



The TOEIC® Listening and Reading test updates: What you need to know

For more than 35 years, the TOEIC® Listening and Reading test has set the standard for assessing English-language listening and reading skills needed in the workplace. Now, ETS is introducing an updated version of the test that reflects the ways people commonly communicate in everyday social and workplace situations around the world today.

Because the use of English continually evolves and changes, ETS periodically revisits the TOEIC Listening and Reading test to ensure it is in-line with current English language use and measures the skills that test takers need to be an effective part of today's workforce.

How is the TOEIC Listening and Reading test changing?

The updates include communication approaches and methods that have become more common in the last 10 years, such as text messaging and instant messaging.

The updates also place greater emphasis on connecting information across multiple sources – for example, what is seen in a visual image and what is heard in a related conversation.

The test will now include conversations with multiple participants.

What isn't changing in the updated version of the TOEIC Listening and Reading test?

You can be confident that the TOEIC Listening and Reading test will continue to be a fair, valid and reliable assessment of everyday and workplace English. The updated version of the test will:

- Remain a multiple-choice assessment with two sections of 100 questions each.
- Have the same overall quality and difficulty.
- Be administered in the same way.
- Have the same score report, with the exception of one additional Listening Ability Measured: understanding a speaker's purpose or implied meaning in a phrase or sentence. This provides additional information for test takers and score users, but does not affect a test taker's overall score.

Scores will continue to be comparable across test form administrations, so scores for the updated version can be compared to previous versions of the TOEIC Listening and Reading test.

What do the TOEIC Listening and Reading test updates mean to me?

The updates will benefit both test takers and score users.

- **Test takers** can demonstrate that they have the relevant communication skills needed in today's global workplace.
- **Score users** can continue to be confident that the scores they use in their decision making reflect the **range of skills necessary for success** in the workplace.

For more information, please contact your local ETS Preferred Network office by visiting www.etsglobal.org • E-mail: contact-emea@etsglobal.org





Details of the TOEIC® Listening and Reading test updates

Listening Section

- Reduced number of Photograph and Question Response questions
- Increased number of Conversation questions
- Conversations that include shorter turns and more exchanges
- More than two speakers in some conversations
- Conversations that include elisions (e.g., “gonna” instead of “going to”) and incomplete sentences/ fragments (“Yes, in a minute”; “Down the hall”; “Could you?”)
- New question types testing the connection of what is heard in a conversation or talk and what is seen in a graphic
- New question types testing a speaker’s implied meaning in the context of a conversation or talk

		Current Version of the TOEIC® Listening and Reading Test	Updated Version of the TOEIC® Listening and Reading Test
Part 1	Stand-Alone Questions	Photographs: 10 questions	Photographs: 6 questions
Part 2	Stand-Alone Questions	Question-Response: 30 questions	Question-Response: 25 questions
Part 3	Set-Based Questions	Conversations: 30 questions • 10 conversations • 3 questions per conversation	Conversations: 39 questions • 13 conversations • 3 questions per conversation
Part 4	Set-Based Questions	Talks: 30 questions • 10 talks • 3 questions per talk	Talks: 30 questions • 10 talks • 3 questions per talk
		Listening Comprehension: 100 questions	Listening Comprehension: 100 questions

Reading Section

- Reduced number of Incomplete Sentence questions
- Two new question types testing understanding of the overall organisation of passages:
 - Text Completion questions that ask test takers to choose which new sentence fits best in the context of the overall passage
 - Set-based questions that ask test takers to understand where in the passage a sentence belongs
- Text messages, instant messages and/or online chat conversations with multiple writers
- Questions testing the understanding of three related texts
- A small increase in the number of single- and multiple-passage questions
- New questions about understanding the writer’s words in context

		Current Version of the TOEIC® Listening and Reading Test	Updated Version of the TOEIC® Listening and Reading Test
Part 1	Stand-Alone Questions	Incomplete Sentences: 40 questions	Incomplete Sentences: 30 questions
Part 2	Stand-Alone Questions	Text Completion: 12 questions	Text Completion: 16 questions
Part 3	Set-Based Questions	Single Passage: 28 questions • 9 single passages • 2–5 questions per passage	Single Passage: 29 questions • 10 single passages • 2–4 questions per passage
Part 4	Set-Based Questions	Double Passages: 20 questions • 4 double passages • 5 questions per set	Multiple Passages: 25 questions • 2 Set-Based double passages • 3 Set-Based triple passages • 5 questions per set
		Listening Comprehension: 100 questions	Listening Comprehension: 100 questions

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