

Aptis
Advanced

Practice Test

October 2020



Contents

What is Aptis?	3
Aptis Core Test (grammar and vocabulary)	4
Aptis Advanced Reading Test	5
Aptis Advanced Listening Test	6
Aptis Advanced Writing Test	7
Aptis Advanced Speaking Test	8
Aptis Advanced Practice Test	9
Grammar	10
Vocabulary	14
Reading	16
Listening	24
Aptis Advanced Practice Test	30
Writing	31
Speaking	35
Answer Sheet and Answer Keys	37

What is Aptis?

Aptis is a modern and flexible English test, developed by the British Council's language testing experts. It tests English language ability in all four skills - reading, writing, listening and speaking.

Aptis Advanced

Aptis Advanced is a variant of Aptis which is aimed at higher level test-takers. It tests English language ability from B1 to C2 on the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR). Aptis reflects your understanding of English within a functional context.

The results from Aptis are available 48 hours after completing the test. They are reported on a numerical scale (0-50) and as a CEFR level from B1 to C2 for each of the skills tested.

This practice test book has been created to help you experience and prepare for the Aptis Advanced test. It covers all four English skills – speaking, writing, reading and listening – with grammar and vocabulary as the core component.

The Aptis Advanced test is taken on a computer. The descriptions of the different parts of the test in this booklet show how the test is done on a computer. Because this booklet is on paper, the questions won't look exactly the same as they do on the screen. However they are exactly the same types of questions as in the test and the booklet shows how to answer them and how much time you should spend on each task.



Aptis Core Test (grammar and vocabulary)

Grammar test format

The Grammar section has 25 questions. Each question offers you three possible answers, only one of which is correct. You should take about 12 minutes to answer all the questions.

Advice: Please read the question and the three possible 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 should take about 13 minutes to answer all the questions. There are four types of questions:

1. Synonym matching:

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

2. Meaning in context:

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

3. Definition matching:

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

4. Collocation matching:

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

Marking

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



Aptis Advanced Reading Test

Reading test format

The Reading test has 29 questions divided into four tasks that take 60 minutes to complete. The tasks become more difficult as the test progresses. There are four types of questions:

1. Opinion matching:

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

2. Long text comprehension:

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

3. Reading for global understanding:

This is a short text of around 300 words with five missing gaps. You must choose the right word or phrase from the drop-down to complete the gap.

4. Reading across two texts:

You have two short texts of between 225 and 250 words per text. There are three gaps in each text. You need to fill in the gap with the appropriate phrase. It is important to read both texts before attempting to fill the gaps.

Marking

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



Aptis Advanced Listening Test

Listening test format

The Listening test has four parts and you have 30 minutes to complete the four parts. To answer each question, you will have to choose from three options.

Part One

You will listen to five short recordings. Each recording has one question and there are four possible answers. You need to choose the correct answer.

Part Two

You will listen to three recordings. Each recording has two questions. There are three possible answers for each question. You need to choose the correct answer.

Part Three

You will listen to one long recording of a man and a woman discussing a social issue. You are given six statements. You need to decide whether the man, the woman or both would agree with that statement.

Part Four

You will hear two recordings. For each recording there are four questions. There are three possible answers to each question. You need to choose the correct answer.

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

Marking

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



Aptis Advanced Writing Test

Writing test format

The Writing test has three parts and takes up to 45 minutes to complete. The types of tasks are:

1. Informal writing:

In this part, you are taking part in a discussion forum on social media. You are asked three questions. You need to write answers to these questions. You should spend ten minutes on this part.

2. Formal writing:

In this part, you will read an email from a person in authority and some notes about the email. You need to write a response to the email in 120–150 words using the notes provided, expressing how you feel about the situation. You should spend fifteen minutes on this task.

