

The background features a teal-to-blue gradient with a subtle pattern of white dots. On the left side, there are several circular elements: a large scale with numbers from 140 to 260, and several smaller circles with arrows indicating clockwise or counter-clockwise rotation.

# TOEFL SPEAKING

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2021

# A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE TOEFL TEST (2021)

- One of Reading or Listening section will be extended (Long Format)!



## Reading

3 - 4 Passages  
30 - 40 Questions  
54 - 72 min



## Listening

5 - 7 Part  
28 - 39 Questions  
41 - 57 min



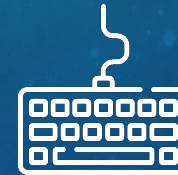
## Break

10 min



## Speaking

1 part independent  
3 Part integrated  
17 min



## Writing

Integrated 20 min  
Independent 30 min

# GET A GOOD TOEFL TEACHER

- If you really want to improve your score, you should hire a tutor to work with you one on one. They will be able to help you improve your score in all three sections of the rubric. I recommend the following experts:
- Katie Mary – [Houseoftoefl@gmail.com](mailto:Houseoftoefl@gmail.com)
- Miguel Marcano – [elitetoeflprep@gmail.com](mailto:elitetoeflprep@gmail.com)
- Jonathan Huggins – [info@hugginsinternational.com](mailto:info@hugginsinternational.com)
- Danijela Jovanovic – [proesltestprep.com](http://proesltestprep.com)
- Josh MacPherson – [tstprep.com](http://tstprep.com)
- John Healy – [Study With It](http://StudyWithIt)
- Jane Birkenhead – [Birkenhead English](http://Birkenhead English)
- Sierra Yohalem – [sierra.yohalem@gmail.com](mailto:sierra.yohalem@gmail.com)
- Sherlen Tanner – [TOEFL iBT Academy](http://TOEFL iBT Academy)

# WHAT DO YOUR SCORES MEAN?

- Each section has a score range of 0–30.
- These are added together for a total score of 0–120.

Skill	Level	Skill	Level
Reading	Advanced (24–30) High-Intermediate (18–23) Low-Intermediate (4–17) Below Low-Intermediate (0–3)	Speaking	Advanced (25–30) High-Intermediate (20–24) Low-Intermediate (16–19) Basic (10–15) Below Basic (0–9)
Listening	Advanced (22–30) High-Intermediate (17–21) Low-Intermediate (9–16) Below Low-Intermediate (0–8)	Writing	Advanced (24–30) High-Intermediate (17–23) Low-Intermediate (13–16) Basic (7–12) Below Basic (0–6)

# MEAN SCORES

Section	Score Range	Mean Scores*
Reading	0–30	20
Listening	0–30	19
Speaking	0–30	19
Writing	0–30	20
Total Score	0–120	80

# ETS FREE SAMPLE TEST

- ETS now provides a new free sample test which uses modified versions of the old TOEFL Quick Prep sets.
- new PDF files: <https://www.ets.org/toefl/test-takers/ibt/prepare/accessible/>
- TPOs: Download TPOs from Telegram Channel (t.me/ExamDataInfo) and insert them in Shayesteh.ir (Note: TPO 64 & TPO 65 are new format)
- Zhenti

# QUESTION ONE

TOEFL Speaking question 1 is the independent TOEFL speaking question. It is also called the “personal choice” question. Currently, this question will be written in one of three main styles:

- Agree/Disagree
- Paired Choice
- Good Idea

Note that the “multiple choice” and “advantages/disadvantages” questions styles are not used nowadays.

For sample questions, answers and templates check out [our master guide to the question](#).

Be sure to check out my collection of [sample questions with recorded answers](#).

ETS: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NHPwR3En\\_1A&list=PL499345C34BF71B4C&index=3&t=27s](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NHPwR3En_1A&list=PL499345C34BF71B4C&index=3&t=27s)

# QUESTION ONE TEMPLATE (PERSONAL CHOICE)

## **Main Point (pick one)**

- “I agree with the idea that...”
- “I think it is better to...”
- “I think it is a great/terrible idea to...”

## **Transition (optional)**

- “I feel this way for several reasons.”

## **First Reason**

- “First...” + “For example...” (and a personal example)

## **Second Reason**

- “Second...” + “To be more specific...” (and a few more details)



# QUESTION TWO

TOEFL Speaking question two is the first integrated TOEFL speaking question. First you will read a short campus announcement or an article or letter in a campus newspaper. It will describe some change that is happening, or it will propose some change that should happen. There will be two reasons given for the change. You will have 45 seconds to read it.

Next, you will hear two students talk about the reading. One of the students will agree or disagree with the change. He/she will give two reasons for their opinion.

After hearing the conversation, you will be asked to summarize what you have read and listened to. You will have 30 seconds to prepare your answer, and 60 seconds to speak.

For more details and a template you can use to answer the question check [out our master guide](#).

ETS: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JPEfWz6MFSg&list=PL499345C34BF71B4C&index=4>

# QUESTION TWO TEMPLATE (CAMPUS ANNOUNCEMENT)

## Reading Main Point

- “According to the announcement/article/letter...”

