

Listening Comprehension Sample Questions

These sample questions allow test takers to experience the types of tasks presented in the *TOEFL ITP*[®] tests. They are not intended to represent the way test questions are presented in the TOEFL ITP test booklets or mimic the testing experience.

Level 1, Section 1

Below is an example of what you'll hear during the Listening section of the test. The content on screen corresponds to the audio players throughout the page. You can also view the transcript for each item by clicking the link beneath the player.

As you're going through the questions, select the appropriate answer for each by clicking on it. When you have answered all the questions, click "Show all answers" at the end of the page to highlight the correct answer for each question.

Introduction

In the **Listening Comprehension** section of the test, you will have an opportunity to demonstrate your ability to understand spoken English. There are 3 parts to this section with special directions for each part. Answer all the questions on the basis of what is **stated** or **implied** by the speakers in this test.

Part A

Directions

In Part A, you will hear short conversations between 2 people. After each conversation, you will hear a question about the conversation. The conversations and questions will not be repeated.

After you hear a question, read the 4 possible answers on the screen and select the best answer by clicking on it.

Here is an example.

On the recording, you hear:

On the screen, you read:

- A. He does not like the painting either.
- B. He does not know how to paint.
- C. He does not have any paintings.
- D. He does not know what to do.

You learn from the conversation that neither the man nor the woman likes the painting. The best answer to the question "What does the man mean?" is A, "He does not like the painting either." Therefore, the correct choice is A.

Sample Short Conversation Questions 1–3

1.
 - A. Lock the computer lab later
 - B. Leave with the man
 - C. Buy a new lock for the computer lab
 - D. Show the man where the lab is
2.
 - A. The man should watch the program too.
 - B. The man should leave the television on.
 - C. The program will be over soon.
 - D. She will watch television later.
3.
 - A. He is not sure what course to take.
 - B. He may not meet the graduation requirements.
 - C. The math course is too short.
 - D. The graduation date has been changed.

Part B

Directions

In Part B, you will hear longer conversations. After each conversation, you will hear several questions. The conversations and questions will not be repeated.

After you hear a question, read the 4 possible answers on the screen and select the best answer by clicking on it.

Sample Long Conversation Questions 4–7

4.
 - A. Work opportunities for students
 - B. The professor's work at the museum
 - C. The man's qualifications for a job
 - D. Possible careers for the man after he graduates

5.
 - A. He has to quit his job at the library.
 - B. The professor will not allow him to take her class.
 - C. The university recently closed its museum.
 - D. The internship he wants is unavailable.

6.
 - A. Rare books
 - B. Paintings
 - C. Photographs
 - D. Historical reports

7.
 - A. She will select the library's volunteers.
 - B. She studied art with the student's professor.
 - C. She used to work at the art museum.
 - D. She joined the library staff recently.

Part C

Directions

In Part C of the test, you will hear several talks. After each talk, you will hear some questions. The talks and questions will not be repeated.

After you hear a question, read the 4 possible answers on the screen and select the best answer by clicking on it.

Here is an example.

On the recording, you hear:

Now listen to a sample question.

On the screen, you read:

- A. To demonstrate the latest use of computer graphics
- B. To discuss the possibility of an economic depression
- C. To explain the workings of the brain
- D. To dramatize a famous mystery story

The best answer to the question "What is the main purpose of the program?" is C, "To explain the workings of the brain." Therefore, the correct choice is answer C.

Now listen to another sample question.

On the screen, you read:

- A. It is required of all science majors.
- B. It will feature the professor's research.
- C. It can help viewers improve their memory skills.
- D. It will help with course work.

The best answer to the question "Why does the speaker recommend watching the program?" is D, "It will help with course work." Therefore, the correct answer is D.

Sample Talk Questions 8–10

- 8.
- A. Animals yawn for a number of reasons.
 - B. Yawning results only from fatigue or boredom.
 - C. Human yawns are the same as those of other animals.
 - D. Only social animals yawn.
- 9.
- A. When they are swimming
 - B. When they are quarreling
 - C. When they are socializing
 - D. When they are eating
- 10.
- A. To exercise the jaw muscles
 - B. To eliminate fatigue
 - C. To get greater strength for attacking
 - D. To gain more oxygen

Structure and Written Expression Sample Questions

Level 1, Section 2

This section of the TOEFL ITP Level 1 test is designed to measure your ability to recognize language that is appropriate for standard written English. There are 2 types of questions in this section, with special directions for each type.

