

FURTHER PRACTICE

For further practice with your speaking, try *Tactics for TOEIC Speaking and Writing Tests*.

TOEIC Speaking

TEST TACTIC

PRACTICE THE SOUNDS YOU FIND DIFFICULT IN ENGLISH
In the test, you will be asked to read aloud a paragraph similar to the one in questions 1 and 2. There will be some sounds within words that you may find difficult to say. It is a good idea to know what these are and practice them.

TEST TIP

BE AWARE OF WHICH SYLLABLE TO STRESS

In words of two or more syllables, one syllable will be stressed more than the others. Stressing the wrong syllable of a word is very likely to cause problems of misunderstanding, so learn where common words and types of words are usually stressed.

FURTHER STUDY

Find or record a short (around 30 seconds) sample of a similar native speaker talk. Write out the words used and practice the talk, paying careful attention to the speaker's stress and intonation.

READ A TEXT ALOUD

QUESTIONS 1-2

Directions: In this part of the test, you will read aloud the text on the screen.

You will have 45 seconds to prepare. Then you will have 45 seconds to read the text aloud.

EXERCISE

- 1 If you love cooking, you know that in order to make delicious food, you need top quality ingredients. For the very best farm fresh vegetables, meats, and cheeses, you should come to the Smallville Farmers' Market. All our produce comes direct from local farms to our shelves every morning, so you know it's fresh. Not only that, but because we buy directly from the farm, it's also great value!
- 2 OK, before we start the meeting, I have a few announcements to make. First of all, I would like to thank you all for your hard work over the last few months. Our sales for this quarter are up by 30%. Well done all of you! Because of this though, we will need to increase production. This means that we will need to run an extra shift in the production, packing, and shipping departments starting next week.

DESCRIBE A PICTURE

QUESTION 3

Directions: In this part of the test, you will describe the picture on your screen in as much detail as you can. You will have 30 seconds to prepare your response. Then you will have 45 seconds to speak about the picture.

EXERCISE

1



TEST TACTIC

USE THE PRESENT CONTINUOUS OR *THERE IS / ARE +ING*

Use the present continuous or *there is / are +ing* to describe activities you can see in the picture. (e.g. *The dog is walking down the steps. There is a woman buying some vegetables.*)

TEST TIP

SPECULATE ABOUT THE SCENE AND THE CHARACTERS

Give extra information about the scene and what is happening, has happened, or will possibly happen in the picture to add further detail to your description. Focus on a single character or the group.

FURTHER STUDY

Choose one of the pictures from the unit and record yourself describing it for 45 seconds. Listen to your recording and think about what you would change and what you would add or leave out.

Record yourself again describing the picture and note how the second has improved.

2



3



4



TEST TACTIC

REPHRASE THE QUESTION

Pick out key words in the question and rephrase these to start your answer (e.g. *I think that the most important ... is ... because ...*). This will give you extra time to think of what you want to say and help you avoid having a long pause at the beginning of your talk.

TEST TIP

BECOME FAMILIAR WITH PHRASES TO INTRODUCE YOUR OPINIONS

For questions that ask you to give your opinion on an issue, quickly choose an opinion you can easily speak about, and then use an appropriate phrase to introduce your ideas. (e.g. *In my opinion ...*, *One idea I can suggest is ...*, *I would have to say my favorite is ...*).

FURTHER STUDY

Write three similar types of questions (e.g. about travel, shopping, music, etc.) to ask your classmates in the next lesson.

RESPOND TO QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS 4–6

Directions: In this part of the test, you will answer three questions. For each question, begin responding immediately after you hear a beep. No preparation time is provided. You will have 15 seconds to respond to Questions 4 and 5 and 30 seconds to respond to Question 6.

EXERCISE

- 1 Imagine that a British marketing firm is doing research in your country. You have agreed to participate in a telephone interview about vacations.
Question 4
What did you do for your last vacation?
Question 5
When do people in your country usually take vacations?
Question 6
What kind of vacation would you take if you had a lot of money? Why?
- 2 Imagine that an Australian marketing firm is doing research in your country. You have agreed to participate in a telephone interview about movies.
Question 4
What was the last movie you saw?
Question 5
How often do you go to the movies?
Question 6
What kinds of movies are most popular in your country? Why?
- 3 Imagine that an American marketing firm is doing research in your country. You have agreed to participate in a telephone interview about transportation.
Question 4
How do you usually travel around your town?
Question 5
How often do you take public transportation?
Question 6
How can governments encourage more people to use public transportation?

