



TOEFL iBT

By James Abela

Outline

- About The Exam
- Note-Taking
- Brainstorming
- English Media

About The Exam

- Exam used for university Entrance in the US.
- Accepted in some European and Asian Universities
- Marked out of 120
- Nearly all TOEFL exams in Malaysia and U.S. are iBT
- Directly assessed skills: Listening, Reading, Writing & Speaking
- Indirectly assessed skills: Note-taking & Grammar

Score Comparisons

US Universities Score: 80 - 105

	IELTs	TOEFL iBT	TOEFL CBT	TOEFL PBT
Cambridge	7	100	250	600
Southampton	7	105	260	617
Birmingham	7	100	250	600
Monash	6.5	90	237	580
UNSW	6.5	90	233	577

* Scores requested by reputable universities

About The Test Format

- iBT stands for Internet, but still **MUST** be taken at exam centre.
- Tests available in KL three times per month.
(Popular test: register 3mths ahead to be sure of place)
- You speak into a computer. There is **NO** interviewer
- The exam must be taken on computer, but you **CAN** do the writing by hand.
- You **MUST** take Notes, questions are NOT shown in advance

TOEFL iBT

- Tests all four skills: Reading, Writing, Listening, Speaking
- Linear, not computer-adaptive
- Fixed test dates, not continuous testing
- Note taking allowed in all sections of the test
- Test time: 4 hours

What are integrated tasks?

Questions that require use of more than one skill at a time

- Read/listen/speak
- Listen/speak
- Read /listen /write

Harder to beat with exam busting skills!

Reading Section

- Academic reading sets, each followed by 11-13 questions
- Reading passages are longer than TOEFL CBT – 700 words
- Glossary – Try if desperate, but rarely is the word you need there...

Reading Section

- After each academic reading passage, questions are posed about content, intent of the author, and ideas inferred from the passage.
- New types of questions in the iBT require paraphrasing, filling out tables or completing summaries.
- Generally prior knowledge of the subject under discussion is not necessary to come to the correct answer, though a priori knowledge may help.

Building Reading Skills

- Practice reading academic English texts from a wide variety of subjects
- Involve critical thinking while reading
- Practice time management
- Build vocabulary
- Use a top-down approach to reading
- Extensive reading will be more useful than intensive reading

Listening Section

- Conversations with 2 speakers – campus life
- 4-6 lectures, some lectures include student participation
- 5-6 questions for each listening set
- content and intent of the phrases
- speakers' attitude and meaning
- Who said what?

Building Listening Skills

- Practice note-taking skills in academic settings
- Practice inferring meaning
- Practice listening for the speakers' attitude and purpose
- The context is just as important as the content of the speaker.

Speaking Section

- 2 independent tasks about familiar topics
 - Responses based on personal experience
- 4 integrated tasks
 - 2 Reading/Listening/Speaking tasks
 - 2 Listening/Speaking tasks
 - Responses based on what was read and heard
 - Academic and campus-based material
 - Short listening and reading material

Speaking Section

- Questions relate to personal experiences or preferences
- Speaking tasks involve reading passages and listening to short conversations and lectures.
- Test takers are expected to convey information, explain ideas and defend opinions clearly, coherently and accurately.

Building Speaking Skills

- Practice getting meaning across in as short of a time as possible.
- Remember that spoken English is different from written English
- Practice forming specific opinions and ideas rather than general ones.



Reading Time: 45 seconds

Animal Domestication

For thousands of years, humans have been able to domesticate, or tame, many large mammals that in the wild live together in herds. Once tamed, these mammals are used for agricultural work and transportation. Yet some herd mammals are not easily domesticated. A good indicator of an animal's suitability for domestication is how protective the animal is of its territory. Non-territorial animals are more easily domesticated than territorial animals because they can live close together with animals from other herds. A second indicator is that animals with a hierarchical social structure, in which herd members follow a leader, are easy to domesticate, since a human can function as the "leader".





Help

Section
Exit

Next



Volume

The professor describes the behavior of horses and antelope in herds. Explain how their behavior is related to their suitability for domestication.

