

THE APTIS ESOL GENERAL TEST

• Aptis consists of five components, core (grammar and vocabulary), reading, listening, writing and speaking.

• Here is the structure for the APTIS ESOL General test:

CORE TEST (GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY) 25 MINUTES				
Part	Number of tasks	Activity	Description	Format
1	1	Grammar (25 questions)	A small number of questions test spoken English, such as knowing the appropriate grammar to use in a particular situation (formal or informal situations, for example).	3-option multiple choice.
2	1	Vocabulary (25 questions)	Word matching: find a word with a meaning similar to the target word. Word definition: match a definition to the correct word. Word Usage: complete a sentence by choosing the correct word. Word pairs or word combinations: select the most common combinations of words.	Sets of target words with options.
READING 35 MINUTES				
Part	Number of tasks	Activity	Description	Format
1	1	Sentence comprehension	Choose words to complete sentences.	3-option multiple choice.
2	2	Text cohesion	Put sentences into the correct order.	2 tasks with 6 sentences jumbled up in each task.
3	1	Opinion matching	Match people's opinions to statements.	4 people and 7 statements.
4	1	Long text comprehension	Match headings to paragraphs.	7 paragraphs and 8 headings.
LISTENING 40 MINUTES				
Part	Number of tasks	Activity	Description	Format
1	1	Information recognition	Questions 1-10: Listen to short monologues (recorded messages) to identify specific pieces of information (numbers, names, places, times, etc.). Questions 11-13: Listen to short conversations to identify propositions.	Questions 1-13: 3-option multiple choice.
2	2	Information matching	Listen to four people's monologues and match the person to the information.	Question 14: 6 pieces of information. 4 monologues.
3	3	Opinion matching	Listen to a dialogue between a man and a woman and then decide who expresses an opinion.	Question 15: 3-option multiple choice.
4	4	Monologue comprehension	Listen a monologue and answer two questions.	Questions 16-17: 3-option multiple choice.
WRITING 50 MINUTES				
Part	Number of tasks	Activity	Description	Format
1	1	Word-level writing	Respond to messages using individual words.	1-5 words per answer
2	1	Short text writing	Write personal information. The focus is on writing sentences that are on-topic and have accurate grammar, punctuation, and spelling.	20-30 words.
3	1	Three written responses to questions	Respond to written questions on a social network-type website.	30-40 words for each question.
4	2	Formal and informal writing	Write an informal email to a friend and a more formal email to an unknown person.	40-50 words for the informal email. 120-150 words for the formal email.
SPEAKING 12 MINUTES				
Part	Number of tasks	Activity	Description	Format
1	1	Personal information	Respond to three personal information questions.	30 seconds for each response.
2	1	Describe, express opinion and provide reasons and explanations	Describe a photograph and then answer two questions related to the topic illustrated in the photo. The three questions increase in complexity (from description to opinion).	45 seconds for each response.
3	1	Describe, compare and provide reasons and explanations	Compare two pictures and then answer two questions related to the topic. The three questions increase in complexity (from description to speculation).	45 seconds for each response.
4	1	Discuss personal experience and opinion on an abstract topic	Answer three questions on an abstract topic.	1-minute preparation time. 2-minutes response time.