

TOEFL PBT SAMPLE

SECTION 1: LISTENING COMPREHENSION

Example of a dialogue in Part A:

On the recording you hear:

(Woman) Does the car need to be filled?

(Man) Sue stopped at the gas station on her way home.

In the test, this dialogue will be followed by a question:

QUESTION: What does the man mean?

The multiple choice selection for this statement might be:

- (A) Sue bought some food.
- (B) Sue had car trouble.
- (C) Sue went shopping.
- (D) Sue bought some gas.

Example of a longer dialogue in Part B:

On the recording you hear:

Man: This beach is extremely dirty. Look at all these pieces of plastic and litter everywhere.

Woman: It is terrible. I'm sure that some of it has come from the ocean. Plastic trash from ships has been dumped into the ocean for years.

Man: I'm surprised that waste can just be dumped into the ocean. Essentially, the ocean has become a storage for both industrial and city garbage. It is a disaster for sea birds and all marine animals.

Woman: You can say that again. Birds get caught in the plastic bags and packing materials that are dumped in the water. Why is such pollution allowed to happen?

Man: You should have seen what the sea water looked like just five years ago. The pumping of waste water into the ocean had continued for decades. Finally, new laws forbid dumping industrial or city waste in the ocean. So, hopefully, over time, both the water and the beaches will become cleaner.

Woman: It's good. Who knows, the entire marine environment could have been spoiled by garbage.

In the test, this dialogue will be followed by several questions:

QUESTION 1: Where does this conversation take place?

- (A) At a garbage dump.
- (B) In the city.
- (C) On the seashore.
- (D) On a university campus.

QUESTION 2: What is said about the condition of the ocean waters?

- (A) They are stormy.
- (B) They are unpopulated.
- (C) They are polluted.
- (D) They are deep.

QUESTION 3: According to the dialogue, why is waste dumping dangerous for sea birds?

- (A) They lose their habitats.
- (B) They become stuck to waste products.
- (C) They look for shelter on the shore.
- (D) They are being dumped into the ocean.

QUESTION 4: How does the law protect the ocean from pollution?

- (A) The beaches are cleaned regularly.
- (B) Marine life exposed to pollution has to be restored.
- (C) Disposing of waste in the ocean is forbidden.
- (D) Garbage must be retrieved from the ocean.

Example of a short lecture in Part C:

On the recording you hear:

If you need to buy a good lock; there are several things you should not forget. Locks vary in price and quality. You can make a decision about which lock you want to buy if you know how they work. Let me show you what we have here and quickly explain how basic locks work. When the correct key is inserted into the door lock, the notches on the key make metal plates align. Once the plates are aligned, the key pushes the bolt inside the lock between the door and the frame. Spring bolts are considered more convenient because you don't need to use a key to lock them. When the door closes, they snap into the door frame and stay locked until a key is used to open them. However, spring locks are not as secure as dead bolts because they can be easily picked or pried open. It's not hard to do; you can see for yourself. On the other hand, dead bolts work from inside the door, and they need a key to unlock them. Dead bolts are called "dead" because they don't move until you move them with a key. Spring locks and dead bolts are the two types of locks we sell most.

In the test, this dialogue will be followed by several questions:

QUESTION 1: What is the main topic of this talk?

- (A) The uses of doors
- (B) The importance of a lock
- (C) How locks operate
- (D) How to install a lock

QUESTION 2: Why are dead bolts called “dead”?

- (A) They are not any longer used.
- (B) They are poorly designed.
- (C) They are difficult to repair.
- (D) They require a key to open them.

QUESTION 3: What are the disadvantages of spring locks?

- (A) They are not convenient.
- (B) They are not commonly used.
- (C) They are not secure.
- (D) They are expensive.

SECTION TWO: STRUCTURE AND WRITTEN EXPRESSION

1. Great numbers of thin shelled animals _____ on the ocean floor.

- (A) live
- (B) living
- (C) they will live
- (D) if they lived

2. The difference between libel and slander is that libel is printed while _____.

- (A) spoken is slander
- (B) is spoken slander
- (C) slander is spoken
- (D) is slander spoken

3.The knee is the joint _____ the thigh bone meets the large bone of the lower leg.

