?

Her bag will be ______.

1. big and red
2. small and white
3. big and black
4. small and red

**02**
Your business colleague calls to say where the meeting will be?

Where is room 308?

1. on the 4th floor
2. on the right of the hall

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3. near the garden
4. after the copy machine

Your colleague calls to arrange a meeting. What time does he want to meet you?

He wants to meet you at _______.

1. 12.00
2. 11.30
3. 10.30
4. 11.00

Jooyeon asks her sister to go shopping. What does she want to buy?

Jooyeon wants to buy _______.

1. art
2. books
3. clothes
4. music

Listen to the message. What is Maggie’s phone number?

Maggie’s phone number is _______.

1. 210 732 4319
2. 210 732 4931
3. 210 732 3491
4. 210 732 3914
06  Listen to two friends discussing their plans. What do they decide to do?
The friends are going to _______.

1. go to the park
2. watch a football game
3. go swimming
4. go to the woods

07  A customer is talking to a waitress. What does he order for dessert?
He orders _______.

1. ice cream
2. apple pie
3. fruit
4. chocolate cake

08  Listen to a woman discussing holiday plans. Where do she and her husband usually go?
For their holidays, they usually go to _______.

1. their children
2. warm and sunny places
3. Turkey or Egypt
4. Jack's parents
Listen to two new friends talking. Which city does Maria says she prefers?

Maria prefers Madrid because _______.

1. she has family there
2. it is better than London
3. it has a good football club
4. she doesn't like Manchester

Two friends are talking about the man’s new job. What did he use to do?

He used to be a _______.

1. doctor
2. computer programmer
3. factory worker
4. teacher

You hear this information in an airport. What time will the plane now leave?

The plane will now leave at _______.

1. 9.30
2. 11.30
3. 10.00
4. 11.00
12. Listen to the sports centre advertisement. When are the discounted fitness training classes? The discounted fitness training classes are ______.

1. Thursday to Saturday
2. on weekends
3. Tuesday to Thursday
4. Monday to Wednesday

13. Listen to an advertisement. What is offered at the Albion School this year? This year at the school you can ______.

1. do summer courses
2. get cheaper courses
3. get value for money
4. talk with locals

14. Listen to the message about a festival. What can visitors see every day? Every day visitors can see ______.

1. films
2. well-known artists
3. national costumes
4. an art exhibition

15. Listen to your boss’s announcement. What is happening on Friday? On Friday there will be ______.

1. an inspection
2. a survey
3. a one-hour meeting

4. a ten-minute interview

Francisco leaves a message for his colleague. What time is their flight home?

Their flight home is at _______.

1. 11.00 p.m.
2. 6.00 p.m.
3. 4.00 p.m.
4. 5.00 p.m.

Listen to a man giving some advice. What is the main tip the man gives?

The main tip the man gives is to _______.

1. write everything down
2. call after interviews
3. develop a system
4. develop relationships

David’s friend gives him some advice about camping equipment. How should he get the equipment?

David should _______.

1. hire it
2. buy it second hand
3. buy it new
4. get it from his brother
Listen to an announcement about a day trip and find out where you can eat lunch.

Where can you have lunch?

1. The beach.
2. The kiosk.
3. The bus.
4. The cafe.

Listen to the conversation. What does the woman think about her new country?

The woman _______.

1. is still uncertain
2. is mostly negative
3. likes everything
4. doesn’t want to talk about it

You will hear a man describing a journey. How did he and his wife travel?

They travelled by ______.

1. plane
2. boat
3. train
4. car

Martha tells a friend about a job interview. How did she feel before it?

Before the interview, Martha felt _______.

1. bored
2. relieved
3. nervous
4. angry

Two friends are talking about books. What does the man think of the books the woman recommends?
The man thinks the books the woman recommends are _______.
1. fantastic
2. educational
3. old-fashioned
4. difficult

A man and a woman are preparing a party for some friends. What are they worried about?
The man and the woman are worried that _______.
1. there won’t be enough food
2. there will be too much cake
3. the team won’t want to eat if they lose
4. there will be too much food left over again

Listen to a man and woman talking. Where are they?
The couple is at _______.
1. a coffee shop
2. an antique shop
3. a furniture shop
4. a palace

You now have five minutes to copy your answers on to the answer sheet.
Aptis Practice Test
Version 3

Instructions

- Please do not write on the question paper. Use the answer paper.
- Answer as many questions as you can in the time allowed.
- Follow the recommended times for each section.