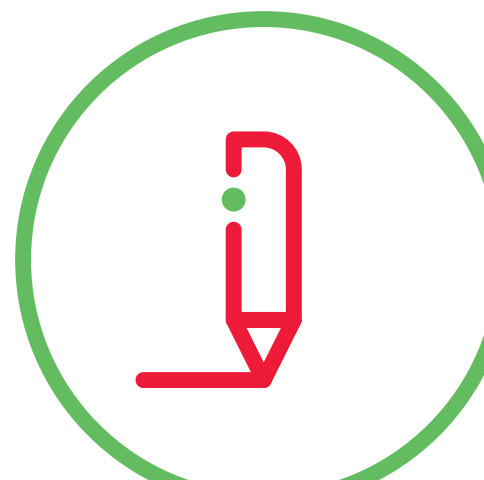
3. Presenting information and opinions:

In this part, you will write an article for a website that is both informative and interesting. Notes about the topic are provided and you need to use the information to help write the article. The article needs to be between 180–220 words. You should spend twenty minutes on this task.

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

Marking

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



Aptis Advanced Speaking Test

Speaking test format

The Speaking test is available on computer and takes about 10 minutes to complete. This test has three parts.

1. Describe, compare and provide reasons and explanations:

In this part, you are asked to compare two pictures and then in addition to answer two questions related to the topic of the pictures. The questions increase in complexity (from description to speculation). You are expected to talk for 45 seconds for each question.

2. Discuss personal experience and opinion in relation to an abstract topic:

In this part, you will be asked three questions about an abstract topic. You are given one minute to prepare an answer and can take notes. You are expected to talk for two minutes.

3. Presentation

In this part, you are given a topic and two lists of points for and against a view on the topic. You are asked to choose two points from each list and are given one minute to prepare a spoken presentation. You will then give your spoken presentation. At the end of your presentation you will be asked a follow up question which you have to respond to.

Marking

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



Aptis Advanced Practice Test

Grammar and Vocabulary

Instructions

- Please do not write on the question paper. Use the answer sheet.
- 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 are 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. who

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 _____ he received when younger had been excellent.

- A. education
- B. an education
- C. the education

04

She takes the bus to work _____ day.

- A. early
- B. many
- C. every

05

I'll call you when I _____ home.

- A. get
- B. will get
- C. getting

06

We ate dinner and _____ we watched a film.

- A. then
- B. since
- C. so

07

We're _____ in a beautiful holiday home at the moment.

- A. stay
- B. staying
- C. stayed

08

When I got home, Jenny _____ on the telephone.

- A. was speaking
- B. speaking
- C. speak

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. Absolutely
- C. Clearly

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

17

When I go to university, I may _____ history.

- A. study
- B. to study
- C. studying

18

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

- A. could
- B. can
- C. can't

19

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

- A. arrived
- B. was arriving
- C. had arrived

20

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 _____ 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

25

_____ 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.

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. create **L (Example)**

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**

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 oppose is to...

7. To teach is to...

8. To accept is to...

9. To get is to...

10. To pay is to...

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

03

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 feelings. | E fierce |
| | F lazy |
| | G obscure |
| | H peculiar |
| | J smooth |
| | K emotional |

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. 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 |
| | F envelope |
| | G fringe |
| | H hedge |
| | J museum |
| | K wardrobe |

5

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 | A clean |
| 22. athletics | B club |
| 23. congested | C efforts |
| 24. frantic | D food |
| 25. household | E friends |
| | F painting |
| | G roads |
| | H speed |
| | J status |
| | K tasks |

Aptis Advanced Practice Test

Reading

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.



Reading

(60 minutes)

01

Four people were interviewed for a recruitment magazine about their volunteer work. Read the texts and answer the questions below.

Muzamel

'I just came home from three months abroad working in a village as a volunteer. I helped to save endangered animals with the funds my colleagues raised back home. I was mainly in the classroom raising awareness about the problem. The kids were super friendly and I found the experience very rewarding so I'll definitely return next summer. It's quite an arduous flight from my home and I miss my family a lot but I got to see so much! This next time I'd like to take on more coordinator responsibilities and also do more focused work directly with the animals.'

Paul

'Luckily they have invited me back so I'll be returning next month. I hope to be healthy and be able to take full advantage of the charming place. There are supposed to be wonderful beaches and some of the ancient buildings look fascinating. Last time I had a horrible volunteer experience. I was working but I caught something and almost died. I'm still not sure what caused it but I was in bed for almost the entire time so I didn't manage to see any of the sights or do any work. I was so disappointed.'

