

THREE GENERATIONS AT A GLANCE

HOW DOES THE NEW INTERNET-BASED TOEFL COMPARE WITH THE COMPUTER BASED AND PAPER BASED VERSIONS OF THE TEST?

(All information from: ETS / TOEFL Publication 2006)

| | Internet-based | Computer-based | Paper-based |
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| Skills tested | Listening Speaking Reading Writing | Listening Structure (Grammar) Reading Writing | Listening Structure (Grammar) Reading Writing |
| TEST TIME | 4 hours | 3.5 hours | 3 hours |
| INTEGRATED TASKS | Yes | No | No |
| NOTE TAKING | Yes | No | No |
| COMPUTER TUTORIALS | Instructions for answering questions are given within each section; there is no computer tutorial. | A computer tutorial and instructions for answering questions are provided before the test. | Not applicable |
| COMPUTER ADAPTIVE | Not computer adaptive. Each test taker receives the same range of questions in any given form of the test. | Listening and Structure are computer adaptive. Reading and writing are not. | Not applicable |
| LISTENING | 4 – 6 lectures, some with classroom discussion. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each 3-5 min long, 6 questions each. 2 – 3 conversations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each 3 min long, 5 questions each. Introduction of additional native English accents. | 11 – 17 dialogues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One question each 2-3 short conversations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each up to 1 min long 4-6 mini lectures <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each up to 2 min long Time: 40 – 60 min Score Scale: 0 - 30 | 3 – 4 mini talks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each 60 – 90 sec long 2-3 extended conversation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each 60 – 90 sec long 30 – 40 dialogues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each 5-15 sec long Time: 30 – 40 min |

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| | <p>Time: 60-90 min</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Score Scale: 0 – 30 <p>What's different?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Longer, more authentic conversations and lectures Note taking allowed New questions that measure understanding of a speaker's attitude, degree of certainty, purpose, or motivation. | | <p>Score Scale: 31-68</p> |
| <p>SPEAKING</p> | <p>6 tasks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 independent tasks – express an opinion on a familiar topic 4 integrated tasks – speak based on what is read and heard <p>Up to 30 seconds to prepare the response Up to 1 minute to respond</p> <p>Time: 20 minutes</p> <p>Score scale: 0-4 pts, total of ratings converted to 0 – 30 score scale.</p> <p>What's different? Everything – it is a brand new section!</p> | <p>None</p> | <p>None</p> |

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| <p>WRITING</p> | <p>2 tasks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 integrated task – write based on what is read and heard • 1 independent task – support an opinion on a topic <p>Time: 50 min (20 min for integrated task and 30 min for independent task)</p> <p>Score scale: 0-5 pts; total of ratings converted to 0-30 score scale</p> <p>What's different?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated task 0-5 pts • Typing required | <p>1 independent task – support an opinion on a topic.</p> <p>Time: 30 min</p> <p>Score Scale: 0-6 pts</p> <p>Combined with structure and converted to score scale of 0-30</p> <p>Typing optional</p> | <p>1 independent task (Test of Written English)</p> <p>Rating: 0-6 pts, reported separately on score report</p> <p>Time: 30 min</p> <p>Handwriting only</p> |
| <p>READING</p> | <p>3-5 passages from academic texts Approx. 700 words long.</p> <p>Includes multiple-focus passages (compare/contrast, cause/effect)</p> <p>12-14 questions for each passage</p> <p>Time : 60 – 100 min</p> <p>Score scale : 0 – 30</p> <p>What's different ? Glossary to define key words ; easy-to-use review features. New task – categorize</p> | <p>4-5 passages from academic texts (250 – 350 words long)</p> <p>11 questions per passage</p> <p>Time: 70 – 90 min</p> <p>Score Scale: 0-30</p> | <p>5 passages from academic texts (250 – 350 words long)</p> <p>10 questions per passage</p> <p>Time: 55 min</p> <p>Score scale: 31 – 67</p> |

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| | information and fill in chart/complete summary. | | |
| STRUCTURE (GRAMMAR) | No grammar section, although grammar is evaluated in speaking and writing responses. | 20-25 questions Time: 15 – 20 min Score Scale: score combined with writing section score. | 40 questions Time: 25 min Score scale: 31-68 |
| TOTAL SCORE | 0 – 120 | 0 – 300 | 310 – 677 |
| COMPETENCY DESCRIPTORS | Yes: They describe performance at major score points. | No | No |