The test has two sections:
Grammar – 25 questions (about 12 minutes)
Vocabulary – 25 questions (about 13 minutes)

Total time – 25 minutes
Grammar
(25 questions – 12 minutes)

Write your answers (A-C) to questions 1-25 on your answer paper. Do not write on this question paper. The answer to question 0 is given as an example on your answer paper (A).

0 How old ______ you? EXAMPLE

A. are
B. age
C. have

01 In those days, my father ______ never eat dinner after eight o’clock.

A. would
B. will
C. used to

02 He ______ finished cooking when we arrived.

A. have
B. had
C. has

03 If you were a better cook, you ______ need to eat out all the time.

A. won’t
B. wouldn’t
C. hadn’t

The passenger ______ a fine because he didn’t have the right ticket.

A. given

B. was given

C. didn’t give

There were ______ than fifty people in the audience last night.

A. fewer

B. lesser

C. few

I’m ______ happy with my new car. It’s brilliant!

A. so

B. quite

C. a bit

I’m not sure about my future. ______ I’ll start a business.

A. Sometimes

B. Perhaps

C. Always

Please, ______ the street if the light is red.

A. cross not
09 Why _______ you apply for the job, you’ve got the experience.
A. are
B. don’t
C. not

10 I _______ London but it’s expensive.
A. likes
B. like
C. liking

11 We _______ through France during the summer.
A. was travelling
B. travelling
C. travelled

12 John: I love riding bikes.
Paul: _______? Me too!
A. Really
B. Right
C. Anyway
I’m really not sure what to do at work. I need _______ advice.

A. the
B. piece of
C. some

I think, in the future, space travel _______ as common as plane travel is now.

A. will become
B. has become
C. is becoming

Please don’t come in the morning. I will _______ if you do.

A. have worked
B. be working
C. work

San Francisco is the most beautiful city I _______ visited.

A. ever
B. have
C. had
I’m sorry to let you_______, but I can’t come to your party.

A. down
B. on
C. under

You missed a great party on Saturday night. You _______ have come.

A. must
B. ought
C. should

_______ the cold weather, she went swimming.

A. Although
B. Despite
C. In spite

He had been working for hours when he _______ asleep.

A. has fallen
B. falls
C. fell
Before she got married, she _______ go out most evenings.

A. should  
B. would  
C. must

It _______ been snowing heavily, so we decided to go skiing.

A. has  
B. had  
C. would have

It is expected that two million copies of the novel _______ sold by December.

A. will have been  
B. have been  
C. will have being

If I _______ harder at school, I wouldn’t be doing this job now.

A. has worked  
B. have worked  
C. had worked
The way I see it, you _______ have sold the land then – prices are higher now.

A. mustn’t
B. shouldn’t
C. can’t
Vocabulary
(25 questions – 13 minutes)
You need to write all answers on your answer paper. Do not write on this question paper.

01 Write the letter (A-K) of the word that is most similar in meaning to a word on the left (1-5). Use each word once only. Write your answers (A-K) on your answer paper. You will not need five of the words (A-K). The answer to question 0 is given on your answer paper as an example (L).

0. big
1. oppose
2. unite
3. complete
4. say
5. vote

A doubt
B tell
C accept
D join
E realise
F assume
G choose
H finish
J disagree
K touch
L large

02 Finish each sentence (6-10) using a word from the list (A-K). Use each word once only. Write your answers (A-K) on your answer paper. You will not need five of the words (A-K).

6. To say no is to...
7. To look at something is to...
8. To wrap something is to...
9. To give orders is to...
10. To guess something is to...

A instruct
B improve
C follow
D share
E refuse
F cover
G measure
H link
J observe
K estimate
Write the letter (A-K) of the word that is most similar in meaning to a word on the left (11-15). Use each word once only. Write your answers (A-K) on your answer paper. You will not need five of the words (A-K).