Sophia

'I volunteer with the elderly in a care home. I do some cleaning and cooking but mostly I just socialise with the residents. They love a good chat. In return, I get a small apartment in the home — close to where I lived before - and free food which is really a bonus as I am a student. The location means I get to see my parents more often. I'm studying to be a doctor so the experience working with the elderly is really useful. I also want to work as mediator: to help bring the older and younger generations together.'

Allwyn

'I volunteer with the local hospital foundation. The money donated goes to help ill children at the hospital in my neighbourhood. I spent some time in the hospital when my daughter was sick and they were so kind I wanted to give something back. I now plan all the events to raise money. It's very rewarding to be involved and the events are always a lot of fun, too. Last year I won an award for an event I'd planned. I'm much better at that than trying to teach them. It received enough donations to build a new play area for the kids.'

01

Who...

1. lives near family?

A. Muzamel

B. Paul

C. Sophia

D. Allwyn

2. will go back the following year?

A. Muzamel

B. Paul

C. Sophia

D. Allwyn

3. worked as a teacher?

A. Muzamel

B. Paul

C. Sophia

D. Allwyn

4. was ill?

A. Muzamel

B. Paul

C. Sophia

D. Allwyn

5. goes to university?

A. Muzamel

B. Paul

C. Sophia

D. Allwyn

6. volunteers as a fundraiser?

A. Muzamel

B. Paul

C. Sophia

D. Allwyn

7. wants to sightsee?

A. Muzamel

B. Paul

C. Sophia

D. Allwyn

02

Read the passage quickly. Choose a heading for each numbered paragraph (1-7) from the list at the end of the text. There is one more heading than you need.

The First Weather Man

On the 1st of August 1861 The Times newspaper of London printed a list of weather data collected from around the British Isles on the previous day. Beneath these figures there was a short phrase — 'General weather probably for the next two days' — and a prediction that it was going to be fine. This was the world's first published weather forecast intended for the general public.

8.

1) The expression 'weather forecast' was coined by Robert Fitzroy, the man who prepared that first report. As an ex-navy officer he knew the importance of being able to predict weather conditions, especially at sea where sudden storms could sink ships and take lives. Two years before The Times published its first forecast, a ship had been lost in a terrible storm off the Welsh coast, and all four hundred and fifty people on board had drowned. It was this tragedy that prompted Fitzroy to start his work on 'weather forecasting', and he was convinced that this new science of meteorology would help to prevent such disasters in the future.

9.

2) Fitzroy's interest in the weather went back to his days in the navy in the 1830s. As a young man of twenty three he became captain of the HMS Beagle, and he gave instructions for the ship to be fitted with the latest equipment for measuring the ship's position. Fitzroy commanded the Beagle on two expeditions to South America, and it was on the second of these voyages that the ship carried Charles Darwin, who would go on to write about the theory of evolution in *The Origins of Man*. It was on this voyage that Fitzroy first used the Beaufort scale for measuring wind speed, a system that had been invented by his teacher Francis Beaufort.

10.

3) At sea Fitzroy used a simple instrument called a storm glass for predicting the weather. The glass contained chemicals mixed in water, and changes in the liquid would indicate coming changes in the weather. If the liquid remained clear, the weather would be fine, but if the liquid became cloudy, there would be a very good chance of rain. The appearance of small dots in the liquid meant that it would be foggy whilst crystals at the bottom of the glass were an indication of frost. Even though the workings of the storm glass are still not fully understood, the instrument - even in its modern form - can give reasonably reliable predictions of weather conditions.

11.

4) Poor health forced Fitzroy to retire from the navy in 1851, but he continued to pursue his interest in the science of weather prediction. With the support of Charles Darwin, he became a member of the Royal Society, Britain's most important scientific community. He spent much of his time inventing new weather instruments and in 1854 he was employed by the government to collect weather data at sea from around the British Isles. Enlisting the help of former colleagues in the navy to record weather patterns along the coasts, Fitzroy realised that by following weather systems it was possible to predict the path they would take.

02

12.

5) By 1861 Fitzroy's small department, which was later to become known as the Met Office, had established a network of fifteen coastal stations around the country. The purpose of these stations was to observe the weather and to provide visual warnings of gale conditions. Initially, this service was only intended for ships at sea, but Fitzroy believed that the information could be adapted to be of use to the general public. Thus the first weather report appeared in *The Times* in August of that year.

