

Hanoi University of Science and Technology

Center for Languages and Academic Exchange Services

APTIS PREPARATION COURSE SYLLABUS

Level: A2 to B1+

Contents

OVERVIEW.....	3
What is Aptis test?	4
Target learners.....	4
Objectives	4
Goal	5
Aptis test format.....	5
Materials	5
TIME DISTRIBUTION AND METHODS OF TEACHING-LEARNING	6
Language focus	6
Grammar and Vocabulary	6
Complimentary activity.....	6
Working in pairs and in groups	6
Practice tests.....	6
Reflective journal	7
Homework in following-up forms.....	7
Education application	7
COURSE OUTLINE IN DETAILS	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Session 1: Introduction to Aptis test. Practice test 1.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Session 2: Practice test 1 revision. Speaking part 1. Writing part 1. Study buddies, journal.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Session 3: Homework revision. Reading part 1 & Reading part 3	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Session 4: Homework revision. Writing part 2.	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Session 5: Homework revision. Aptis Listening	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Session 6: Homework revision. Speaking part 2.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Session 7: Homework revision. Reading part 2 and Reading part 4.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Session 8: Homework revision. Speaking part 3.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Session 9: Homework revision. Writing part 3	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Session 10: Homework revision. Listening Practice. Practice test 2 Listening	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Session 11: Homework Revision. Speaking part 4.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Session 12: Homework Revision. Writing part 4.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Session 13: Revision on Reading and Writing.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Session 14: Revision on Listening and Speaking	Error! Bookmark not defined.

Session 15: Practice test 3. Final revision..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**

OVERVIEW

What is Aptis test?

Aptis is an innovative test by the British Council – since 2012, of which levels are based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). Levels: A1, A2, B1, B2 and C.

Aptis test assesses four skills, including Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing. There are 4 components of Aptis test in line with these 4 skills: (1) Reading test, (2) Listening test, (3) Speaking test and (4) Writing test. Plus, there is a compulsory component (5) Grammar and Vocabulary.

It has recently become popular in some universities, including Hanoi University of Science and Technology, as well as some companies. The reason for the popularisation is that the test result now has been recognised as a graduation requirement for students and professional requirement for tour guides.

HUST students would mostly join an Aptis preparation course to achieve the level required for graduation, which is level B1. In other cases, learners are students from other universities and professionals who need an Aptis certificate for their work.

Target learners

This course is designed specifically for those who are currently at level A2, set the goal to reach level B1, need some enhancement in English language and instruction on Aptis testing skills.

Objectives

In general, this course provides students with English language knowledge, Aptis testing skills as well as some transferable skills.

- Testing skills: The course equips students with helpful instructions and tips for being able to have the best results in examination, including technical tips.

Apart from obtaining a language certificate, by preparing for an Aptis test, learners will be able to use practical English language, especially in daily life.

- Knowledge:
 - + Grammar and Vocabulary
 - + Reading: on topics of daily life
 - + Listening: on topics of daily social interaction
 - + Writing: on daily social interaction and correspondence
 - + Speaking: on daily conversations

- Transferable skills:
 - + Brainstorming
 - + Daily conversation
 - + Correspondence
 - + Reflection in oneself's study

Goal

Specific goal for this course is to help students achieve level B1 for Aptis, from their original A2 level.

Aptis test format

There are 4 components of Aptis test in line with these 4 skills: (1) Reading test, (2) Listening test, (3) Speaking test and (4) Writing test. Plus, there is a compulsory component (5) Grammar and Vocabulary.

Each of the component has the total score of 50. The result is transferred into its equivalent CEFR level, except for the Grammar and Vocabulary component. The total score of the test are on the four skills components, which is /200.

For detailed structure on each test component, see British Council Aptis candidate guideline here:

https://www.britishcouncil.org/sites/default/files/aptis_candidate_guide-web_0.pdf

Materials

Cambridge PTE, Cambridge KET's materials,

Destination B1, Malcolm Mann and Steve Taylore-Knowles, Macmillan.

Cambridge PTE, Cambridge KET's materials.

CLA's own materials.

CLA's own materials shall be uploaded onto CLA's online system with confidentiality

TIME DISTRIBUTION AND METHODS OF TEACHING-LEARNING

Length

The course consists of **15 sessions**, each session is **2.15-hour long, equivalent to 45 contact hours**.

Each session includes instruction for parts of the test along with practice with exercises, bonus one complimentary activity and Grammar and Vocabulary part.

Language focus

Each session focuses on one – two part of the test, depending on the complexity of the parts. Language focus includes instruction along with practice. The aim of this part is to give students instructions and tips so that they can apply into their practice. This part lasts about 20 minutes.

Grammar and Vocabulary

This part is a minor part within Language Focus designed to assist students in fulfilling test tasks with higher accuracy and appropriateness. By having their grammar sharpened and their vocabulary enhanced, students are more capable to reach the higher level. This part lasts about 15 – 20 minutes. Grammar and Vocabulary topics are provided accordingly to the topic of the session (eg. Grammar and Vocabulary on social media correspondence are provided for session of Writing part 3).

Complimentary activity

Before the major part Language Focus, there is a warm-up complimentary activity. This activity is designed to get students to brainstorm and get familiar with the theme in the Language Focus part (eg. brainstorm and get familiar with vocabulary and ideas of the theme Friendship with complimentary Listening before working on Speaking part 3 with the same theme). Furthermore, this complimentary activity is relaxing for students before moving on to a more difficult part. This part lasts about 15 minutes.