- (A)when
- (B)where
- (C)why
- (D)which

4.Closed plane figures like the square or the equilateral triangle can be grouped into a class _____ polygons.

- (A)called
- (B)to call
- (C)is called
- (D)call as

5.Acids are chemical compounds that, in water solution, have _____, a corrosive action on metals, and the ability to turn certain blue vegetable dyes red.

- (A)tastes sharp
- (B)sharp-tasting
- (C)a sharp taste
- (D)tasting sharp

6._____ the history of the tough, strong-willed Nebraska farmer.

- (A)Not only is much of the history of Nebraska
- (B)Although it is much of the history of Nebraska that is
- (C)It is much the history of Nebraska's being
- (D) Much of the history of Nebraska is

7. Billie Holiday's reputation as a great jazz-blues singer rests on her ability _____ emotional depth to her songs.

- (A) be giving
- (B) are given
- (C) being given
- (D) to give

8. _____ 1895 did Cornell University begin to offer a degree in ornithology.

- (A) Not until
- (B) Not since
- (C) Until
- (D) In

9. Uniform acceleration occurs _____ the rate of change remains the same over successive and equal intervals of time.

- (A) according
- (B) if
- (C) with
- (D) under

10. People's expectations for a higher standard of living increase _____.

- (A) conditions in their community improve
- (B) since conditions in their improving community
- (C) conditions improve in their community
- (D) as conditions in their community improve

11. Essentially, a theory is an abstract, symbolic representation of _____ reality.

- (A) what it is conceived
- (B) that is conceived
- (C) what is conceived to be
- (D) that is being conceived of

12. All of the plants now raised on farms have been developed from plants _____ wild.

- (A) once they grew
- (B) they grew once
- (C) that once grew
- (D) once grew

13. _____ relatively costly, the diesel engine is highly efficient and needs servicing infrequently.

- (A) Even
- (B) It is
- (C) Even though
- (D) There is

14. _____ images out of clay, stone, and metal.

- (A) The shaping of sculpture
- (B) Sculpting the shapes
- (C) To shape sculpture
- (D) Sculptors shape

15. _____ dates from the end of the eighteenth century.

- (A) The modern circus
- (B) That the modern circus
- (C) While the modern circus
- (D) The modern circus that

16. The boiled point of any liquid is determined by the pressure of the surrounding gases.

A B C D

17. The Ranger spacecraft it provided more than 17,000 pictures of the moon.

A B C D

18. Many people who live in New York City thinks that life in a large city offers special advantages.

A B C D

19. The scientific revolution of the early 1900's affected education by change the nature of technology.
A B C
D

20. Meadowlarks are about the same size than robins, but they have heavier bodies, shorter tails, and longer bills.
A B C
D

21. On May 20, 1932, Amelia Earhart became the first woman fly solo across the Atlantic Ocean.
A B C D

22. Translated into terms of psychological theory, association has been thought as the basis to learn, conditioning, and creative thinking.
A B
C D

23. The Statue of Liberty was originally proposed in 1865 to commemoration the alliance of France with the American colonies during the American Revolution.
A B C D

24. Reptiles are widely distributed all over the world, but are much abundant in warm regions and are virtually absent beyond the tree line in the Arctic.
A B
C D

25. Alike light waves, microwaves may be reflected and concentrated.
A B C D

26. Industrial buyers are responsible for supplying the goods and services that an organization required for its operations.
A B C
D

27. The most easiest process for mining gold is panning, which involves using a circular dish with a small pocket at the bottom.
A B C
D

28. Farm animals have been regardless by nearly all societies as a valuable economic resource.
A B C D

29. Although it is any longer the big business that it was in the forties, radio continues to be a medium of essential communication, especially at the local level.
A B C
D

30. The field of dynamics in physics is concerned with a particle's motion in relation to the forces acting it.

A B C

D

31. In the United States, both the federal and state governments have laws designed to guard consumers against deceptive advertise.

A B

C D

32. Gore Vidal has steadily pursue a literary career remarkable for its productivity, versatility, and unpredictability.

A B C

D

33. When overall exports exceed imports, a country said to have a trade surplus.

A B C D

34. Instructors at the school of American Ballet first examine a young applicant's instep to see whether it is pliant and shows promising of a good arch.