13.

6) The first weather forecasts were met with a degree of scepticism and a great deal of criticism. Fitzroy's superiors reprimanded him for issuing predictions that they believed could not possibly be accurate. The owners of fishing fleets were angered by the fact that fishermen were refusing to go out to sea whenever Fitzroy's department issued a bad weather warning.

14.

7) Although a pioneer of meteorology, Fitzroy did not live to see the science that he helped to create become accepted. He died in 1865 at a time when most people still did not believe that it was possible to make weather predictions with any accuracy. Indeed, in the year following his death, the issuing of public weather forecasts was temporarily suspended and was not reinstated until the end of the following decade.

Headings

1. A lack of public acceptance
2. Early interest in weather prediction
3. Using science to save lives
4. Weather recording equipment
5. A second career
6. Chasing the storm
7. Initial reactions
8. Making life at sea safer

03

Read the article on the left. Choose the correct option to fill each of the gaps from the lists below.

Singapore celebrates its 50th anniversary

Singapore is a small island-nation in Southeast Asia. It lies at the southern tip of the Malay Peninsula. The small country gained its independence on 9th August 1965 and is home to a Chinese majority with large minorities of people from Indian, Malaysian and Eurasian backgrounds. To the delight of its residents and tourists alike, the celebrations for the country's 50th anniversary in 2015 began early. In mid-2014, the festivities began by reflecting on their journey over the previous 50 years and people taking pride in their
1) _____.

To begin the celebrations, the proudly multi-cultural residents honoured the country's founders and the special roles they played throughout their history. Under the leadership of the country's founder Lee Kuan Yew, Singapore became a modern city-state. It has one of the
2) _____ in the world, and a truly unified sense of national identity.

Over the last 50 years, Singapore has gained a reputation as a leading nation in the region. It currently has one of the highest life expectancies and per capita incomes in the world. It is also home to some of the world's top educational institutions, and is now a
3) _____. Evidence of this can be seen in the fact that the country boasts an important international financial district and is home to the world's second busiest shipping container port. The strength of the small island nation's industries is a source of great pride among Singaporeans.

Current Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong led the anniversary celebrations under the overall theme of 'one people'. The choice of this theme was one that was greatly appreciated by many 4) _____. After the official anniversary day, the focus changed to 5) _____, affirming aspirations and committing to a brighter future. Many feel that it has been these collective ideals and principles that has united Singapore and made it strong. Its residents are now looking forward to achieving another 50 years of prosperity as they move forward in the 21st century.

Options:

1)

15. A. long history B. great leadership C. many achievements

2)

16. A. longest serving leaders B. highest living standards C. strongest banking system

3)

17. A. leading tourist location B. global commercial centre C. large technology provider

4)

18. A. foreigners and tourists B. prominent local leaders C. different ethnic groups

5)

19. A. celebrating shared values B. improving economic ties C. developing society's strengths

04

Read the two newspaper articles on the left about an important archaeological discovery. The articles were written by different authors. Choose the correct option to fill each of the gaps from the lists below. You will need to read both articles to fill all of the gaps.

Article 1

The bones of a small human-like skeleton discovered on the island of Flores in 2003 had a major impact on the study of human origins. The Australian researchers who made the find realised that, despite the diminutive size of the skeleton, the teeth were those of an adult. They claimed the remains were from a previously undiscovered species of early human, and dubbed it *Homo floresiensis*: Flores Man. This new species had managed to survive for thousands of years after the closest relative to modern humans, Neanderthals, had died out. The claims, which would potentially add a new member to the human family tree, were **1)** _____. The Australian team suggested that *Homo floresiensis* was descended from *Homo erectus*, an ancestor of modern humans much larger than *Homo floresiensis*. According to this view, the species shrunk through evolutionary processes after being stranded on the island. Sceptics, however, presented papers in academic journals to suggest that the fossils were in fact members of the same species as modern humans who were deformed through disease. One interesting aspect of this debate is the way the same objects were used by proponents of **2)** _____. The use of the fossil skulls to estimate the brain size of *Homo floresiensis* is a case in point. A growing amount of evidence has been collected. Nonetheless, controversy surrounding *Homo floresiensis* continues, and new theories of their origins continue to emerge. Indeed, debate now extends to the reasons for **3)** _____.