Working in pairs and in groups

Students need to choose one-two student to be their study buddy, starting from session 2. They will work in pairs/groups to (1) share their journals and correct mistakes for the other(s) in writing, (2) do a pair/group works as well as (3) support the others in class/practise at home.

Practice tests

In each course, students are provided with 3 official practice tests from British Council. Teachers are recommended to have students finished **2 tests in class – in session 8 and session 15**, and one test (and more if applicable) as homework.

Reflective journal

Students need to write about what they learn from the course and about their daily life, starting from session 2. Then they need to share with their buddies. In each piece of writing, students need to (1) describe, (2) express their feelings and (3) raise their opinions.

This homework activity will help students practise (1) brainstorming ideas for writing and speaking parts, (2) writing in Aptis writing test form, (3) arranging their ideas for writing and speaking parts, (4) sharpening their grammar and vocabulary.

Homework in following-up forms

Homework to practise each part of the test is assigned after every session. In the following session, homework is checked, common mistakes are corrected. After that, students are given another piece of homework of that part to apply the tips they have been given. By having their mistakes corrected and then applying the tips, students will have better practice.

Education application

The course uses the education application Microsoft Teams and social networks to assign exercises, homework, practice test, answer keys in some cases, and other materials. It also allows teacher facilitation, class management, creates discussions. Students submit their works on this application. These applications also has their convenient mobile version.

COURSE OUTLINE

Session 1: Introduction to Aptis test. Writing part 1. Journal

This session aims at:

- Giving students a general understanding of Aptis test and its format.
- Instructing on Writing part 1 and give practice on this part. Reviewing grammar and vocabulary for this part.
- Introducing on journal activity

Session 2: Practice test 1 revision. Speaking part 1. Study buddies.

This session aims at:

- Giving instruction to Speaking part as well as practice for application of the instruction.
- Reviewing Grammar and Vocabulary related to Speaking part 1 and Writing part 1.
- Introducing the Study buddies activity.

Session 3: Homework revision. Reading part 1 & Reading part 3

This session aims at:

- Correcting common mistakes of students in Speaking part 1 and Writing part 1.
- Giving instruction to Reading part 1 and Reading part 3as well as practice for application of the instruction.
- Reviewing Grammar and Vocabulary related to Reading part 1 & Reading part 3.

Session 4: Homework revision. Writing part 2

This session aims at:

- Correcting common mistakes of students in Reading part 1, Reading part 3, revise Speaking part 1and Writing part 1 as a follow-up
- Giving instruction to Writing part 2 as well as practice for application of the instruction.
- Reviewing Grammar and Vocabulary related to Writing part 2.

Session 5: Homework revision. Listening

This session aims at:

- Correcting common mistakes of students in Writing part 2, revise Reading part 1, Reading part 3 as a follow-up
- Giving instruction to Aptis Listening as well as practice for application of the instruction.
- Reviewing Grammar and Vocabulary related to Listening.

Session 6: Homework revision. Speaking part 2

This session aims at:

- Correcting common mistakes of students in Listening, revise Writing part 2 as a follow-up.
- Giving instruction to Speaking part 2 as well as practice for application of the instruction.
- Reviewing Grammar and Vocabulary related to Speaking part 2.

Session 7: Homework revision. Reading part 2 and Reading part 4

This session aims at:

- Correcting common mistakes of students in Speaking part 2, revise Listening as a follow-up
- Giving instruction to Reading part 2 and Reading part 4 as well as practice for application of the instruction
- Reviewing Grammar and Vocabulary related to Reading part 2 and Reading part 4.

Session 8: Homework revision. Speaking part 3. Practice test in class.

This session aims at:

- Correcting common mistakes of students in Reading part 2 and Reading part 4, revise Speaking part 2 as a follow-up
- Giving instruction to Speaking part 3 as well as practice for application of the instruction
- Reviewing Grammar and Vocabulary related to Speaking part 3.
- Practice test in class as a mock test.

Session 9: Homework revision. Writing part 3

This session aims at:

- Correcting common mistakes of students in Speaking part 3. Revise Reading part 2 and Reading part 4 as a follow-up.
- Giving instruction to Writing part 3 as well as practice for application of the instruction
- Reviewing Grammar and Vocabulary related to Writing part 3.

Session 10: Homework revision. Listening Practice.

This session aims at:

- Correcting common mistakes of students in Writing part 3. Revise Speaking part 3 as a follow-up.
- Giving students further practice on Listening, give more instruction and tips for their improvement.
- Reviewing Grammar and Vocabulary related to Listening.
- Practice test 2 as homework.

Session 11: Homework revision. Speaking part 4

This session aims at:

- Checking on Practice test 2. Correct common mistakes and give more instruction and tips.
- Giving instruction to Speaking part 4 as well as practice for application of the instruction
- Reviewing Grammar and Vocabulary related to Speaking part 4.

Session 12: Homework revision. Writing part 4

This session aims at:

- Correct common mistakes on Speaking part 4. Revise Listening as a follow-up
- Giving instruction to Writing part 4 as well as practice for application of the instruction
- Reviewing Grammar and Vocabulary related to Speaking part 4

Session 13: Revision on Reading and Writing

This session aims at:

- Correct common mistakes on Writing part 4. Revise Speaking part 4 as a follow-up
- Giving students further practice on Reading and Writing in general. Q&A and discussions are opened.

Session 14: Revision on Listening and Speaking

This session aims at:

- Giving students further practice on Listening and Speaking in general. Q&A and discussions are opened.

Session 15: Practice test 3. Final revision