11. whack
12. tread
13. arrest
14. mend
15. thrill

A catch
B dance
C chase
D hit
E step
F stand
G excite
H laugh
J mix
K fix

Write the letter of the word on the right (A-K) that is most often used with a word on the left (16-20). Use each word once only. Write your answers (A-K) on your answer paper. You will not need five of the words (A-K).

16. millionaire
17. epidemic
18. diploma
19. windscreen
20. bargain

A hunters
B subject
C employee
D programme
E shoppers
F joint
G proportions
H wipers
J size
K businessmen
Finish each sentence (21-25) using a word from the list (A-K). Use each word once only. Write your answers (A-K) on your answer paper. You will not need five of the words (A-K).

21. I don’t buy _______ food because it’s expensive and I think it’s a waste of money.

22. He was an excitable man and was very _______ about being unhappy.

23. It was one of the ugliest things I’ve ever seen. It was absolutely _______.

24. They’d spent a huge amount of money on the wedding. It was very _______.

25. When the player found out he’d lost the point, he was absolutely _______.
Aptis Practice Test

Version 3

Instructions

- Please do not write on the question paper. Use the answer paper.
- Answer as many questions as you can.
- Time yourself properly to finish all the tasks.
Dear Tom,

I ______ this morning at 7:30 a.m.

Sorry – I didn’t ______ the washing-up.

Can you ______ the bed?

And don’t ______ to feed the dog.

I can go to the shop ______ and buy something for dinner.

I ______ you have a good day.

Love,

Jane

EXAMPLE

0  A. left        B. was        C. had
1  A. have       B. get         C. do
2  A. make       B. have       C. complete
3  A. understand B. forget     C. remember
4  A. later      B. yesterday  C. when
5  A. want       B. know       C. hope
Order the sentences (B-G) below to make a story. Write your answers on the answer paper (Questions 6-11).

The first sentence of the story (A) is given for you on the answer paper as an example.

**EXAMPLE:** A  C.S. Lewis is one of the most famous English writers.

<p>| | |</p>
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<td>B</td>
<td>Lewis married the woman and later left the rights for his books to her son.</td>
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<td>He had a private education and then served in World War I.</td>
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<td>An American woman and her son went to meet Lewis because they loved these books.</td>
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<td>While working at Oxford, he wrote his famous Narnia books for children.</td>
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<td>After the war, he studied at Oxford University and became a teacher there.</td>
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<td>In his childhood, he began writing stories about an imaginary world called Narnia.</td>
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The Father of Western Literature?

It is thousands of years since his (0) ________ were written. Yet the Greek poet known as Homer is still a (12) _______ of mystery. His masterpieces, The Iliad and The Odyssey are the earliest (13) _______ of Greek literature which have survived to the present (14) _______. Historical research (15) _______ that Homer was a blind poet who lived around 700 BC. Yet in (16) _______ we know very little about his life. Certain historians suspect he may not even have existed. They claim that his stories were actually told orally and passed on over many generations and (17) _______ before they were written down. It is certain, however, that the works have inspired countless writers and artists for thousands of years. They are still considered to be (18) _______ the crowning achievements of Western literature.

Example (0): K - poems

A - reality     B - between     C - result     D - centuries     E - source
F - among      G - signals     H - suggests   I - day          J - works
K - poems
The Rise and Fall of Ephesus

0. Ephesus, an ancient city in modern-day Turkey, was once one of the most important cities in the Western world. Controlled, destroyed, and re-built by many different armies, leaders and people, it has a complex and fascinating history. It fell from being a city of critical economic and religious significance to a small, unimportant village. These days, nothing but ruins remain.

19. People have lived at the site and the surroundings for thousands of years. Archaeologists have found evidence dating from Neolithic times. There were also settlements during the Bronze Age, although no architectural structures remain from this period. The precise location of the city during these times cannot be firmly established, as the river has moved over the centuries. The once busy harbour has also vanished.