Article 2

The small people who lived on the island of Flores until approximately 17,000 years ago, dubbed hobbits after the diminutive fantasy characters of the same name in the Lord of the Rings trilogy, continue to spark interest. The existence of the hobbits was first suggested by Australian researchers who had uncovered small fossil skeletons. The find led to a heated debate over whether the bones belonged to **4)** _____. Interestingly, some pieces of evidence were used by the different sides to support opposing views. For example, some researchers pointed to the small brain capacity of the fossil skulls to **5)** _____ the link to an earlier human ancestor, *Homo erectus*, suggested by the Australians. There was not enough time, the sceptics said, for the large difference in brain size between the two to have occurred through evolution. However, later estimates put the brain capacity of the hobbits at 426cc, big enough to allow for evolution from *Homo erectus*. Now, researchers have begun to consider why the hobbits eventually died out. One theory with strong circumstantial evidence puts the cause down to natural disaster. Volcanic ash deposits indicate a large eruption occurred around the time the hobbits died out. Some researchers, including the team that discovered the fossils, **6)** _____. They point to the track record of modern humans to suggest a different end. They claim that it is more likely the hobbits died out through conflict with our species.

04

Read the two newspaper articles on the left about an important archaeological discovery. The articles were written by different authors. Choose the correct option to fill each of the gaps from the lists below. You will need to read both articles to fill all of the gaps.

Options:**1)**

20. A. quickly accepted B. soon disputed C. largely ignored

2)

21. A. old positions B. similar ideas C. rival theories

3)

22. A. their discovery B. their end C. their revival

4)

23. A. a new species B. a small child C. a large animal

5)

24. A. gloss over B. push for C. rule out

6)

25. A. are undecided B. suggest otherwise C. think similarly

Aptis Advanced Practice Test

Listening

Instructions

- You will hear 11 short recordings.
- You will hear each recording twice for parts 1 and 2.
- For parts 3 and 4 you will hear the recording just once.
- Answer as many questions as you can.



Listening

(11 questions – 30 minutes)

Part 1

In this part you will hear 5 recordings. You can listen to each recording 2 times.

01

Listen to the travel programme and decide which hotel was the best value for money. The best value-for-money hotel is the _____.

1. Calypso
2. Star
3. Bristol
4. Sol

02

You hear this announcement in a hotel. What can you do outdoors this afternoon? Outdoors this afternoon, you can _____.

1. play bridge
2. go on a city tour
3. do dance classes
4. play golf

03

Listen to a woman introducing a concert. How will the concert end? The concert will end with _____.

1. a surprise performance
2. the city's favourite group
3. traditional music
4. some special offers

04

Jiwon is describing a film she saw recently. What did she enjoy most?

Jiwon enjoyed mainly the _____.

1. action scenes
2. musical scenes
3. comedy scenes
4. horror scenes

05

Listen to an historian talking about a building. What is it being used for now? The building is being used now as a _____.

1. country home
2. solicitors' office
3. family hotel
4. department store

Part 2

In this part you will hear 3 recordings. You can listen to each recording 2 times. Click the play button to listen.

06

Listen to the woman on the radio talking about the experience of moving house and answer the questions.

What difficulties did she face?

- a**
1. She didn't know how to do the paperwork.
 2. It took months to move house.
 3. She couldn't get legal assistance.

What is making her unhappy?

- b**
1. The noise made by the builders.
 2. Noises from outside the house.
 3. The sounds her neighbours make.

07

Listen to a sales manager talking to his team about a household product and answer the questions below.

What household product is he talking about?

- a**
1. A vacuum cleaner.
 2. A television.
 3. A washing machine.

Reductions are offered if _____.

- b**
1. buyers are willing to pay in cash
 2. it will encourage a sale
 3. buyers want to buy in bulk

08

Listen to a man talking on the radio about a new business and answer the questions below.

What is the speaker's opinion of cat cafés?

- a**
1. He thinks they are funny.
 2. He understands their benefits.
 3. He thinks they will remain popular for a long time.

What does he think about the business potential of cat cafés?