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Structure

Directions

Questions 1–4 are incomplete sentences. Below each sentence you will see 4 words or phrases marked A, B, C and D. Choose the 1 word or phrase that best completes the sentence.

Examples

Geysers have sometimes been compared to volcanoes _____ they both emit hot liquids from below Earth's surface.

- A. despite
- B. because
- C. in regard to
- D. as a result of

The sentence should read, "Geysers have sometimes been compared to volcanoes because they both emit hot liquids from below Earth's surface." Therefore, you should choose B.

During the early period of ocean navigation, _____ any need for sophisticated instruments and techniques.

- A. so that hardly
- B. when there hardly was
- C. hardly was
- D. there was hardly

The sentence should read, "During the early period of ocean navigation, there was hardly any need for sophisticated instruments and techniques." Therefore, you should choose D.

As you're going through the questions below, select the appropriate answer for each by clicking on it. When you have answered all the questions, click "Show all answers" at the end of the page to highlight the correct answer for each question.

Now begin work on the questions.

Practice Questions

1. Refrigerating meats _____ the spread of bacteria.
 - A. slows
 - B. slowing
 - C. to slow
 - D. is slowed

2. Throughout the animal kingdom, _____ bigger than the elephant.
 - A. whale is only the
 - B. is the whale only
 - C. only whale is the
 - D. only the whale is

3. The fact _____ credit cards are widely available has made them a popular form of payment.
 - A. of
 - B. that
 - C. is that
 - D. which is

4. The Constitution gave the legislative branch of government _____ to pass laws.
- A. the power
 - B. has the power
 - C. the power is
 - D. of the power

Written Expression

Directions

In questions 5–10, each sentence has 4 highlighted words or phrases. The 4 highlighted parts of the sentence are marked A, B, C and D. Identify the 1 highlighted word or phrase that must be changed in order for the sentence to be correct.

Examples

1. Guppies are sometimes (A) call rainbow fish (B) due to the (C) bright colors of (D) the males.

The sentence should read, "Guppies are sometimes called rainbow fish due to the bright colors of the males." Therefore, you should choose A.

1. (A) Serving several (B) term in the Congress, Shirley Chisholm (C) became a (D) respected political figure.

The sentence should read, "Serving several terms in the Congress, Shirley Chisholm became a respected political figure." Therefore, you should choose B.

As you're going through the questions below, select the appropriate answer for each by clicking on it. When you have answered all the questions, click "Show all answers" at the end of the page to highlight the correct answer for each question.

Now continue to work on the questions.

Practice Questions

5. The gopher (A) digs not only with the (B) claws strong of its two front feet (C) but also with its (D) overhanging front teeth.

6. Granville Woods is (A) credited with (B) inventing a steam boiler (C) furnaces in (D) the 1880s.
7. A (A) deficient of folic acid is (B) rarely a problem in humans (C) because the vitamin is present in a (D) wide variety of foods.
8. (A) Electrical disturbances on Earth (B) are frequently caused (C) for storms (D) on the surface of the Sun.
9. The (A) internationally famous dancer Maria Tallchief (B) demonstrate that (C) the quality of ballet in North America could equal (D) that of the ballet in Europe.
10. (A) As two nuclei move closer together, (B) their mutual electrostatic potential energy (C) becomes (D) more large and more positive.

Reading Comprehension Sample Questions

Level 1, Section 3

This section of the TOEFL ITP Level 1 test is designed to measure the ability to read and understand short passages similar in topic and style to those read in courses taught at North American universities and colleges. You will read a variety of short passages on academic subjects. Each passage is followed by a number of questions about the material. To avoid giving an advantage to individuals in any one field of study, sufficient context is provided so that no subject-specific familiarity with the topic is required to answer the questions.

These sample questions allow test takers to experience the types of tasks presented in the *TOEFL ITP*® tests. They are not intended to represent the way test questions are presented in the TOEFL ITP test booklets or mimic the testing experience.

Directions

In this section you will read several passages. Each one is followed by a number of questions about it. Choose the one best answer — A, B, C or D — to each question. As you're going through the questions, select the appropriate answer for each by clicking on it. When you have answered all the questions, click "Show all answers" at the end of the page to highlight the correct answer for each question.

Answer all questions about the information in a passage on the basis of what is stated or implied in that passage.

Look at the following examples before going on to the practice passage and questions.