20. However, about 2000 years ago, the diverse leaders of the city started elaborate city planning projects. We can tell what a sophisticated society this was, from some of the ruins. The most impressive are the elaborately decorated remains of the front wall of a huge library. This used to contain thousands of papers. There is also a theatre with a capacity to seat 25,000, possibly the biggest theatre of its time. Wide roads paved with marble also remain, and a complex system of aqueducts. These carried water to public baths and water mills, which cut the marble for building. Women’s rights were honoured, possibly because of the importance of goddess-worship, and there were even female artists.

21. The city was well-known as the site of the enormous Temple of Artemis. This was considered to be the finest of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. People came from far away to worship the goddess Artemis, establishing Ephesus as a major destination for travellers. The temple had to be completely re-built three times before it was finally destroyed in 401 AD. It was first destroyed by a flood, later deliberately burnt down by a lunatic, and was eventually destroyed in a Gothic raid. All that remains is a broken column, standing crookedly in the middle of a marsh.

22. At its peak, about 300,000 people lived in the city, making it second only in size to Rome in the ancient world. Not only was it densely populated, it was also a key trading city, situated in a strategic location on the Aegean Sea. Its position in a fertile valley gave its people another source of income from agriculture, and they could easily export their products. During the reign of Emperor Augustus, it was the capital of the region, and a new era of prosperity began.

23. As with many beautiful cities of strategic importance, Ephesus was constantly fought over. It changed hands and allegiance many times, and was part of the Greek, Roman, Persian, Byzantine and Ottoman Empires. During Roman rule, taxes rose and the city’s treasures were stolen. At one point, Ephesus was self-governing, but this was only for a short time. When the Romans took over again, the citizens were forced to pay taxes retrospectively.
24. In 50 AD, Ephesus became an important centre of Christianity, and is mentioned in the Bible. Key leaders of the early church lived in the city. These included the apostle Paul, who wrote much of the Bible, and it is thought that Mary, the mother of Jesus, died in Ephesus. The position of Ephesus at the heart of Christianity is ironic, as for many years, the city had been best known for the Temple to Artemis. When many citizens converted to Christianity, the local silver-workers were furious, scared of losing their livelihood making silver statues of the goddess.

25. Despite the city’s importance, and the powers of its rulers, other forces were stronger. The river gradually shifted location and the harbour silted up, leaving swamps full of mosquitoes. With the citizens dying of malaria, the king deliberately flooded the whole city by blocking the sewers. This was to force people to move to a healthier location, two kilometres away. Lacking its port and river, Ephesus steadily diminished in size. It was just a small village when captured by the Seljuk Turks in 1090. The great temple was all but forgotten, and the once-thriving city was entirely abandoned by the fifteenth century. Nowadays, as part of modern Turkey, it is a major tourist attraction, with one of the region’s largest collection of ancient ruins from the classical period.

Headings

| A | The struggle for power |
| B | Efforts to survive in difficult circumstances |
| C | A centre of commerce |
| D | A major shift in belief |
| E | Overcome by the power of nature |
| F | Publicly honoured but persistently wrecked |
| G | An uncertain position |
| H | Clues of a glorious past |
| J | At one time great, now insignificant (EXAMPLE) |
Aptis Practice Test

Version 3

Instructions

- You will hear 25 short recordings.
- You will hear each recording twice.
- Answer as many questions as you can.
Listening (25 questions)

Listen to the Practice Test audio here:
https://www.britishcouncil.org/exam/aptis/listening-test

This is the Aptis Listening Test. You will hear 25 short recordings. You will hear each recording twice. Write your answers on the question paper. You will have five minutes at the end of the test to copy your answers onto the answer sheet. Before the test begins, listen to an example.

0  
Brian planned to see his friend tonight. Why does he say he can’t come?  
Brian said he can’t come because he is _______.

1. busy
2. on holiday
3. *not well*
4. late

01  
Your friend calls to make dinner plans. What do her children have on Thursday?  
On Thursday, Usha’s children have _______.