A B C

D

35. Anthropologists agree that our primitive ancestors who inhabited the tropics probably have natural protection against the sun.

A B C

D

36. Behavior modification techniques work best with problems that manifest itself in overt actions.

A B C D

37. Because they are generally taken simply to obtain a recognizable and relatively clear image, most nonprofessional photographs demand few equipment.

A B C

D

38. At birth, an infant exhibits a remarkable number of motor response.

A B C D

39. Common to North America, those cinnamon fern is found in wet places.

A B C D

40. The origins of the Democratic party is often traced to the coalition formed behind Thomas Jefferson in the 1790's to resist the policies of George Washington's administration.

A B C

D

SECTION THREE: READING COMPREHENSION

Example of a Reading Passage

Here is a reading passage:

The invention of the electric telegraph gave rise to the communication industry. Even though Samuel Morse succeeded in making the invention useful in 1837, it was not until 1843 that the first telegraph line of consequence was constructed. By 1860 more than 50,000 miles of lines connected people east of the Rockies. In the subsequent year, San Francisco was added to the network.

The national telegraph network strengthened the relations between East and West and contributed to the rapid expansion of the railroads by providing an efficient means to monitor schedules and routes. Furthermore, the extension of the telegraph, combined with the invention of the steam-driven rotary printing press by Richard Hoe in 1846, revolutionized the world of journalism. Where the business of news gathering had depended on the mail and on hand-operated presses, the telegraph expanded the amount of information a newspaper could supply and allowed for more timely reporting. The foundation of the Associated Press as a central wire service in 1846 marked the development of a new era in journalism.

Questions:

1. The main topic of the passage is

- (A) the rise of journalism
- (B) the influence of national telegraph
- (C) the contributions of telegraph network to the expansion of railroads
- (D) the contributions and development of the telegraph network

2. According to the passage, how did the telegraph improve the business of news gathering?

- (A) By adding San Francisco to the network.
- (B) By allowing for more timely reporting.
- (C) By extending the railroads.
- (D) By monitoring schedules and routes.

3. The author's main purpose in this passage is to

- (A) suggest new ways to enhance the communications industry
- (B) compare the invention of the telegraph with the invention of the steam-driven rotary press
- (C) show how the electric telegraph affected the communications industry
- (D) to mark the development of journalism

4. The word “Rockies” in line 4 refers to
- (A) the West Coast
 - (B) a mountain range
 - (C) a telegraph company
 - (D) a railroad company
5. It can be inferred from the passage that
- (A) Samuel Morse did not make a significant contribution to the communications industry
 - (B) Morse’s invention did not immediately show its full potential
 - (C) The extension of the telegraph was more important than its invention
 - (D) Journalists have the Associated Press to thank for the birth of the communications industry
6. The word “revolutionized” in line 10 is closest in meaning to
- (A) devastated
 - (B) revolved
 - (C) evolutionized
 - (D) transformed
7. According to the passage, which of the following is NOT true about the growth of the communications industry?
- (A) Morse invented the telegraph in 1837.
 - (B) People could use the telegraph in San Francisco in 1861.
 - (C) The telegraph led to the invention of the rotary printing press.
 - (D) The telegraph helped connect the entire nation.
8. The word “gathering” in line 10 refers to
- (A) people
 - (B) information
 - (C) objects
 - (D) items
9. This passage would most likely be found in a
- (A) U.S. history book
 - (B) book on railways
 - (C) science book
 - (D) computer magazine

TEST OF WRITTEN ENGLISH (TWE)

Here are some writing topics for TWE:

- Some people prefer to eat at food stands or restaurants. Other people prefer to prepare and eat the food at home. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.
- If you could change one important thing about your hometown, what would you change? Use reasons and specific examples to support your answer.
- It has been said, "Not everything that is learned is contained in books." Compare and contrast knowledge gained from experience with knowledge gained from books. In your opinion, which source is more important? Why?
- Some people spend their entire lives in one place. Others move a number of times throughout their lives, looking for a better job, house, community, or even climate. Which do you prefer: staying in one place or moving in search of another place? Use reasons and specific examples to support your opinion.



SEDA YEKELER