## Reasons from Reading

- “This is because \_\_\_ and \_\_\_.”

## Transition

- “There are two reasons why the man supports/opposes this change.”
- “The man has a mixed opinion of this change.” (only for mixed-opinion conversations)

## First Reason

- “First of all, he argues that...”

## Second Reason

- “Moreover, he mentions that...”

# QUESTION THREE

- TOEFL Speaking question three is another integrated speaking question. First, you will read a short (about 100 words) article about an academic topic. You will have 45 seconds to read it. Next, you will hear a short lecture about the same topic. The lecture will illustrate this topic using either one or two examples.
- Finally, you will be asked to summarize the reading and lecture. You will be given 30 seconds to prepare, and 60 seconds to speak.
- For more details and a template check out our [master guide to this topic](#).

ETS: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkQRIDDPe7Q&list=PL499345C34BF71B4C&index=5>

# QUESTION THREE TEMPLATE (GENERAL TO SPECIFIC)

## Stating the Term or Idea

- “The reading is about (TERM/CONCEPT)”

## Give a Small Amount of Detail from the Reading

- “It states that...”

## Transition

- “The professor elaborates on this by providing an example.”
- “The professor elaborates on this by providing two examples.”

## First Example/First Part

- “To begin with, he/she mentions that...”

## Second Example/Second Part

- “Next, he/she says that...”

# QUESTION FOUR

- TOEFL Speaking question four is the last integrated speaking question. First, you will listen to a lecture that is 1.5 to 2 minutes long. It will be about some academic term, concept or process. The lecture will give one or two examples of the concept.
- After the lecture finishes, you will be asked a specific question that requires you to summarize the lecture. You will be given 20 seconds to prepare, and 60 seconds to speak.
- For more details and a template you can use, check out our [master guide to this question](#).

ETS: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kkQRIDDPe7Q&list=PL499345C34BF71B4C&index=5>

# QUESTION FOUR TEMPLATE (ACADEMIC LECTURE)

## **Stating the Lecture Subject and detail**

- “The lecturer explains SUBJECT/TERM by giving two examples/an example.”

## **First Example/First Part (3-5 sentences)**

- “First, she/he describes...”

## **Second Example/Second part (3-5 sentences)**

- “Second, she mentions...”

## **Give a Short Conclusion**

- “These examples (this example) demonstrate...”

# SPEAKING SECTION CHANGES

- **Speaking Question 1** (personal preference) and **Speaking Question 5** (campus situation) have been removed from the test. The remaining questions are the same as before. Note, however, that “multiple choice” and “advantages/disadvantages” questions are not being used in the new question one.
- Your score is now determined by **one human rater** and **the SpeechRater software**. This is called “Enhanced Speaking Scoring” by ETS. The SpeechRater software is new. Previously, students were graded only by human raters.
- It is now possible to get 25 points in the speaking section. Previously this was impossible.

# SPEECHRATER

- Context: Need to evaluate many dimensions of spoken language in the task of automated scoring of non-native spontaneous speech.
- Until recently: Develop features related to fluency, pronunciation, prosody, vocabulary, grammar, content
- Still needed: Explore feature measuring discourse coherence, progression of ideas

<https://nlp-pilot.ets.org/srater/>

<https://www.ets.org/accelerate/ai-portfolio/c-rater/>

<https://www.ets.org/accelerate/ai-portfolio/speechrater/transcript>



# SPEECHRATER

Construct	Subconstruct	Feature	Description	Relative coefficient	
Delivery	Fluency	silmean	Mean silence duration	.119	
	Fluency	wpsec	Speaking rate in words per second	.097	
	Fluency	secpchk	Average of chunk length in seconds	.066	
	Fluency	numrep	No. repetitions	.061	
	Fluency	numdff	No. disfluencies	.056	
	Fluency	silpsecutt	No. silences per second	.056	
	Fluency	IPC	No. interruption points per clause	.012	
	Fluency	withinClauseSilMean	Average duration of all within-clause silences	.008	
	Pronunciation	L1	amscore	Total acoustic model score for all words with model trained on native data	.081
				Total acoustic model score with model trained on nonnative data	.038
	Prosody		powstddev	SD of power	.057
			pitdeltanorm	Range of normalized pitch	.028
			phn_shift	Mean of absolute shifts of the normalized vowel durations compared to standard normalized vowel durations estimated on a native speech corpus	.014
	Rhythm		rpvic	Raw Pairwise Variability Index for consonants	.028
Rhythm		stresyllmdev	Mean deviation of distances between stressed syllables in syllables	.014	
Language use	Grammar	poscvamax	Score point with the highest grammatical similarity score	.062	
	Grammar	dep_clauses_per_clause	Mean no. dependent clauses per clause	.001	
	Vocabulary <sup>a</sup>	cvamax	Score point with the highest word CVA similarity score	.099	
		types	Total no. different lexical types	.061	
Vocabulary	logFreq	Average of log frequency of word types in the response	.042		