- b**
1. There is possibility for some growth.
 2. There is too much competition in the market.
 3. The cafés represent a solid long term investment.

Part 3

09

Listen to two people discussing a social issue. Read the opinions below and decide who expresses which opinion, the man, the woman, or both the man and the woman. You now have twenty seconds to read the opinions below. The opinions may not appear in the same order in the discussion. You will hear the discussion only once.

- a** Student loans did not use to be common.
1. Man
 2. Woman
 3. Both
- b** Only wealthy people will be able to go to University.
1. Man
 2. Woman
 3. Both
- c** Going to university can teach you to become independent.
1. Man
 2. Woman
 3. Both

09

Companies that lend money can be aggressive.

- d**
1. Man
 2. Woman
 3. Both

Paying for education makes you want to do better.

- e**
1. Man
 2. Woman
 3. Both

Being wealthy does not mean you are intelligent.

- f**
1. Man
 2. Woman
 3. Both

Part 4

In this part you will hear 2 recordings. You can listen to each recording 1 time only.

10

Listen to a person telling a story about people in his family. Then choose one option for each of the four key elements of the story in the table below. You will hear the recording only once.

Adam

- | | | | |
|----------|---|----------|--|
| a | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Worked in London 2. Worked in Wales 3. Worked in Paris | b | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learnt Welsh 2. Learnt French 3. Learnt Afrikaans |
|----------|---|----------|--|

Peter

- | | | | |
|----------|---|----------|--|
| c | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Older than Adam 2. Younger than Adam 3. Don't know | d | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lives in London 2. Lives in Australia 3. Don't know |
|----------|---|----------|--|

11

Listen to the woman telling a story. Then choose one option for each of the four key elements of the story in the table below. You will hear the recording only once.

The speaker will

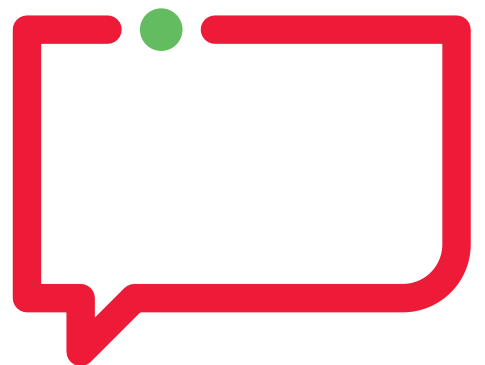
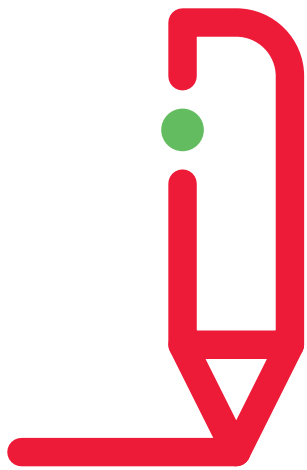
- | | | | |
|----------|---|----------|---|
| a | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Have dinner with friends2. See a movie this weekend3. Go dancing on Saturday | b | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Join a sorority2. Learn to surf3. Join a dance class |
|----------|---|----------|---|

General

- | | | | |
|----------|---|----------|--|
| c | <p><i>The story is about</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. a first day at university2. things to do in my city3. plans for the weekend | d | <p><i>The food is</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. expensive2. reasonably priced3. cheap |
|----------|---|----------|--|

Aptis Advanced Practice Test

Writing and Speaking



Writing

(Three parts – 45 minutes)

01

You are a member of a history club. You are talking to three other members in the history club chat room. Talk to them using sentences. Use 30 to 40 words per answer. You have 10 minutes in total. Answer all three questions.

Aptis History Club Chat

Sam: Hi! Welcome to the club. I was interested in history at school and I studied it at university. What about you?

Miguel: Welcome. Can you tell me something about the history of your country?

01

Michelle: Who is your favourite person from history, and why are you interested in him or her?

02

You should write between 120 and 150 words.

