

TOEFL IBT PREPARATION COURSE

COURSE OVERVIEW

The TOEFL IBT preparation course aims at delivering the necessary skills and strategies for students to succeed when taking the exam. This is achieved by enabling students to understand and learn about the way the exam format works and have a clear idea of what is expected of them at each stage in the exam.

METHODOLOGY

The course develops throughout 15 weeks on a single 2-hour session basis. Each session is planned so as to give students the chance to learn about the different sections of TOEFL IBT, their particular features, and the strategies to deal with them successfully. Classroom dynamics favor interaction between students, mediated by the teacher, with the purpose of encouraging them to discover new knowledge on the test and English in general and be aware of their own strengths and weaknesses. These aspects will then inform the personalized guidance students will receive from their teacher, who will provide them with any extra support they need in terms of follow-up consultations and activities or materials.

The course implies the ongoing analysis of features of academic English. Students are expected to use academic English throughout the practical instances of the course.

Assessment

The course involves continuous assessment through regular personalized feedback provided by the teacher face-to-face or by means of written reports suggesting courses of action students may follow to increase their chances of success. There are no graded tests.

Materials

The materials used in the course will be prepared by the teacher and shared digitally with students. They will include extracts from TOEFL IBT preparation books and mock-type TOEFL IBT sections at the end of the course for students to have a chance to practice in 'real life' conditions.

DATE	SESSION	CONTENTS	AIMS
	1	Introduction TOEFL overview Writing section: integrated task & independent task Practice	To understand the general format of TOEFL IBT To have a first approach to the Writing section of the exam
	2	Speaking section: types of tasks; rationale for assessment Practice	To have a first approach to the Speaking section of the exam To understand the criteria used to assess their spoken production and the rubric used
	3	Listening section: types of listening materials (conversations & lectures); question types Practice	To learn about the types of passages included in the listening section and identify register To analyze different types of questions included in the listening tasks
	4	Reading section: text types; question types; subskills for efficient reading (skimming, scanning, etc.) Practice	To learn about the different types of text to be expected in the exam To recognize and analyze the types of questions To identify some subskills to be developed in order to read efficiently
		Writing section: integrated task analysis; tips and	To analyze and understand the workings of the integrated task in the writing section

	5	<p>strategies; assessment rubric; timing</p> <p>Practice</p>	<p>To learn about useful tips and strategies to deal with this type of task successfully</p> <p>To learn about the criteria used for assessment</p> <p>To raise awareness on the importance of timing when dealing with tasks</p>
	6	<p>Speaking section: independent speaking task; tips and strategies; timing</p> <p>Practice</p>	<p>To analyze the independent speaking task</p> <p>To learn about useful tips and strategies to deal with this type of task successfully</p> <p>To raise awareness on the importance of timing when dealing with tasks</p>
	7	<p>Recycling: different sections and tasks in TOEFL; tips and strategies</p> <p>Practice</p>	<p>To review and refresh ideas and concepts seen and learnt so far</p> <p>To put tips and strategies related to different sections into practice</p>
	8	<p>Listening section: analysis of types of conversations; identification of key features of language;</p>	<p>To analyze the types of conversations included in the listening section of the exam and the features of language to be expected</p>

		subskills for listening efficiently (listening for gist, listening for attitude, etc.) Practice	To identify some subskills to be developed in order to deal efficiently with listening tasks
	9	Reading section: exposition vs argumentation; identifying author's purpose and intention; subskills for reading efficiently; timing Practice	To analyze and identify features of exposition and argumentation texts To identify the author's intention based on text organization To raise awareness on the importance of timing when dealing with tasks
	10	Writing section: independent task analysis; tips and strategies; assessment rubric; timing Practice	To analyze and understand the workings of the integrated task in the writing section To learn about useful tips and strategies to deal with this type of task successfully To learn about the criteria used for assessment To raise awareness on the importance of timing when dealing with tasks
	11	Speaking section: types of integrated tasks; analysis of their features; tips	To analyze and recognize the features of the different types of integrated tasks

		<p>and strategies; timing</p> <p>Practice</p>	<p>To learn about and apply different tips and strategies to deal with them successfully</p> <p>To raise awareness on the importance of timing when dealing with tasks</p>
	12	<p>Listening section: analysis of types of lectures; identification of key features of language; subskills for listening efficiently, tips and strategies</p>	<p>To analyze the types of lectures included in the listening section of the exam and the features of language to be expected</p> <p>To identify some subskills to be developed in order to deal efficiently with listening tasks</p> <p>To learn about and apply different tips and strategies to deal with listening tasks successfully</p>
	13	<p>Reading section: challenging inferencing questions; inferencing vs reading-to-learn questions; tips and strategies; timing</p>	<p>To pay attention to the more challenging types of inferencing questions</p> <p>To analyze reading-to-learn questions and their expected answers vs basic information or inferencing answers</p> <p>To learn about and apply different tips and strategies to deal with these types of questions successfully</p> <p>To raise awareness on the importance of timing when dealing with tasks</p>

	14	Final considerations and practice: reading and writing sections; last-minute doubts and questions	<p>To put tips and strategies related to different sections into practice</p> <p>To clarify any doubts or questions that may have arisen at the last minute</p>
	15	Final considerations and practice: listening and speaking sections; last-minute doubts and questions	<p>To put tips and strategies related to different sections into practice</p> <p>To clarify any doubts or questions that may have arisen at the last minute</p>