1. an exercise class
2. a dance class
3. an English class
4. a music class

02  
Your friend calls to arrange lunch. What day does he suggest?  
He suggests _______.

1. Tuesday
2. Thursday
3. Saturday
4. Wednesday

Your colleague calls to arrange a meeting. What time does he want to meet you?
He wants to meet you at _______.
1. 12.00
2. 11.30
3. 10.30
4. 11.00

A colleague calls with a message from a client. When does he want to meet?
Your client wants to meet _______.
1. Monday
2. Thursday
3. Tuesday
4. Friday

Your mother calls to ask you to buy something. What do you need to buy?
You need to buy _______.
1. a book
2. coffee
3. water
4. food
You hear two people talking about what to eat. What do they decide to have?

They decide to have _______.

1. Italian food  
2. fish and chips  
3. Indian food  
4. Chinese food

Emily is talking about her future. What is her plan for when she finishes school?

Her plan after school is to _______.

1. go to university  
2. go to India  
3. start working  
4. start her own company

A woman calls her friend. Why is she calling him?

The woman is calling to _______.

1. say sorry  
2. meet up  
3. say hello  
4. say goodbye
09

Listen to the phone message. What does the woman want Simon to get?

The woman wants Simon to get _______.

1. a game
2. some food
3. some water
4. some milk

10

Two friends are talking about a man’s new job. What did he used to do?

He used to be a _______.

1. doctor
2. computer programmer
3. factory worker
4. teacher

11

Listen to a conversation about a new teacher. Which word correctly describes the teacher?

The new teacher is _______.

1. kind
2. mean
3. lucky
4. fair
A woman talks about her holiday. What was the best thing about where she stayed?
The best thing about where she stayed was the _______.
1. location
2. bathroom
3. food
4. weather

Listen to a radio book club. What is the woman’s opinion of the book?
The woman thought the book was _______.
1. sad
2. simple
3. unbelievable
4. unemotional

Listen to a programme about advertising. In the speaker’s opinion, what do adverts not guarantee?
The speaker says, adverts do not guarantee to give us _______.
1. good looks
2. the truth
3. our dreams
4. self-confidence

Listen to a tourist complain to his travel company. What did the company advertise correctly?
The advert was right about _______.
1. local taxes
2. entertainment
3. sunny weather
4. great food

Listen to a climbing instructor give instructions. Which route is the hardest?
The most difficult route is marked ________.
1. white
2. blue
3. green
4. orange

A radio presenter recalls his first day at school. What frightened him?
The man was frightened of ________.
1. feeling alone
2. the teacher’s voice
3. the older children
4. the teacher’s annoyance

Listen to a woman talking about her education. What did she enjoy most at school?
At school, the activity she enjoyed most was ________.
1. sports
2. music
3. art
4. science
Listen to two friends talking about a film. What do they think of the film?
The two friends think the film was ________.

1. interesting
2. romantic
3. boring
4. confusing

Ewa is talking to her colleague about her holiday. Did she enjoy her time?
Ewa ________.

1. didn’t like it much
2. loved every minute
3. can’t wait to go back
4. didn’t have an opinion

A radio presenter is talking about TV news. What should it do to improve?
To improve, TV news should ________.

1. have stories about film stars
2. include more good news
3. be more interesting
4. be better than Internet news

Two friends are discussing a film. Why doesn’t the man like it?
The man doesn’t like the film because it was ________.

1. unbelievable
2. romantic
3. boring
4. unoriginal

Two friends are talking about books. What does the man think of the books the woman recommends?
The man thinks the books the woman recommends are _______.
1. fantastic
2. educational
3. old-fashioned
4. difficult

Listen to the radio interview. Which type of issue does the man’s charity deal with?
The charity deals with _______.
1. flood relief
2. heart disease
3. the environment
4. cancer support

Listen to two colleagues talking about a work event. Decide what that event is.
The important event is _______.
1. a staff party
2. a visit
3. a presentation
4. a team lunch

You now have five minutes to copy your answers on to the answer sheet.
Aptis
Practice Writing and Speaking Test
www.britishcouncil.org/aptis
Writing

(Four parts – 50 minutes)

You need to write all answers on this question paper.

You are in a travel club. You have 5 messages from a member of the club. Write short answers (1-5 words) to each message.

What do you do?

What did you do yesterday?