Thank you for shopping at our supermarket. We value your custom and would like to hear about your most recent shopping experience. Firstly, we want to know your opinion of our staff. Were they able to help you in any way? **(1)** We would also like to know what you think about the organisation of the store. Did you find it easy to find the products you want? **(2)** Finally, we would like to hear your suggestions for improving the customer shopping experience. **(3)**

Your notes:

- [illegible]

03

Your notes:

- CCTV cameras used in public areas (streets, shops, banks)
- Increasing number of private homes installing CCTV
- Benefits: allows monitoring of public safety / can provide evidence in criminal cases
- Drawbacks: threat to individual liberty / intrusion into individual privacy

[illegible]

Speaking

(Three parts – 10 minutes)

In the actual test, there will be a recording that gives you your instructions. The instructions will also appear on the screen.

01

Part One. In this part I'm going to ask you to compare two pictures and I will then ask you two questions about them. You will have 45 seconds for each response. Begin speaking when you hear this sound.

Q1: Tell me what you see in the two pictures.

Q2: Which of these two places would you prefer to go on holiday to? Why?

Q3: Which of these two places do you think children would prefer? Why?



02

Part Two. In this part I'm going to ask you three questions. You will have one minute to think about your answers before you start speaking. You will have two minutes to answer all three questions. Begin speaking when you hear this sound.

Q1: How important is it to you that you save money regularly?

Q2: What advice would you give to someone about managing their personal finances?

Q3: Why do people think wealth brings happiness?

You can make notes if you wish.

You now have two minutes to talk.

03

Part Three. You are going to speak on a topic for one and half minutes. You can see the topic on the screen and two lists of points - for and against - related to the topic. Choose two items from each list and give a balanced argument to represent both sides of the topic. You have one minute to prepare your argument. You will then have one and half minutes to speak. Begin speaking when you hear this sound. After you finish speaking you will be asked an additional question about the topic and asked to speak for 45 seconds.

Topic: Higher Education Should Be Available For Everybody

For

- Society benefits from a well educated population
- Qualifications help people find jobs
- Education is a basic human right

Against

- If widely available, qualifications lose their value
- Universities are already overcrowded
- Potential negative impact on the job market

Aptis
Advanced

Answer Sheet and Answer Keys



Aptis Advanced Practice Test Answer Sheet

Grammar		Examiner Use Only
0		
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
Total		

Vocabulary		Examiner Use Only
0		
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
Total		

Reading		Examiner Use Only
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		
9		
10		
11		
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
Total		

Listening		Examiner Use Only
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6a		
6b		
7a		
7b		
8a		
8b		
9a		
9b		
9c		
9d		
9e		
9f		
10a		
10b		
10c		
10d		
11a		
11b		
11c		
11d		
Total		

Aptis Advanced Practice Test Answer Key

Grammar

		Examiner Use Only
0	A	
1	B	
2	A	
3	C	
4	C	
5	A	
6	A	
7	B	
8	A	
9	C	
10	A	
11	A	
12	B	
13	A	
14	A	
15	C	
16	B	
17	A	
18	C	
19	A	
20	B	
21	B	
22	B	
23	C	
24	A	
25	A	
Total		

Vocabulary

		Examiner Use Only
0	L	
1	D	
2	F	
3	J	
4	B	
5	A	
6	B	
7	C	
8	K	
9	F	
10	H	
11	D	
12	A	
13	G	
14	J	
15	K	
16	D	
17	E	
18	K	
19	G	
20	J	
21	F	
22	B	
23	G	
24	C	
25	K	
Total		

Reading

		Examiner Use Only
1	C	
2	A	
3	A	
4	B	
5	C	
6	D	
7	B	
8	3	
9	2	
10	4	
11	5	
12	8	
13	7	
14	1	
15	C	
16	B	
17	B	
18	C	
19	A	
20	B	
21	C	
22	B	
23	A	
24	C	
25	B	
Total		

Listening

		Examiner Use Only
1	2	
2	4	
3	2	
4	1	
5	4	
6a	1	
6b	3	
7a	1	
7b	2	
8a	2	
8b	1	
9a	3	
9b	2	
9c	3	
9d	2	
9e	1	
9f	3	
10a	3	
10b	3	
10c	3	
10d	2	
11a	2	
11b	3	
11c	1	
11d	3	
Total		

[illegible]

[illegible]



© British Council 2020

The British Council creates international opportunities for the people of the UK and other countries, and builds trust between them worldwide. A registered charity: 209131 (England and Wales SC037733 (Scotland).