Preparation Time: 30 Seconds







Response Time: 60 Seconds

RESPONSE TIME

00 : 00 : 57

Writing Section

- 1 Reading/Listening/Writing task
 - Short academic listening and reading material
 - Response based on what was read and heard
- 1 independent task
 - Response based on personal experience

Title	Question	Time	Test-Mode Tools			Testing Tools		
Writing	1 of 2	00 : 04 : 58 <small>Hide</small>	 Help	 Section Exit	 Next	 Volume	 Help	 Next
[Empty space for answer input]								
<p>In many organizations, perhaps the best way to approach certain new projects is to assemble a group of people into a team. Having a team of people attack a project offers several advantages. First of all, a group of people has a wider range of knowledge, expertise, and skills than any single individual is likely to possess. Also, because of the numbers of people involved and the greater resources they possess, a group can work more quickly in response to the task assigned to it and can come up with highly creative solutions to problems and issues. Sometimes these creative solutions come about because a group is more likely to make risky decisions that an individual might not undertake. This is because the group spreads responsibility for a decision to all the members and thus no single individual can be held accountable if the decision turns out to be wrong.</p> <p>Taking part in a group process can be very rewarding for members of the team. Team members who have a voice in making a decision will no doubt feel better about carrying out the work that is entailed by that decision than they might doing work that is imposed on them by others. Also, the individual team member has a much better chance to "shine," to get his or her contributions and ideas not only recognized but recognized as highly significant, because a team's overall results can be more far-reaching and have greater impact than what might have otherwise been possible for the person to accomplish or contribute working alone.</p>								



Volume



Help



Next



Directions: You have 20 minutes to plan and write your response. Your response will be judged on the basis of the quality of your writing and on how well your response presents the points in the lecture and their relationship to the reading passage. Typically, an effective response will be 150 to 225 words.

Question: Summarize the points made in the lecture you just heard, explaining how they cast doubt on points made in the reading.

In many organizations, perhaps the best way to approach certain new projects is to assemble a group of people into a team. Having a team of people attack a project offers several advantages. First of all, a group of people has a wider range of knowledge, expertise, and skills than any single individual is likely to possess. Also, because of the numbers of people involved and the greater resources they possess, a group can work more quickly in response to the task assigned to it and can come up with highly creative solutions to problems and issues. Sometimes these creative solutions come about because a group is more likely to make risky decisions than an individual might not undertake. This is because the group spreads responsibility for a decision to all the members and thus no single individual can be held accountable if the decision turns out to be wrong.

Taking part in a group process can be very rewarding for members of the team. Team members who have a voice in making a decision will no doubt feel better about carrying out the work that is entailed by that decision than they might doing work that is imposed on them by others. Also, the individual team member has a much better chance to "shine," to get his or her contributions and ideas not only recognized but recognized as highly significant, because a team's overall results can be more far-reaching and have greater impact than what might have otherwise been possible for the person to accomplish or contribute working alone.

Cut	Paste	Undo	Hide	WordCount	4
-----	-------	------	------	-----------	---

I think that

Score Reporting

For score users

- Scores viewable online 15 business days after the test
- “Print friendly” format, with photo
- Sortable database in 2006 to assist in matching scores with applications

General Tips

- Read test directions carefully
- Use the process of elimination
- Manage time--never spend over a minute on one question
- Familiarize yourself with the test format.
- Answer every question

Effective Notetaking

In Exam Conditions

Evaluation

- Do I use any form at all? Are my notes clear or confusing?
- Do I capture main points and all subpoints?
- Do I streamline using abbreviation and shortcuts?
- Listen for OPINION!

