



TOEFL

Quality Beyond Measure.

TOEFL iBT™ Update CGS Summer Workshop

Kathy Pruner

Global Client Relations

ETS — *Listening. Learning. Leading.*®



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The TOEFL[®] Test Today

- The TOEFL Internet-based test (iBT)
 - 95% of all TOEFL testing
- The TOEFL Paper-based test (PBT)
 - Used in countries where TOEFL iBT[™] is not yet available
 - Supplements TOEFL iBT in a limited number of areas
- The TSE[®] (*Test of Spoken English*[™])
 - Available upon request in PBT locations
- All TOEFL scores are valid for two years
- The TOEFL Computer-based test (CBT)
 - Discontinued September 2006
 - Scores no longer valid or reported



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TOEFL[®] Internet-based Test (iBT)

- Tests all four skills: Reading, Listening, Speaking, Writing
- 100% academic
- Emphasizes communicative English – focuses on how well students **use** English, not just what they **know** about it
- Integrated questions require students to combine skills to formulate responses
 - Indicate whether students can summarize, evaluate, compare and synthesize information from multiple sources
- Integrated questions:
 - Read + Listen > Speak in response
 - Read + Listen > Write in response
 - Listen > Speak in response



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Research and Development

- Strong research foundation
 - 143 research reports
 - *Building a Validity Argument for the TOEFL® Test (Test of English as a Foreign Language™)* – edited by Carol A. Chapelle, Mary K. Enright, Joan M. Jamieson)

Rigorous Security

- Identification requirements stringently enforced
- State of the art encryption software for delivery of the test to the center and return of test-taker responses to ETS
- Announced and unannounced observations
- Unlike other tests, ETS separates the testing center from the scoring process to maintain the integrity of the scores
- Ongoing Internet search for item dissemination



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Scoring You Can Trust

- Fair testing with unbiased, objective scoring
 - Raters see and hear worldwide responses – not just from one country
 - Raters do not know the examinee
 - Three to six raters anonymously score Speaking responses
 - Four ratings for Writing responses
- Highly trained Raters
 - New raters must complete training and pass a certification test
 - Take calibration test each time they begin scoring or change to a different question type
 - Review exemplar responses after a break to refocus attention
 - Continually monitored by Scoring Leaders
 - Scoring Leaders > Content Scoring Leaders > ETS Expert



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Innovation in Scoring

In July 2009 the TOEFL[®] program will begin to use the *e-rater*[®] automated scoring engine in a limited and responsible way for Writing

- Integrated writing task
 - Two human raters
- Independent writing task
 - One human rater + one automated rating



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Why not only use all automated scoring?

- The kinds of test questions designed for automated scoring only, are more coachable and promote rote learning, not practice of real communication skills
- Integrated questions from the TOEFL test don't lend themselves to automated scoring
- Combines judgment of human scoring for content and meaning and the consistency of automated scoring for linguistic features



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New in 2009

- **Faster score turnaround**
 - Scores are now available to test takers in two weeks or less
 - Further reductions planned
- **Speech samples available to score users**
 - Scored speech sample from integrated speaking task
 - One minute in length
 - Available online free of charge to score users
 - Register with ETS and sign confidentiality statement
 - Available for those testing June 24, 2009 onward



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New in 2009

Which spoken response to give?

- Best performance? Worst?
- **Median** performance from one of the four integrated speaking tasks
 - Listen > Read > Speak
 - OR
 - Listen > Speak
- Some responses may be stronger, others may be weaker, than the one you will hear online



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Reviewing TOEFL iBT™ Score Requirements



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Considering the use of Section Scores

Many possible ways to achieve a total score of 80:

Student A

- Reading – 20
- Listening – 20
- Speaking – 20
- Writing – 20

Student B

- Reading – 27
- Listening – 26
- Speaking – 13
- Writing – 14

Score scales: 0 - 30 for Reading, Listening, Speaking and Writing sections; 0 - 120 for total score.



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Resources for Reviewing Score Requirements

Available on the TOEFL website www.ets.org/toefl

- TOEFL Score Comparison Tables
- Peer institution requirements
- *Test and Score Data Summary for TOEFL iBT: January 2008 – December 2008*
 - Percentile Data
 - Score means listed by total population, native language, native country, gender, and purpose for taking the test (i.e., Undergraduate, Graduate, or Professional License)

Available today or by request from TOEFLNews@ets.org

- Standard-setting manual on CD-ROM



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Comparing Score Requirements to Percentiles and Mean Scores

Graduate Level Example with 2008 Data

Total Score	Requirement	84
	Percentile Equivalent	45th
	Mean	83
Reading Score	Requirement	20
	Percentile Equivalent	36th
	Mean	20.9
Listening Score	Requirement	20
	Percentile Equivalent	35th
	Mean	21
Speaking Score	Requirement	17
	Percentile Equivalent	18th
	Mean	20
Writing Score	Requirement	27
	Percentile Equivalent	81st
	Mean	21.3





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2008 Student Performance TOEFL iBT™



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TOEFL iBT™ 2008 Total Population Scaled Section and Total Score Means

	iBT Mean
Reading	19.4
Listening	19.5
Speaking	19.3
Writing	20.5
Total	79.0



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TOEFL iBT™ 2008 Total Population

Score Means by Test-Taker Purpose

Group	Reading	Listening	Speaking	Writing	Total
Graduate					
Mean	20.9	21.0	20.0	21.3	83.0
Undergraduate					
Mean	17.6	19.2	19.5	20.1	76.0
Professional					
Mean	20.4	21.4	20.8	20.9	84.0



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TOEFL iBT™ 2008

Total Population Score Means by Sample Countries

Native Country	Reading	Listening	Speaking	Writing	Total
Korea (ROK)	20	19	18	20	78
Japan	16	16	16	18	66
China (PRC)	20	18	18	20	76
India	21	22	22	22	87
Taiwan	18	18	18	19	73
Turkey	19	19	19	20	77
Germany	23	26	24	24	97
Italy	24	21	20	21	85
France	23	23	21	22	88



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Services for Score Users



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Promote Your Institution

- Record a brief video testimonial about your institution and the TOEFL® test at www.ets.org/toefl/video
- Your video will be viewed by more than a million students each month – valuable exposure at no charge

TOEFL® Channel on the YouTube® Website

(www.youtube.com/TOEFLtv) TOEFL and YouTube invites teachers and students to send short videos with tips on:

- Learning English
- Preparing for the TOEFL test
- Studying abroad



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TOEFL[®] Information & Contacts

- TOEFL Website: www.ets.org/toefl
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