

COURSE SYLLABUS

PERT Reading

Preparation for Florida's Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (PERT) Reading subtest

Learn. Apply. Grow.

Self-paced • Fully online • Reading test preparation

Course Identification

Item	Course Information
Course title	PERT Reading
Provider	EmpowerED Professional Learning
Course type	Independent test-preparation course; not a for-credit college course
Format	Self-paced and fully online; SCORM-delivered through the learning management system
Prerequisites	None
Estimated time	Approximately 16-25 hours; an estimate, not a minimum-time requirement
Passing standard	70% on each graded lesson quiz and the cumulative final
Materials	Nothing to purchase; paper and something to write with are useful for notes
Course scope	Reading only; Mathematics and Writing are not covered

Course Description

PERT Reading is a self-paced preparation course designed to strengthen the reading skills associated with the Reading subtest of Florida's Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (PERT). Six lessons address the ten reading skills identified in the Florida Department of Education PERT Student Study Guide. Learners practice on original passages written specifically for this course and work through explanations that identify why the keyed answer is supported and why the distractors are not.

The course is designed for both high school students preparing for a college-readiness or placement decision and adults returning to college who want structured practice with academic reading and test-question reasoning.

Who This Course Is For

- Students who need or choose to take the PERT Reading subtest for placement.
- Learners who want to strengthen close reading of short academic passages.
- Adults returning to college who want a structured refresher in academic reading.
- Learners willing to return to the passage and identify the textual evidence that determines an answer.

What This Course Does Not Do

- Cover the Mathematics or Writing subtests.
- Teach speed reading; careful reading and evidence-based reasoning are emphasized.
- Provide official, retired, or licensed PERT items.
- Replace placement, exemption, or testing advice from the institution the learner plans to attend.

Course Learning Outcomes

1. Identify a passage's main idea, distinguish it from topic and supporting detail, and summarize important ideas accurately.
2. Evaluate assertions about a passage by determining what evidence strengthens, weakens, or leaves a claim unchanged.
3. Determine the meaning of words and phrases in context using textual clues, connotation, intensity, and phrase-level meaning.

4. Recognize logical relationships within and between sentences, including transitions, pronoun reference, modifiers, and negation.
5. Identify common organizational patterns and explain the role a sentence or paragraph plays in the text as a whole.
6. Determine author's purpose, analyze tone and word choice, and distinguish sequence from causation.
7. Distinguish fact from opinion and evaluate the claim, evidence, reasoning, assumptions, and rhetoric of an argument.
8. Infer traits, motivations, and perspectives from textual evidence and compare two texts addressing a similar topic or theme.

The Six Lessons

Lesson	Title	Major Focus
1	Main Idea, Summary, and Supporting Detail	Topic vs. main idea; stated and unstated main ideas; summary; supporting detail; strengthening and weakening assertions
2	Vocabulary in Context	Context clues; multiple-meaning words; connotation and intensity; phrases, idioms, and figurative language
3	Sentence Relationships and Text Structure	Logical relationships; transitions; long-sentence analysis; pronouns and modifiers; negation; organizational patterns
4	Author's Purpose, Tone, and Word Choice	Purpose; tone; connotation; hedging; word-choice effects; sequence versus causation
5	Fact, Opinion, and Evaluating an Argument	Verifiability; fact/opinion combinations; claim, evidence, reasoning, assumptions; weaknesses in reasoning and rhetoric
6	People in Texts, and Comparing Two Texts	Traits, motivations, and states; point of view; reliability; comparing claims, emphasis, scope, tone, and purpose

Course Design

Each lesson contains three concepts and six fully worked examples, followed by common mistakes, test-day strategies, and a recap. Across the course there are 36 worked examples. Every passage used in the course is original to EmpowerED Professional Learning and is designed so that the questions can be answered from the passage itself without outside knowledge.

Activities and Assessments

Component	Quantity	How It Works
Narrated lesson content	6	Not graded. Completion is recorded after the required lesson sections are viewed.

Practice sets	6	8 items each; untimed; immediate explanatory feedback; unlimited practice; not graded for accuracy.
Graded lesson quizzes	5	8 items each for Lessons 1-5; submit-then-review; 70% required to pass.
Cumulative final	1	40 items across all six lessons; submit-then-review; 70% required to pass.

Lesson 6 has no separate graded lesson quiz. Its skills are practiced in Practice Set 6 and assessed on the cumulative final.

The 70% passing requirement is an internal course standard. It is not equivalent to a PERT scaled score and does not predict a particular placement result.

Estimated Time on Task

Course Component	Low Estimate	High Estimate
Six narrated lesson content modules	7.5 hours	10.5 hours
Six practice sets	2.5 hours	4.0 hours
Five graded lesson quizzes	1.5 hours	2.5 hours
Cumulative final	1.5 hours	2.0 hours
Independent review and rework	3.0 hours	6.0 hours
Estimated total	16.0 hours	25.0 hours

These figures estimate the amount of learning activity in the course. They are not a minimum-time requirement. Completion is based on required activities, not on hours logged.

Suggested Study Plans

Paced option: approximately six weeks

Complete approximately one lesson each week. For Lessons 1-5, complete the lesson, practice set, and graded quiz. In Week 6, complete Lesson 6 and Practice Set 6, revisit weak practice sets, review the lesson recaps, and complete the cumulative final.

Intensive option: approximately two weeks

Complete the six lessons across roughly 10-11 days, then use several days to retake practice sets without relying on earlier answers or notes. Finish with the cumulative final and review any weaknesses it exposes.

Completion Expectations

- Complete all six narrated lesson modules.
- Complete all six practice sets.
- Earn at least 70% on each required graded lesson quiz for Lessons 1-5.
- Earn at least 70% on the cumulative final.
- Use feedback and review opportunities to revisit skills that remain uncertain.

Support and Disclaimer

For EmpowerED Professional Learning course support, contact info@empoweredpl.com.

This course is produced independently by EmpowerED Professional Learning. It is not affiliated with, sponsored by, endorsed by, or approved by the Florida Department of Education or McCann Associates. Course passages and assessment items are original preparation materials, not official or retired PERT items. Completion does not guarantee a PERT score, placement decision, admission outcome, or exemption.

Source Basis

The course's PERT-related content is based on Florida Department of Education materials and Rule 6A-10.0315, F.A.C. Because testing and placement policies can change, learners should verify current high-stakes requirements with the institution that will administer or use the assessment.