Formal Outline

I. Uses of Notes

- A. identify major points in a lecture
- B. identify minor points in a lecture

II. 3 different notetaking systems:

- A. running text
- B. formal outline
- C. informal outline

III. Different Formats:

- A. Cornell
- B. Other

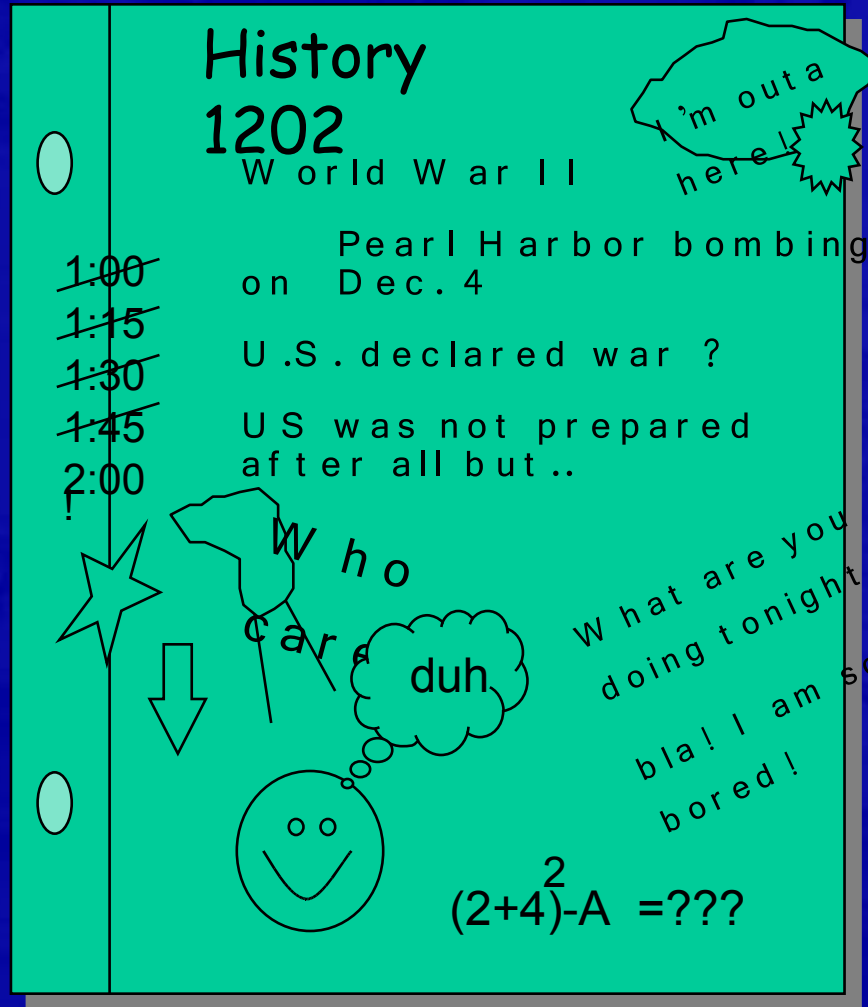
Effective Listeners

- actively look for something of interest
- focus on content, not style
- listen for main ideas & their organization
- vary note taking tools according to content
- work hard; maintain active body posture

A Bad Example of Notes

A few tips...

- Record lecture date
- Do not cram space; use white space
- Don't fall asleep
- Keep your personal thoughts separate
- Keep other class notes separate
- Do not use a spiral notebook



More Tips for Good Notes

- Use a consistent format.
- Develop (develop) a key for symbols & abbreviations.
- Group and label info to aid recall.
- Record what is written on the board.
- Write legibly on only the front side of the page.
- Condense! **Use shorthand** NOT dictation.
- Selectively attend to instructor cues
- Look for patterns of organization
- Try to sustain attention

Example of Raw Notes:

9/11

Psychology Class, Ch.3,

Self Knowledge

thoughts, values, **emotions** (focus of lecture)

(pg. 41-44) understanding what we are feeling.. What is emotionally healthy??

A B C 's - Albert Ellis

Activating Event, Belief (When you do something for someone, they owe you a "thank you".), Emotional Consequence

Our reaction to event depends on our assessment (beliefs) of the event.

Emotional Health

Life is like waves that keep rolling in

To handle problems we need to: recognize them, accept them, and respond appropriately



Quick Brainstorming

Quick Planning - Mindmaps



- Wide range of uses: from Internet site design to brainstorming in meetings
- Generate ideas about 30% faster

Planning It...

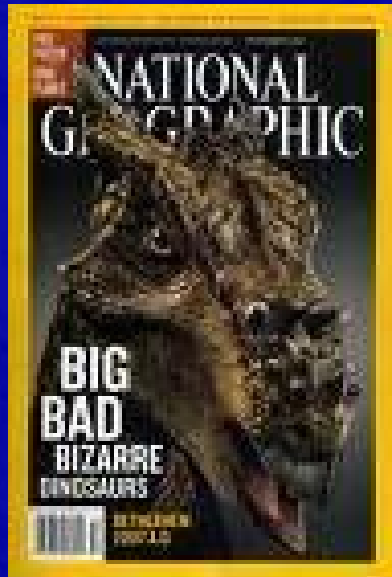
Pros

Cons

Steps to planning!

- Draw a Mindmap as fast as possible
- Select 3-5 ideas (In an exam, just choose by instinct)
- Each of those ideas can then be made into a paragraph
- Once complete – reread your work
- Write a conclusion...
- Check grammar and spelling

English Media



Conclusion

- Get To Know The Exam
- Learn how to take notes quickly
- Brainstorm ideas for speaking and writing
- Listen and read to as much US media as possible