

ACADSOC TOEFL

Test of English as Foreign Language

Writing

Lesson 1 Introduction to TOEFL Writing

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No class time allocated here

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1



What TOEFL Writing is about

Class time: ≤ 5 min



About TOEFL Writing



Teaching point: explain what TOEFL Writing is mainly about

The last component in TOEFL iBT is the Writing section. It measures your ability to write in standard academic English. There are two tasks in TOEFL iBT Writing section - Independent Writing task and Integrated Writing task.

Number of tasks	Timing
2	50 minutes

PART



Understanding your scores

Class time: ≤ 5 min



Scaled scores



Teaching point: explain the score scale in TOEFL Writing to the student

The two questions in TOEFL Writing are rated from 0-5. The scores from the Integrated and Independent Writing Prompts are combined to give you the scaled score.

Range of Scores	What It Means
0-5 points, converted into a 0-30 scale	1-16 (limited) 17-23 (fair) 24-30 (good)

PART

3



Task 1 - Integrated Writing

Class time: ≤ 6 min



Integrated Writing



Teaching point: discuss with the student what Task 1 in TOEFL Writing is about

Writing Based on Reading and Listening

Here you will read a passage about an academic topic. Then you will listen to a lecture about the same topic. You are permitted to take notes while you read and listen. You will be asked a question that relates to both the text and the listening. Your response should be 150-225 words. Hint: Look for three many points that are related. Your score will depend on the quality of your writing as well as how well you answer the question. After you have heard the lecture you will have twenty minutes to plan and write your response.

Integrated Writing



Teaching point: explain with the sample question

Sample Question types

- **Reading:**

In a vote that took place at the International Astronomical Union Conference on August 24th, 2006, Pluto lost its status as a planet in our solar system. Pluto was originally discovered in 1930 when scientists were searching for something that was interfering with Uranus's orbit. Though Pluto was estimated to be similar in size to Earth, it was later discovered that it was even smaller than our own moon, as well as many other moons. It is now known that there are thousands of planetary objects similar to Pluto, including Eris which is slightly larger than Pluto. Choosing to reclassify Pluto to a dwarf planet honors the fact that science is about making new discoveries. While it was a sad day for Pluto lovers, people in general have accepted the idea, and the next generation of children will grow up knowing only eight planets and thinking nothing of it. As Mike Brown, the astronomer who discovered Eris, noted following the IUC's decision, "science is self-correcting."

- **Next you will listen to part of a lecture on the same subject:**



Summarize the points made in the lecture, explaining how they cast doubt on the points made in the reading passage.

PART

4



Task 2 - Independent Writing

Class time: ≤ 6 min



Independent Writing



Teaching point: check if the student can identify the two types of writing tasks

Writing Based on Knowledge and Experience

This section of the test asks you questions about common experiences. You will be asked to give your opinion and provide reasons and examples. You will not be required to have any previous knowledge on a topic. You will have 30 minutes to prepare an essay in response to the question provided.

Independent Writing



Teaching point: explain with the sample question

Sample Question types

- Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Students should take out student loans to avoid working while studying. Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
- Some people think it's better to live with a roommate. Other people prefer to live alone. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
- It is better to grow up with siblings than without. Do you agree or disagree? Use specific reasons and examples to develop your essay.
- It has recently been announced that the public library in your area will be closed for the summer months for a major renovation and expansion. Do you support or oppose this plan. Why? Use specific reasons and details to support your answer.

The end



How well have you done this practice? You will be given test-taking strategies and relevant language points in TOEFL Writing in the next lesson.

Self-analysis checklist



I know what are tested in TOEFL Writing



I know how what the Range of Scores mean



I know what Question 1 is about



I know what Question 2 is about