ATI TEAS Study Guide

ENGLISH

A PDF Guide to the ATI TEAS
English & Language Usage Test

*This guide features information on the topics within
the ATI TEAS English & Language Usage Test.*

August 2017

PREPARING FOR THE
TEAS ENGLISH TEST

How do I Prepare for the TEAS English & Language Usage Test?

To properly prepare for the TEAS English and Language Usage test, it is crucial that you focus on the key topics within each area of the test. Below you will find extensive lists of these topics, including standard English conventions, knowledge of language, and vocabulary acquisition, as well as helpful techniques to best acquaint yourself with them.

TEAS English Test Structure and Timing

You will have 28 minutes to answer the 28 questions on the English section. There are 3 topics covered on the ATI TEAS English & Language Usage section:

- *Conventions of Standard English:* 9 questions altogether worth 38% of the English section.
- *Knowledge of Language:* 9 questions altogether worth 38% of the English section
- *Vocabulary Acquisition:* 6 questions altogether worth 25% of the English section.
- *An additional four pretest items included in this section do not count towards your TEAS score.*

HOW TO PREPARE FOR:

The Conventions of Standard English
on the TEAS English Test

In this topic of the section, you must be able to work with sentences, which are the fundamental framework for communication. Concepts you should be clear on include:

‑ Basic sentence structure: know the difference between an active and a passive voice and how to reconstruct a sentence, switching from one to the other, or how to spot a change between the two voices in a paragraph. Be clear on the different types of tenses (especially, present, present perfect, past and past perfect). Understand the three perspectives in writing (first, second and third person).

‑ Parts of speech: the words of the English language fit into eight different categories. These are noun, pronoun, preposition, conjunction, interjection, verb, adverb, and adjective. Understand how they work and how to describe their purpose and effect on a sentence.

‑ Split infinitive: understand that splitting infinitives is a literary device that is often used to enrich text or change the tone or pace of a sentence, but is grammatically incorrect.

‑ Subject‑verb agreement: understand the different rules for verbs agreeing with the subject and learn how to deduce from a sentence information about the subject, if the information is not immediately clear.

‑ Pronoun‑antecedent agreement: understand this agreement and learn how to choose the correct pronoun for the antecedent (the noun) that the pronoun is referring to.

- Spelling rules: the rules for spelling come with a great deal of exceptions, however learn the basic rules and prepare to encounter exceptions that must be learned.

- Common misspellings: prepare yourself to be tested without a spellchecker at hand. Turn on your spellchecker when working on the computer to catch any words you may misspell. Make sure the spellchecker isn't automatically correcting incorrectly spelled words without you noticing. Also, try to switch off the autocomplete function on your computer and mobile phone, as typing out words yourself is an excellent way to improve your awareness of how words are spelled. Practice as many spelling tests as you can.

- Punctuation: understand both simple and complex punctuation. Rules include how and when to use a comma; how to write a run-on sentence; and how to use a period (full stop), colon, semi-colon, apostrophe, exclamation mark, question mark, and quotation marks. Understand the effects of the punctuation on text, including changing the meaning or pace at which the text is read.

Start Practicing with the ATI TEAS English & Language Usage Pack Now!

HOW TO PREPARE FOR:
Knowledge of Language

Putting words on paper, even in a seemingly correct way, can fail to communicate the meaning of the text without proper understanding and application of structure, usage, and grammar.

While the Conventions of English Language topic lays down the rules, the Knowledge of Language topic requires advanced application of them. Concepts you should be clear on include:

 – Use of pronouns: learn how to recognize how a sentence that may be written clearly can fail to identify who is doing what, or what is affected by what, because of multiple nouns and unclear sentence structure.

 – Formal and informal language: learn how to recognize the appropriate level of language use. Depending on the subject matter and the style of written communication (for example, a text message to a friend or an email to a colleague), either formal or informal language may be appropriate.

 – Double negatives: learn how to prevent the use of double negatives—which create positives—and learn to write clear and concise sentences.

 – Sentence structure: understand the purpose of the sentence and analyze the sentence accordingly. Can you improve the clarity of the sentence by adding or removing an adverb or adjective? Does the sentence need to be lengthened, shortened, or have punctuation amendments?

 – Paragraph organization: understand the power of paragraph organization, especially grouping topics, creating a clearer flow in the argument or the story, or reducing or lengthening one paragraph to match or contrast against another.

HOW TO PREPARE FOR:
Vocabulary Acquisition

Our vocabularies continue to grow from the moment we learn our first word. As a nurse, your medical vocabulary will expand on a daily rate as you learn more medical terminology. For the ATI TEAS exam, you must already have a good foundation of basic vocabulary. Your use of synonyms and antonyms should help you make your point even clearer, not just show off an expanded word bank. Concepts you should be clear on include:

 – Confusing terminology groups: understand the difference between commonly confused words (such as you're and your) that can completely alter a sentence if used incorrectly. Study these groups to be clear on the difference.

 – Increasing your vocabulary: prepare to face new words that you may not have encountered before. To reduce this chance, read a variety of different articles, newspapers, and novels, as many as you can, to expose yourself to different words and writing styles.

 – Unknown words: prepare to face new words that you have never encountered and have no idea what they mean. Analyze the parts of the word and try to recognize the root and any prefixes or suffixes. Next, consider all the material you are given and use the context to try to eliminate other answer options and solve the question.

A FINAL WORD

Our newly updated ATI TEAS practice tests have been launched!
View our practice packs here:

https://www.testprep-online.com/teas-practice-tests

Get Our Best-Selling ATI TEAS Premium Practice Pack

What's included in the pack:

- Two full-length ATI TEAS practice tests (340 questions)
- 8 additional ATI TEAS Reading exercises (191 questions)
- 5 additional ATI TEAS Math exercises (94 questions)
- 2 additional ATI TEAS Science exercises (32 questions)
- 6 additional ATI TEAS English & Language Usage exercises (120 questions)
- Answers with detailed explanations
- Personalized score reports
- Secured payment & immediate online access

To get started go straight to the ATI TEAS Premium Pack on our website:

https://www.testprep-online.com/teas-premium-pack

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