# ABOUT THE SPEAKING TOPICS

The listening topics are about a variety of academic subjects. Common subject areas include:

- Environmental science
- Plant biology
- Zoology
- History and sociology
- Geology
- Psychology and Learning
- Climatology
- Biology (Marine Biology)
- Anthropology
- Archeology
- Agriculture
- Class, courses, university, practice

# PRACTICE SPEAKING

- **Practice speaking for a limited time on different topics without a lot of preparation.**
- Write down several questions about various topics. Then, select a question and answer it aloud. Try to talk for 1 minute.
  - *family*
  - *hobbies*
  - *friends*
  - *school*
  - *cities*
  - *countries*
  - *places you are familiar with*

# TIPS TO IMPROVE YOUR SPEAKING SKILLS

- **Develop friendships with people who want to speak English with you.**
- **Record yourself speaking in English.**
- **Practice speaking for a limited time on different topics without a lot of preparation.**
- **Listen to audiobooks and podcasts.**
- **Practice speaking about everyday issues relevant to students' lives.**
- **Concentrate on speaking clearly, with good pronunciation and intonation.**
- **Listen to the radio and watch TV and movies.**
- **Practice pronunciation and intonation by reading aloud.**
- **Prepare synonyms**

# TOEFL SPEAKING TIPS AND TRICKS

- Take good notes while reading and listening
- Practice Speaking Regularly
- Answer TOEFL Practice Questions
- Expand Your English Vocabulary
- Use Your Preparation Time Wisely
- Grammar
- Speak at a Steady Pace
- Stay Focused: Don't Panic If You Only Have a Short Time to Prepare
- Brush Up On Accents
- Create your own templates
- Create Your Own Note-taking System

# MANAGE HESITATIONS WITH NATURAL PHRASES (GAP FILLERS)

- What I was trying to say is...
- In other words...
- To put it differently...

# GAP FILLERS

- Considering your question, the pivotal point is...
- The answer to your thought provoking question could have various ramifications, and I try to mention a few of them
- Looking at the converse side of the coin... (Contrast)
- The focal factor here is....which needs more explanation
- Having in mind the central topic of the discussion , I shall carry on saying...
- In spite of the fact that there are untold number of reasons against it, I think... has some advantages too
- ... as far as the laymen understand, one can go on saying that ...
- ...; referring to what said, the image conjured up can be depicted as this ...
- ...; At the end of the day, it is logical to ponder upon the possible ramifications ...

# LEARN SOME MORE PHRASES TO HELP WITH SPECIFIC TEST SITUATIONS

## Phrases for giving details

- as a matter of fact
- not only...but also...
- moreover
- likewise

## Phrases for giving reasons

- one cause for that is...
- since...
- because of...
- given that...

## Phrases for introducing new points

- moreover
- furthermore
- in addition to...



# VOCABULARY OF SPEAKING TOPICS

- Biology 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PwRGHcuECCU>
- Biology 2: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9gev4s\\_C8PA&list=TLPQMTMwNDIwMjG2H23s7MxbVg&index=2](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9gev4s_C8PA&list=TLPQMTMwNDIwMjG2H23s7MxbVg&index=2)
- Biology 3: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fDdnk5wrPMc>
- Biology 4:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y3eTguhdmFY&list=PL1VV\\_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y3eTguhdmFY&list=PL1VV_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=4)
- Biology 5:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3OQNRkHIDI4&list=PL1VV\\_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=9](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3OQNRkHIDI4&list=PL1VV_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=9)
- Biology 6:  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WjzE1m0PUbk&list=PL1VV\\_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=8](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WjzE1m0PUbk&list=PL1VV_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=8)
- Archaeology: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-wFVxROxLg&list=PL1VV\\_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=14](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-wFVxROxLg&list=PL1VV_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=14)

# VOCABULARY OF SPEAKING TOPICS

- Ecology 1: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aqEuHo1ITzg&list=PL1VV\\_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=5](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aqEuHo1ITzg&list=PL1VV_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=5)
- Ecology 2: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2EKWkRAM3Q0&list=PL1VV\\_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=6](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2EKWkRAM3Q0&list=PL1VV_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=6)
- Ecology 3: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QUI6BvqIZvo&list=PL1VV\\_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=7](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QUI6BvqIZvo&list=PL1VV_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=7)
- Botany: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GJ\\_33sBkgvc&list=PL1VV\\_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=10](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GJ_33sBkgvc&list=PL1VV_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=10)
- Marine Biology: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFoPJh\\_x4ak&list=PL1VV\\_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=11](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFoPJh_x4ak&list=PL1VV_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=11)
- Agriculture: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YJ51vtwuoGw&list=PL1VV\\_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=12](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YJ51vtwuoGw&list=PL1VV_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=12)
- Anthropology: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_tRLv1jjZb0&list=PL1VV\\_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=16](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_tRLv1jjZb0&list=PL1VV_9yqK5azxpUoTqq2Tr8ctBvK9grVk&index=16)



# THANK YOU

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