

TOEFL WRITING TASKS



TOEFL Practice - Writing

Structure of the Exam

- ❑ <https://www.ets.org/toefl/ibt/about/content/>
- ❑ <http://www.studyabroad18.com/articles/toefl-writing-test-structure.php>

TOEFL iBT Test Sections

Section	Time Limit	Questions	Tasks
Reading	60–80 minutes	36–56 questions	Read 3 or 4 passages from academic texts and answer questions.
Listening	60–90 minutes	34–51 questions	Listen to lectures, classroom discussions and conversations, then answer questions.
Break	10 minutes	—	—
Speaking	20 minutes	6 tasks	Express an opinion on a familiar topic; speak based on reading and listening tasks.
Writing	50 minutes	2 tasks	Write essay responses based on reading and listening tasks; support an opinion in writing.

Format of the TOEFL Writing Test

- ❑ There are 4 sections (reading, listening, speaking, and writing) which take a total of about 4 ½ hours to complete, including check-in.
- ❑ The writing section of the exam lasts 50 minutes
- ❑ Writing Task #1: (20 minutes) - 150-225 words
 - ❑ Content (Ability to Summarize)
 - ❑ Organization
 - ❑ Language and Grammar
 - ❑ <http://www.learnenglish-online.com/toefl/toeflwriting.html>
- ❑ Writing Task #2: (30 minutes) - 300 words
 - ❑ Introduction
 - ❑ Body Paragraph 1
 - ❑ Body Paragraph 2
 - ❑ Body Paragraph 3
 - ❑ Conclusion
 - ❑ <http://www.learnenglish-online.com/toefl/writing/task2.html>

TOEFL Writing - Sample Test Videos

- ❑ Writing Task 1: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ytubzmj_j94
- ❑ TOEFL Writing – Task 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fAAqo3NMrq8>
- ❑ Writing Task 2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UI2OTUqMGqk>
- ❑ IELTS & TOEFL Writing Task 2 - The Introduction:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Y8cm8k2vzU>
- ❑ NoteFull TOEFL Writing Help: Coherence - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OCkn_5CZrEw
- ❑ New, Killer TOEFL Reading Tricks, Tips, & Strategy from NoteFull:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZfJXyGkDLZc>
- ❑ New TOEFL Speaking Question 1 Strategy, Tips, & Tricks from NoteFull:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZcitwmXvmDg&list=PL6434B98632F06DB0>
- ❑ TOEFL Speaking Question 3 Help:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J-n_nOBDLd4&list=PL6434B98632F06DB0&index=5
- ❑ TOEFL Speaking Question 4 Help:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xMUWevT3o8A&list=PL6434B98632F06DB0&index=6>

- ❑ TOEFL Speaking Question 5 Help:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O2dU1JqIWS0&list=PL6434B98632F06DB0&index=8>

- ❑ New TOEFL - Speaking Question 2 (2019-2020) - Sample Questions and Answers Included:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9eQ3mu_19Zk

- ❑ TOEFL Reading Practice Test, New Version (2019-2020):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W7YKl4epvnU>

- ❑ TOEFL listening practice test with answers: Test 1 (2019):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lfDDh20EQbl>

- ❑ TOEFL listening test 2: Full toefl test with answers (2019):

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g5CPyGmVd_o

- ❑ TOEFL listening test 3: Full toefl test with answers (2019):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ogGKfl9jBEg>

TOEFL Writing Topics

- ❑ <https://primeessays.com/toefl-essays-topics.html>

- ❑ <https://www.examword.com/toefl-experience/ibt-writing-question>

- ❑ https://cla.univr.it/personale/lettori_cel/materiale_didattico/Filippetto/Materiale/Toefl/TOEFL%20writing%20titles.pdf

- ❑ <https://www.slideshare.net/ankitgujrati271/185-toefl-writing-topics-and-model-essays>

- ❑ <https://abdelrahmanhosny.files.wordpress.com/2014/12/writing-topics.pdf>

Taking Sample Tests

- ❑ TOEFL Writing Question #1: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ytubzmj_j94&t=21s

- ❑ TOEFL Writing Question #2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UI2OTUqMGqk&t=12s>

- ❑ https://s3.amazonaws.com/magoosh.resources/TOEFL_Practice_Questions.pdf

- ❑ <https://www.test-guide.com/free-toefl-practice-tests.html>

Useful Websites

- ❑ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fAAqo3NMrq8>

- ❑ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Y8cm8k2vzU>

- ❑ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=INeHfQBSebY>
- ❑ <https://www.prepscholar.com/toefl/blog/toefl-writing-samples/>
- ❑ https://www.ets.org/s/toefl/pdf/toefl_student_test_prep_planner.pdf
- ❑ https://s3.amazonaws.com/magoosh.resources/TOEFL_Writing_PDF.pdf
- ❑ TOEFL Writing Practice Test - full test with answers:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HDYdLyYO5jw>
- ❑ IELTS TOEFL Writing Full essay (high score)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=INeHfQBSebY>