What’s your favourite colour?

What’s the weather like today?

How do you get to work?
You are a new member of the travel club. Fill in the form. Write sentences. Use 20-30 words. You have seven minutes to do this.

Aptis Travel Club

Please write some reasons why you are interested in travel.

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________
You are a member of a travel club. You are talking to some members in the travel club chat room. Talk to them using sentences. Use 30-40 words per answer. You have ten minutes to do this.

Sam: Hi! Welcome to the club. Can you remember the first time you went on a journey yourself? What was it like?

Miguel: Welcome! What are the most interesting places to visit in your country?

Michelle: What is the most exciting journey you’ve been on?
You are the member of a travel club. You received this e-mail from the club.

Dear member,
We are writing that the famous travel writer Mr David Price will unfortunately not be able to attend our next club meeting. Although Mr Price will not be there to sign copies of his new book Around the World in Eighty Ways, members of the club will be able to buy a copy at the price of twenty-five pounds. If you would like to reserve a copy of the book, please contact the club secretary.

Write an e-mail to your friend. Write about your feelings and what you are planning to do. Write about 50 words. You have ten minutes to do this.

Write an e-mail to the secretary of the club. Write about your feelings and what you would like to do.
Write 120-150 words. You have 20 minutes to do this.
Speaking
(Four parts – 12 minutes)

In the actual test, there will be a recording that gives you your instructions. Your instructions will also appear in writing to help you.

Part One. In this part, I’m going to ask you three short questions about yourself and your interests. You will have 30 seconds to reply to each question. Begin speaking when you hear this sound [beep].

Q1: Please tell me about your family.
Q2: What do you like to do on weekends?
Q3: Tell me about your hometown or city.

Part Two. In this part, I’m going to ask you to describe what is happening in a picture. Then I will ask you two questions about it. You will have 45 seconds for each response. Begin speaking when you hear this sound [beep]. Make sure you answer as fully as possible.

Describe this picture.

Tell me about a time you visited a museum.

Do you think people should pay to visit museums, or should they be free?
Part Three. In this part I’m going to ask you to look at the pictures, then ask you two questions. You will have 45 seconds for each response. Begin speaking when you hear this sound [beep]. Make sure you answer as fully as possible.

What kind of people play these two sports?

Which of these two sports is more difficult to play? Why?
Look at the picture and answer the questions below. You will have 60 seconds to think about your answers before you start speaking.

Tell me a time when you were on your own.
How did you feel about it?
What are some of the ways of passing time on your own?

You now have two minutes to talk.
Aptis
Answer Sheet, Answer Keys and Sample Answers
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### Vocabulary

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You are in a travel club. You have 5 messages from a member of the club. Write short answers (1-5 words) to each message.

What do you do? I’m a teacher
What did you do yesterday? I visited the zoo
What’s your favourite colour? Blue
What’s the weather like today? It’s snowing
How do you get to work? By tram
You are a new member of the travel club. Fill in the form. Write sentences. Use 20-30 words. You have seven minutes to do this.

Aptis Travel Club

Please write some reasons why you are interested in travel.

When I was a child I used to love travelling up and down the countryside with my family. Back then, we used to drive because we would take so much stuff with us for camping and other activities.
You are a member of a travel club. You are talking to some members in the travel club chat room. Talk to them using sentences. Use 30-40 words per answer. You have ten minutes to do this.

Sam: Hi! Welcome to the club. Can you remember the first time you went on a journey yourself? What was it like?

Hi. Yes I can. I was about seven and I travelled across the country to stay with my aunt and cousins in the countryside. I was terrified at first but then started to enjoy the freedom.

Miguel: Welcome! What are the most interesting places to visit in your country?

I think the cities have a lot to offer a tourist. If you don’t speak French, then visiting the countryside can be difficult.

Michelle: What is the most exciting journey you’ve been on?

I think, definitely, the time I visited Everest. I didn’t go all the way to the top but still the nature and to be so high up was incredible.
You are the member of a travel club. You received this e-mail from the club.

