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).
English is becoming increasingly popular across the world as it connects people from different regions, cultures and nations. The stature of English as a globally used common language has encouraged ministries to use it to enhance social and economic relations between countries. English is now widely regarded as the language of business in many countries. The growing demand for English as a medium of communication makes it essential for governments to evaluate the English language proficiency of the candidates and their educators.

Raising the level of English language enables governments to accomplish goals.

The British Council is the United Kingdom’s international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities worldwide. Synonymous with English language training and assessment, the British Council is committed to enhancing the language skills of individuals, organisations and government bodies. With more than 80 years of experience and presence in over 110 countries across six continents, the British Council helps organisations to perform smarter and better.
Introducing Aptis for Governmental and Non-Governmental Organisations

Aptis is a cutting-edge English language test. Its scores are mapped to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). It helps governmental and non-governmental organisations to assess English language proficiency levels accurately and affordably. Based on the test results, organisations can make informed decisions on assessment, recruitment and workforce development.

Aptis is the most reliable testing solution. It can be plugged into the existing system to identify the language competency of participants.

A highly flexible testing system, Aptis is developed by the British Council’s Assessment Research Group and is based on the latest research in English language assessment. The test consists of high-quality questions compiled by a dedicated team to measure English proficiency levels precisely.

Aptis can be used to assess government employees such as teachers and staff members of ministries and other public service departments. A candidate’s performance in the test can be a close reflection of their understanding and use of English within a functional context. This makes it extremely easy to pinpoint areas for improvement.

“I am confident that our project would benefit migrant workers enormously, providing them with improved English language skills to increase their employability and earn a higher remuneration.”

Amal Senalankadhikara, Chairman, Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment, Sri Lanka
The British Council has over 80 years of experience in English language teaching and assessment. Choosing Aptis is the right move towards English language development.

**Case Studies**

**Client:** UK’s Department for International Development (DFID)/Rwanda Education Board (REB)  
**Country:** Rwanda  
**Purpose:** To establish CEFR levels for school teachers  
**Skills package:** Core + Writing, Speaking, Listening and Reading  
**Mode of Delivery:** Online/Pen and Paper

**Description**  
In 2012, the British Council helped DFID to establish the baseline for English language proficiency of primary and secondary school teachers in Rwanda. In 2014, the British Council was contracted to establish endline CEFR levels from which Results Based Aid (RBA) payment could be calculated. Aptis for Teachers was selected as the test instrument as it precisely reflects the candidate’s understanding and use of English within an educational context.

**Results**  
The results of the 2014 study using Aptis for Teachers were important for two main reasons. Firstly, they provided the Government of Rwanda with valuable data on the current levels of English language as it was used to calculate RBA payment to the Government of Rwanda. Secondly, a comparative analysis of the 2012 and 2014 results revealed that there has been considerable improvements in the English language skills of school teachers in Rwanda.

**Client:** Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment  
**Country:** Sri Lanka  
**Purpose:** Benchmark spoken English language skills  
**Skills package:** Core + Speaking  
**Mode of Delivery:** Online

**Description**  
The Sri Lanka Bureau of Foreign Employment (SLBFE) is using Aptis as a summative assessment for its language development programme for the migrant workforce. The programme focuses on speaking skills of domestic workers and is carried out in collaboration with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Headway School of Languages. By setting standards and supporting the learning process, Aptis helps the migrant workforce to prepare for work and life expectations overseas.

**Results**  
The SLBFE has joined hands with the British Council in using Aptis for over a year and has expanded the assessment to two of its established centres. One more centre is due in 2015. Summative benchmarking using Aptis is driving up the English language standards of the migrant workforce in Sri Lanka. With Aptis, the SLBFE continues to help the migrant workforce to secure better jobs and contribute to higher foreign exchange remittance in the years to come.
Aptis is designed to test the core competencies of an existing or a prospective employee. The test can be easily integrated into the existing system and managed locally, enabling the organisation to monitor the success of training and recruitment programmes. The best part of Aptis is that organisations need to pay only for the skills chosen, providing a good value for money.

Aptis also tests listening, reading, speaking and writing skills to analyse the language proficiency of an individual. Departments can pick any or all of these skills along with the mandatory core component based on their requirements. Aptis can be delivered in any environment and is suitable for any candidate, regardless of current skill level. The test can be delivered conveniently at any location, any time and through multiple mediums including telephone, computer, ipad or simply on paper.

Aptis has two variants - Aptis for Teachers and Aptis for Teens. Aptis for Teachers is designed to assess the language skills of professionals working in the educational sector while Aptis for Teens is targeted at 13 to 17 year-olds.

“Aptis is a highly flexible testing system consisting of five components; grammar and vocabulary form the core of every Aptis test.

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Components of the Aptis test

“(...) the new English assessment tool launched by the British Council is inventive, testing all four skill sets under one umbrella. We wanted to test the English language skills of our existing employees and found Aptis very practical and efficient. Furthermore, Aptis has helped us identify employees and relevant English language skill sets in which further training is required.”

Awais Ahmad, Director General - Admin. and Coordination, Higher Education Commission (HEC), Pakistan
“We needed an affordable English proficiency test that could be easily compared to other standardised tests of English, to test hundreds of students in our programme. We chose Aptis because we needed to test all four skills and because we have an ongoing collaboration with the British Council on English courses for students in our organisation. Aptis provided an affordable way to measure students’ progress before and after the English course.”

Dr. Chalet Thanakoon, The Institute for the Promotion of Teaching Science and Technology, Thailand.