

ENGLISH APTITUDE TEST

STUDENT INFORMATION FOR
ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS

The results of the Admission/Placement Exam determine which undergraduate students may register for credit courses, i.e., those numbered 100 and above. Students who have not achieved the minimum score required on this test will be placed in remedial courses, which are non-credit and numbered 098–099.

Admission/Placement Test Contents:

This general English test consists of the following parts:

I. Grammar	35 questions
II. Vocabulary	35 questions
III. Reading Comprehension	15 questions

Total number of questions: 85 items

Time: 60 minutes

Part I: Grammar

A. Objective: To test students' knowledge of general, basic English grammar

B. Contents:

Grammatical items, including:

1. Articles

Example I watched a great match last night. _____ exciting match ended in a draw.

- | | |
|---------|---------|
| (a) A | (c) The |
| (b) Any | (d) An |

2. Verbs: all tenses, active/passive, subject-verb agreement, infinitives

- Example Most cars in the Middle East _____ in Japan.
- (a) is made (c) made
(b) are made (d) make

3. Use of negatives

- Example Adnan _____ like doing his homework.
- (a) is not (c) do not
(b) not (d) does not

4. Word order: questions, negatives, indirect quotations

- Example Which of the following sentences is correct?
- (a) When you will be going to the library?
(b) When will you be going to the library?
(c) When will be you going to the library?
(d) When going will you be to the library?

5. Pronouns: subject, object, possessive, reflexive, relative

- Example Please give the scissors to me. _____ are on the table.
- (a) It (c) Them
(b) Its (d) They

6. Prepositions

- Example Kuwait's National Day is celebrated _____ February 25 every year.
- (a) at (c) in
(b) on (d) by

7. Adjectives

- Example Dalal got _____ result in the class.
- (a) the highest (c) good
(b) more high (d) higher

8. Adverbs

Example He had to run _____ to catch his flight.

- (a) quicker (c) quickest
(b) quick (d) quickly

9. Gerunds

Example _____ is a simple but effective form of exercise.

- (a) Walk (c) Walking
(b) To walk (d) Walks

10. Sequence of tenses

Example If Mariam has time, she _____ a short break.

- (a) takes (c) took
(b) will take (d) has taken

11. Subordinate clauses: relative, adverbial, noun

Example I read the book _____ the professor recommended.

- (a) what (c) who
(b) which (d) whose

Part II: Vocabulary

A. Objective:

To test students' knowledge of common vocabulary words

B. Contents:

Vocabulary from the Ministry of Education English textbooks

Examples

1. The story Susan told is _____. No one believes it.

- (a) uncertain (c) credible
(b) certain (d) incredible

2. The newspaper _____ some organized crime in Kuwait recently.
- (a) composed (c) reported
(b) adopted (d) attended
3. The Serengeti National Park in Africa is one of the largest nature _____ in the world.
- (a) economies (c) reserves
(b) stores (d) seashores
4. Haitham was hungry, so he went to the supermarket and bought some _____.
- (a) food (c) air
(b) fire (d) water
5. The office furniture looks so old and _____; it needs to be replaced immediately.
- (a) worn (c) painted
(b) drawn (d) furious

Part III: Reading Comprehension

A. Objective:

To test students' ability to read and understand short texts

B. Contents:

1. Identifying the topic of a passage
2. Recognizing the main idea of a paragraph
3. Recognizing details
4. Identifying vocabulary in context
5. Making inferences and drawing conclusions

Example

The tree that produces the fruit from which we get olive oil was first cultivated in Syria about 6,000 years ago. Olive trees have a life span of 300 to 400 years and grow to a height of 6 meters, or 20 feet. They produce fruit varying from green to black. However, olive oil is only made from green olives, and its taste and color depend on the type of olive, the location, and the weather.

To get the best quality olive oil, the fruit must be **harvested** at its best stage of ripeness and pressed within 72 hours. The best harvesting method is picking by hand, but this requires the work of many people. This also makes the oil expensive. Hand-picking prevents the bruising or marking of the fruit during the picking process. Bruised or damaged fruit increase the acidity of the oil, giving it a sharper taste. This makes the oil a bit cheaper.

Examples

Identifying the topic of a passage

1. The best title for this passage is _____.
 - (a) Green and Black Olives
 - (b) Olive Oil
 - (c) The History of the Olive
 - (d) How to Harvest Olives

Recognizing the main idea of a paragraph

2. The passage mainly discusses the _____.
 - (a) varieties of olives from which oil is produced
 - (b) areas where olives are produced
 - (c) factors that affect the quality of the oil
 - (d) effects of bruised fruit on the oil

Recognizing details

3. Which of the following affects the quality of olive oil?
 - (a) the price of the oil
 - (b) the method of harvesting
 - (c) the age of the trees
 - (d) the height of the trees

Identifying vocabulary in context

4. In paragraph 2, **harvested** is similar in meaning to _____.
- (a) handled
 - (b) ripened
 - (c) picked
 - (d) pressed

Making inferences and drawing conclusions

5. From paragraph 2, it can be concluded that hand-picking olives _____.
- (a) is an expensive process
 - (b) produces cheap oil
 - (c) bruises the fruit
 - (d) requires few people