Dear member,
We are writing that the famous travel writer Mr David Price will unfortunately not be able to attend our next club meeting. Although Mr Price will not be there to sign copies of his new book, Around the World in Eighty Ways, members of the club will be able to buy a copy at the price of twenty-five pounds. If you would like to reserve a copy of the book, please contact the club secretary.

Write an e-mail to your friend. Write about your feelings and what you are planning to do. Write about 50 words. You have ten minutes to do this.

Hi Geoff,

I am so angry that this guy has cancelled at the last moment. I was really looking forward to hearing what he had to say.

Forget it, I don’t think I’ll bother with the book after all, I feel let down and it made me laugh they still want 25 pounds for the book – ha.

Write an e-mail to the secretary of the club. Write about your feelings and what you would like to do. Write 120-150 words. You have 20 minutes to do this.

Dear Club Secretary,

I received your e-mail dated 16.03 and would like to let you know that I do hope Mr Price is well, and that the reason for his absence isn’t too serious. Although, I am an avid fan of his travel writing in general, I think I will wait until I can purchase a signed copy of his book. To be honest I am a little disappointed as I already have signed copies of his first two and was really looking forward to getting this one.

Please let me know if the club is planning on inviting him back soon. If not, I will look online to see if I can get a copy.

Regards,

Greg
Speaking
(Four parts – 12 minutes)
In the actual test, there will be a recording that gives you your instructions. Your instructions will also appear in writing to help you.

Part One. In this part, I'm going to ask you three short questions about yourself and your interests. You will have 30 seconds to reply to each question. Begin speaking when you hear this sound [beep].

Q1: Please tell me about your family.
I have a very big family. I have three brothers and two sisters. We all get along really well, which is good.
Q2: What do you like to do on weekends?
Generally, I just like to relax – I sometimes meet up with friends and we go out, or sometimes I watch a movie.
Q3: Tell me about your hometown or city.
I live in the countryside. The nearest village is about five miles away. It's nice and quiet.

Part Two. In this part, I'm going to ask you to describe what is happening in a picture. Then I will ask you two questions about it. You will have 45 seconds for each response. Begin speaking when you hear this sound [beep]. Make sure you answer as fully as possible.

Describe this picture.

There is a young girl looking at some things inside a glass box – maybe she is in a museum. There is an adult with her and she is looking in the box too.

Tell me about a time you visited a museum.
I haven't been to a museum since I was about ten. To be honest, I can't really remember it – I was with my school and I just remember the journey back home.

Do you think people should pay to visit museums, or should they be free?
I don’t think anything is free – it must be paid for somehow. In my country guests pay and local people can go in free.
Part Three. In this part I’m going to ask you to look at the pictures then ask you two questions. You will have 45 seconds for each response. Begin speaking when you hear this sound [beep]. Make sure you answer as fully as possible.

What kind of people play these two sports?

I think very different people play these sports. I think golf is for people who have a lot of money and time to spare and basketball, although possibly played by everybody, is usually played by busy people who like to play team sports.

Which of these two sports is more difficult to play? Why?

I think they are so different, a comparison is not really applicable. One is very athletic and a team sport while the other is solitary and requires long periods of thought and concentration. They are of course, both sports but they are vastly different.

So, hmm, if you are fit, then I guess basketball would be easier than golf. It seems to be that you can rely on your teammates a bit, and they can encourage you if you are not playing well.
Tell me a time when you were on your own.
How did you feel about it?
What are some of the ways of passing time on your own?

You now have two minutes to talk.

The last time I was on my own was when I was travelling around the country. I wanted to spend some time up in the hills and forests, just being with nature. I love the sounds, smells, and the feeling you get and being with other people makes it very difficult to relax and just be with nature.

I felt so very relaxed it was hard when I came back in to the town. I like to be with friends but I do find it really important to spend time alone and to have only yourself and the ‘birds and the bees’ around.

I have talked about one – relaxing – but another thing that I really enjoy is reading. I love just sitting with a good book and the feeling of being engrossed in a story without a care in the world and any distractions. Another way is when I go for drives – I suppose it’s like exploring or finding my town all for myself I often put some music on and have a sing along too – I never usually sing in front of people – I guess I must be shy.