How is the test graded - Rubrics

- ❑ <https://www.bestmytest.com/blog/toefl/toefl-speaking-writing-score>
- ❑ <https://www.etsglobal.org/Tests-Preparation/The-TOEIC-Tests/TOEIC-Speaking-Writing-Tests/Scores-Overview>

SCORES OVERVIEW

Test Scores

The *TOEIC*® Speaking and Writing tests responses are scored based on specific [evaluation criteria \(p.23-24\)](#), which are converted to a scaled score of 0-200 for the Speaking test and Writing test respectively. **Because English-language skills may improve or decline over time, a score report will not be re-issued if two years have passed since taking the test.**

Speaking Test Scores

- Questions 1–9 are rated on a scale of 0–3.
- Questions 10–11 are rated on a scale of 0–5.
- Scaled score of 0–200.
- Scores are linked to eight proficiency levels.
- Correlated to the CEFRL levels A1 to C1.

Writing Test Scores

- Questions 1–5 are rated on a scale of 0–3.
- Questions 6–7 are rated on a scale of 0–4.
- Question 8 is rated on a scale of 0–5.
- Scaled score of 0–200.
- Scores are linked to nine proficiency levels.
- Human rating — multiple, rigorously trained raters score responses anonymously.
- Correlated to the CEFRL levels A1 to C1.

Average raw writing TOEFL scores	Scaled writing scores
5	30
4	25-29
3	20 - 24
2	12 - 18
1	8 - 11
0	0 – 7

Sample Question - Writing Task # 1

The reading and the lecture are both about the negative effects of social media. The reading states that three negative impacts of social media on the society are a false sense of connectedness, cyber-bullying, and decreased productivity. The lecture builds upon those same ideas to give a more comprehensive picture with three examples.

First of all, according to the reading, one negative consequence of social media is that it destroys relationships. Supporting this idea, the lecturer explains that people have begun to put more value on computer-based relationships rather than real life ones. He frames this idea as people losing touch with the real world, losing genuine relationships, and social skills.

Secondly, the reading states that another negative consequence of social media is cyber-bullying. This is when someone uses the internet to tease or harass someone, oftentimes anonymously. The lecturer goes on to explain that according to a CBS report, 42 percent of young people have

experienced cyber-bullying. This high percentage indicates that social media has become a medium for cyber-bullying.

Finally, the reading claims that social media is a huge distraction for people. Instead of doing work or homework, people use social media to distract them from their obligations. In support of this idea, the lecturer brings up the point that the decrease in work productivity due to the overuse of social media has cost some businesses billions of dollars in lost revenue. For instance, one study done by Morse showed that British industries lost 2.2 billion dollars a year.

In conclusion, the reading and lecture both discuss adverse impacts of the prevalence of social media on society. The three main points made in the reading are effectively supported by the lecturer.

Sample Question - Writing Task # 2

Cars are now a very popular method of transportation around the world. They have benefited society and allowed the world to grow. They have also created pollution and societal problems. Alternative forms of transportation should be developed and laws created to control car use.

Cars should be limited because they are bad for the environment. Cars release carbon dioxide into the air and contribute to global warming and air pollution. For example, large cities like Mexico City or Los Angeles have issues with air quality due to the large volumes of traffic. Another negative impact cars have on the environment is the land used to support the traffic. Natural or green areas are destroyed to create infrastructure like parking lots and highways. Polluting the air and taking up precious natural areas are environmental reasons why car use should be limited.

Cars should be limited because they are dangerous for individuals and society. First, cars are dangerous for drivers and passengers. A car accident is much deadlier and more common than a public transportation accident. Another dangerous aspect of cars is the impact on society. People who do not use cars are also in danger. For example, cars can crash with pedestrians or cyclists. Cars are dangerous for society, so they should be limited.

Cars should be reduced because they negatively impact owners. Cars are expensive. People who

own cars need to pay for gas, insurance, and maintenance fees. In addition, they pay parking and tolls. This makes cars very expensive for the owners. Moreover, cars contribute to unhealthy lifestyles. People seldom walk when they own a car. These financial and health issues for car owners are good reasons to limit car use.

In conclusion, car use should be limited because of the negative impact on the environment, safety, and the lives of car owners. Hopefully governments around the world will begin to recognize the problems cars create. This would lead to less car use and more public transportation use, in turn creating a better world.