Examples 1–2

The railroad was not the first institution to impose regularity on society, or to draw attention to the importance of precise timekeeping. For as long as

Line merchants have set out their wares at daybreak and
5 communal festivities have been celebrated, people have
been in rough agreement with their neighbors as to the
time of day. The value of this tradition is today more
apparent than ever. Were it not for public acceptance of
a single yardstick of time, social life would be unbearably
10 chaotic: the massive daily transfers of goods, services,
and information would proceed in fits and starts; the
very fabric of modern society would begin to unravel.

1. What is the main idea of the passage?
 - A. In modern society we must make more time for our neighbors.
 - B. The traditions of society are timeless.
 - C. An accepted way of measuring time is essential for the smooth functioning of society.
 - D. Society judges people by the times at which they conduct certain activities.

The main idea of the passage is that societies need to agree about how time is measured in order to function smoothly. Therefore, you should choose answer C.

2. In line 7, the phrase "this tradition" refers to
 - A. the practice of starting the business day at dawn
 - B. friendly relations between neighbors
 - C. the railroad's reliance on time schedules
 - D. people's agreement on the measurement of time

The phrase "this tradition" refers to the preceding clause, "people have been in rough agreement with their neighbors as to the time of day." Therefore, you should choose answer D.

Practice Questions 1–10

The Alaska pipeline starts at the frozen edge of the Arctic Ocean. It stretches southward across the largest

and northernmost state in the United States, ending at
Line a remote ice-free seaport village nearly 800 miles from
5 where it begins. It is massive in size and extremely
complicated to operate.

The steel pipe crosses windswept
plains and endless miles of delicate tundra that tops
the frozen ground. It weaves through crooked canyons,
10 climbs sheer mountains, plunges over rocky crags,
makes its way through thick forests, and passes over or
under hundreds of rivers and streams. The pipe is 4 feet in
diameter, and up to 2 million barrels (or 84 million
gallons) of crude oil can be pumped through it daily.

15 Resting on H-shaped steel racks called "bents," long
sections of the pipeline follow a zigzag course high
above the frozen earth. Other long sections drop out of
sight beneath spongy or rocky ground and return to the
surface later on. The pattern of the pipeline's up-and-
20 down route is determined by the often harsh demands
of the arctic and subarctic climate, the tortuous lay of
the land, and the varied compositions of soil, rock, or
permafrost (permanently frozen ground). A little more
than half of the pipeline is elevated above the ground.
25 The remainder is buried anywhere from 3 to 12 feet,
depending largely upon the type of terrain and the
properties of the soil.

One of the largest in the world, the pipeline cost
approximately \$8 billion and is by far the biggest
30 and most expensive construction project ever
undertaken by private industry. In fact, no single

business could raise that much money, so eight major oil companies formed a consortium in order to share the costs. Each company controlled oil rights to particular shares of land in the oil fields and paid 35 into the pipeline-construction fund according to the size of its holdings. Today, despite enormous problems of climate, supply shortages, equipment breakdowns, labor disagreements, treacherous 40 terrain, a certain amount of mismanagement, and even theft, the Alaska pipeline has been completed and is operating.

1. The passage primarily discusses the pipeline's
 - A. A. operating costs
 - B. B. employees
 - C. C. consumers
 - D. D. construction

2. The word "it" in line 5 refers to the
 - A. A. pipeline
 - B. B. ocean
 - C. C. state
 - D. D. village

3. According to the second paragraph, 84 million gallons of oil can travel through the pipeline each
 - A. A. day
 - B. B. week
 - C. C. month
 - D. D. year

4. The phrase "Resting on" in line 15 is closest in meaning to
- A. A. Consisting of
 - B. B. Supported by
 - C. C. Passing under
 - D. D. Protected with
5. The author mentions all of the following in the third paragraph as important in determining the pipeline's route EXCEPT the
- A. climate
 - B. lay of the land itself
 - C. local vegetation
 - D. kind of soil and rock
6. The word "undertaken" in line 31 is closest in meaning to
- A. removed
 - B. selected
 - C. transported
 - D. attempted
7. According to the last paragraph, how many companies shared the costs of constructing the pipeline?
- A. three
 - B. four
 - C. eight
 - D. twelve
8. The word "particular" in line 35 is closest in meaning to
- A. peculiar
 - B. specific
 - C. exceptional
 - D. equal

9. According to the last paragraph, which of the following determined what percentage of the construction costs each member of the consortium would pay?
- A. How much oil field land each company owned
 - B. How long each company had owned land in the oil fields
 - C. How many people worked for each company
 - D. How many oil wells were located on the company's land
10. Where in the passage does the author provide a term for a layer of soil that always remains frozen?
- A. Line 4
 - B. Line 15
 - C. Line 23
 - D. Line 37