

PTE Academic Lesson Plan Ideas: Test Taking Strategies

Vikki Weston, Vessela Gasper

Scope and Sequence

Introduction

These lesson plan ideas have been designed to provide specific test taking strategies for each item type in PTE Academic. You can use them to develop lessons with a focus on strategies or integrate them into test preparation classes.

There are 20 lessons, each of which focuses on three strategies that your students can apply when responding to a particular PTE Academic item type. The series of lessons follows the order of the actual test, and each lesson takes a five-step approach to introducing and practicing the item type strategies:

- Step 1 introduces the item type and provides an example screenshot.
- Step 2 lists the three strategies for the item type.
- Step 3 provides a detailed explanation of each strategy and opportunities for students to practice them in guided individual, pair or group activities.
- In Step 4 students respond to an item simulating the test conditions, in which they will give their response within a time limit.
- In Step 5 students compare their responses and discuss authentic sample responses and explanations.

After completing all lessons, students will have practiced all item types in PTE Academic using authentic test items.

Most of the lessons include two items – one in Step 3 to illustrate the different strategies in controlled practice, and one in Step 4 where students make an attempt at providing responses under timed conditions, simulating the actual test. Each lesson includes the test items with accompanying transcripts, sample responses and answer keys on separate pages that you will need to copy and distribute to your students. You may also need to prepare additional worksheets based on the suggestions for activities targeting each strategy.

Mp3 audio files are provided for the item prompts and sample responses. Make sure you have the right media player to play the files.

Although the strategies have been specifically developed to help test takers achieve better results on PTE Academic, they can be beneficial to any learners trying to improve general academic English proficiency.

The lesson plan ideas can also be used in conjunction with the Official Guide to PTE Academic, which provides a more detailed description of each item type and additional practice items in the guide itself and on the accompanying CD-ROM. You can refer to the Task sections in the Official Guide to further explain each item type when introducing it in Step 1 of the lesson. You can ask your students to respond to more items from the Official Guide or assign them for homework.

Summary

The table below gives an overview of the sequence of the lessons, and provides the relevant pages in the Official Guide. The total teaching time for all the lessons is 17 hours and 10 minutes.

Lesson	PTE Academic Item Type	Related pages in <i>The Official Guide to PTE Academic</i>	Timing
1	Read aloud	pp. 36–40	60 minutes
2	Repeat sentence	pp. 41–43	60 minutes
3	Describe image	pp. 46–50	60 minutes
4	Re-tell lecture	pp. 51–56	60 minutes
5	Answer short question	pp. 57–60	30 minutes
6	Summarize written text	pp. 69–73	60 minutes
7	Write essay	pp. 74–79	60 minutes
8	Reading: Multiple-choice, choose single answer	pp. 87–92	50 minutes
9	Reading: Multiple-choice, choose multiple answers	pp. 93–98	30 minutes
10	Re-order paragraphs	pp. 99–103	60 minutes
11	Reading: Fill in the blanks	pp. 104–107	40 minutes
12	Reading & writing: Fill in the blanks	pp. 108–112	50 minutes
13	Summarize spoken text	pp. 122–127	60 minutes
14	Listening: Multiple-choice, choose multiple answers	pp. 128–132	40 minutes
15	Listening: Fill in the blanks	pp. 133–137	60 minutes
16	Highlight correct summary	pp. 138–142	60 minutes
17	Listening: Multiple-choice, choose single answer	pp. 143–147	30 minutes
18	Select missing word	pp. 148–151	60 minutes
19	Highlight incorrect words	pp. 152–156	60 minutes
20	Write from dictation	pp. 157–160	40 minutes

If you have any specific feedback about the lesson plan ideas or queries about other test preparation resources provided by Pearson for PTE Academic, you can contact us at pearsonpte.com/contact-us