

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What courses does Ad Appel Taaltrainingen offer?

We offer courses basic civic integration exam (basisexamen inburgering A1), civic integration exam (inburgeringsexamen A2) and State Exam (Staatsexamen B1, B2). You can take lessons for all language skills or just one skill (reading, writing, listening, speaking). Even if you don't wish to take an exam, you can follow a course to improve your Dutch. There are lessons in small groups (five students) or private lessons (one student).

2. When does the next course start?

You can usually start immediately. You can join in on sessions picking out yourself, planning ahead. You can also go on vacation whenever you want.

3. How long will my course last?

There are courses of 16 lessons or 32 lessons. Each lesson lasts three hours. In case of private lessons the number of lessons will be determined in consultation.

4. Which teachers work at Ad Appel Taaltrainingen?

Ad Appel (1954) Teacher Dutch as a Second Language (Nederlands als Tweede Taal) since 1974. Studied Cultural Anthropology and Dutch as a Second Language (NT2). Did teacher training for teachers NT2. Published several books and other teaching materials for foreigners / immigrants (A1 and A2). Since 1998 examiner State Exams NT2.

Kirsten Verpaalen (1974) NT2 teacher since 2008. Studied Cultural Anthropology and did teacher training NT2. Was OSCE observer. Excellent knowledge of Russian language and culture. Working since 2012 with Ad Appel.

We work with a limited number of other, highly skilled and specialized NT2 teachers.

5. What does a lesson look like?

During the lesson the teacher explains new curriculum, for instance grammar. During class you also exercises that are difficult for you. You will receive feedback from the teacher. You sit with other students in one group. There is almost never a traditional classroom lesson. All students are supervised individually. You make your homework tasks. You come to school with questions about the material. At school you work a lot on improving grammar, so that you become more fluent in both writing and speaking. You will also take tests and practice exams in class regularly.

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6. Which books do I need?

You decide in consultation with the teacher what books are needed. Sometimes you already have books that you can continue studying. Or you wish to buy second hand books or books you borrow from the library. Would you like to have new study books? Then those are present at school and you can buy them at school.

7. Does my teacher speak only Dutch in class?

Yes, during the lesson your teacher speaks Dutch as much as possible. With beginners teachers sometimes use other languages to explain words (English, French, Spanish, Russian or Arabic).

8. How much homework tasks do I get at a course?

You have twice as many hours doing homework then the number of teaching hours. Suppose you have six hours, then you count twelve hours of homework. This is an estimate, there are individual differences.

9. How much time is required to learn Dutch?

That depends on several factors. Training in your country, language, time spent on homework, speaking Dutch outside of school etc. etc. Under good circumstances students reach A2 level in four to six months.

10. How big is the school of Ad Appel Taaltrainingen in Aerdenhout?

Ad Appel Taaltrainingen works with small groups. The groups consist of five students. The school is small and we offer personalized education.

11. Can I still participate if the course has already begun?

Yes, you can always enroll if there is room. Because each student at Ad Apple Taaltrainingen gets an individual program, you can start in each group at any time.

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12. What do I have to pay?

A course of 16 lessons costs € 864.

A course of 32 lessons costs € 1728.

Private lessons cost € 170 and last for two hours.

One single study day from 9:45 am to 16:15 pm will cost € 120.

An intensive study week costs € 495. You come to classes four days and half a day (9 classes).

Two intensive study weeks (18 classes) cost € 950.

An ONA portfolio workshop costs € 170.

13. When do I have to pay?

You pay for the lessons prior to the course. Courses of 32 lessons can be paid in three monthly instalments. You ensure timely payment. If you are late in paying additional costs will be charged. Course fee which has been paid will not be refunded.

14. Do I have to pay for the course myself?

Yes. The government does not pay for your integration course. Courses of 32 lessons can be paid in monthly instalments. Sometimes your employer pays your course.

15. Are the costs of my integration course tax deductible?

Maybe. If you are studying to improve your professional opportunities, your study can be (2019) partly deductible. Sometimes your bookkeeper can deduct the cost of your integration course with your tax return.

16. Do I have to pay VAT for the lessons?

No, you do not pay VAT. Ad Appel Taaltrainingen is registered with the CRKBO.

17. How long does my lesson last?

A group lesson lasts three hours. A private lesson takes two hours.

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18. What is my class schedule?

Morning: 9:45 am to 12:45 pm.

Afternoon: 13:15 to 16:15 pm.

Your schedule is flexible, but binding. If you do not come to a planned class, the class will still be charged. You always plan one month ahead which sessions you want to come to class.

19. How often do I take lessons?

You will in general come 2 times a week to school. If you have a (nearly) full time job, we advise you to come once a week to class. Lessons in our small groups are very intense and you also need to do your homework. Would you like to have extra classes or do you need a special intensive training? That's possible!

20. What's the location of the lessons?

Classes take place at the address Aerdenhoutsduinweg 1, 2111 AN Aerdenhout. The school is about ten minutes walk from the train station Heemstede-Aerdenhout. Parking is free.

21. Does Ad Appel Taaltrainingen have the Quality Mark (Keurmerk) Inburgering?

No, not any more. Ad Appel Taaltrainingen has denounced the quality mark Blik op Werk. This means that you cannot receive a loan from Dienst Uitvoering Onderwijs (DUO) anymore if you start your course in 2018 at our school. Courses of 30 lessons can be paid in monthly instalments. Ad Appel Taaltrainingen is a by Centraal Register Kort Beroepsonderwijs (CRKBO) registered organization. Ad Appel Taaltrainingen bears the quality mark NRTO.

Ad Appel and Kirsten Verpaalen are members of the professional association of teachers of Dutch as a Second Language.



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22. Do I know Ad Appel from the internet?

Maybe. Ad Appel Taaltrainingen publishes a lot on integration and publishes teaching materials and practice tests for the integration examination on the internet as well. You can find those materials among other places in the Facebook groups "Basisexamen Inburgering" and "Inburgeringsexamen".

Ad Appel and Kirsten Verpaalen have a public profile on LinkedIn.

Ad Appel Taaltrainingen also developed websites with help of which people around the world learn to read and pronounce their first 1200 Dutch words. There is also an app designed for iPad and Android tablets.

Want to know more? Check www.adappel.nl.

Or mail to adappel@gmail.com