RESPOND TO QUESTIONS USING INFORMATION PROVIDED

TEST TACTIC

USE THE PREPARATION TIME TO PICK OUT KEY INFORMATION

You have 30 seconds to study the schedule before the first question. Use this time to pick out key information, e.g. the focus (what is the event?), and what is happening at specific times of the day (morning, afternoon, evening).

TEST TIP

ANSWER WITH FULL SENTENCES

Do not give one or two-word answers. Use full sentences for each question. Pick out words from the question that you can use in your answer.

FURTHER STUDY

Imagine a conference or show that you might like to attend, and plan a short agenda for it. Then write three questions like the ones you just did, to test your classmates in the next lesson.

QUESTIONS 7-9

Directions: In this part of the test, you will answer three questions based on the information provided. You will have 30 seconds to read the information before the questions begin. For each question, begin responding immediately after you hear a beep. No additional preparation time is provided. You will have 15 seconds to respond to Questions 7 and 8 and 30 seconds to respond to Question 9.

86 EXERCISE

1 Sportfishing Workshop Camp Kemuara, June 30

8:00 – 10:00	Aquatic / Marine Biology – Steve Hamill, WCC - Basic fish biology - What fish eat - Finding your fish
10:00 – 10:15	Break
10:15 – 12:15	People and Fish – Dave Hill - Why there are regulations - Cleaning and cooking your fish
12:15 – 1:15	Lunch
1:15 – 3:15	Angling Skills – George Boet, WCC - Casting techniques - Hooking and releasing the fish
3:15 – 5:15	Boating Skills – Orson Moore - Boats and fishing - Advanced control techniques
*Notice: Alex Pound's Workshop, 'Making your own bait', has been canceled.	

2 Northwood Writers Conference

Danville Conference Center, Oct 15 Admission \$75

9:30 a.m.	Putting Thrills in Your Mystery Novel - Simon Lehr This workshop shows you how to use suspense and pacing to turn your novel into a page-turner.
10:15 a.m.	Book in a Month - Winston Phelps Want to write a book in 30 days? Then know who you are as a writer!
11:00 a.m.	Getting Started in Writing for Television - Tony Gervais Tony Gervais talks about breaking into the world of TV writing.
12:00 a.m.	Lunch
1:30 p.m.	Panel: Meet the Script Agents and Managers The panel will take questions from the audience.
2:30 p.m.	Book Signings - All guest authors Bring (or buy) copies of our speakers' books to be signed!

TEST TACTIC

LISTEN FOR THE KEY INFORMATION

You will only hear the message once, so you must pick out the key information you need to make a complete response, including the person's name, the problem, and any special conditions that need to be dealt with (time, deadlines, or other issues).

TEST TIP

ALWAYS GIVE A SOLUTION

Question 10 is called Propose a Solution, so it is very important to include a solution in your answer. Even if you don't understand the whole message, listen carefully for the problem and think of a simple, but possible, way to fix it.

FURTHER STUDY

For each problem in this unit think of another solution and prepare to say your answer to your classmates in the next lesson. Discuss the answers you made and decide which one is the best solution.

PROPOSE A SOLUTION

QUESTION 10

Directions: In this part of the test, you will be presented with a problem and asked to propose a solution.

You will have 30 seconds to prepare. Then you will have 60 seconds to speak.

In your response, be sure to

- show that you recognize the problem, and
- propose a way of dealing with the problem.

87 EXERCISE

1



2



TEST TACTIC

IT'S OK TO LIE

Choose the opinion you have the most vocabulary for and can talk about the most easily, not the one you believe most strongly. It is a test of English, not honest opinions!

TEST TIP

USE SEQUENCE WORDS TO INTRODUCE AND ORDER YOUR SUPPORTING REASONS

Phrases like, *First of all...*, *also...*, *Finally...*, will help keep your answer well organized.

FURTHER STUDY

For each question, give a different answer from the one you gave in the lesson. Practicing giving different opinions can make you more flexible and fluent on the actual test.

EXPRESS AN OPINION

QUESTION 11

Directions: In this part of the test, you will give your opinion about a specific topic. Be sure to say as much as you can in the time allowed. You will have 15 seconds to prepare. Then you will have 60 seconds to speak.

EXERCISE

- 1 Some people think that it is important to have a teacher to learn something. Others believe that they can learn better by themselves. Which way do you prefer to learn? Use specific reasons to support your opinion.
- 2 Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?
Text messaging and the Internet have a negative impact on communication among friends and family. Use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.
- 3 Modern life can be very stressful. What do you think are the best ways of dealing with stress? Use specific details and examples in your answer.

Printing of this document are strictly prohibited.