

PART I

PHOTOGRAPH

DESCRIPTIONS

UNIT 1: PHOTOGRAPHS OF PEOPLE

❖ Overview of part 1 in the TOEIC tests

Part 1 of the TOEIC test consists of ten numbered photographs that are printed in your test booklet. For each photograph, you will hear four statements and you must choose only one statement that best describes what can be seen in the photograph. This part is comparatively easier than the others. If you keep practicing, you will be able to understand a lot of statements in Part 1, and you can, thus, form a foundation which may be useful for the other parts.

1. Overview of photographs of people

Photographs of people consist of photographs describing one person and photographs describing more than one person. In the former, the correct answer must describe the action, appearance, state, or location of the person in the photograph. In the latter, the correct answer must describe the action, general state, or location of the people in the photograph, or the action, appearance of each person. You have to select the statement that best describes the photograph.

Example 1: Choose the statement that best describes the photograph (track 1-1-01)



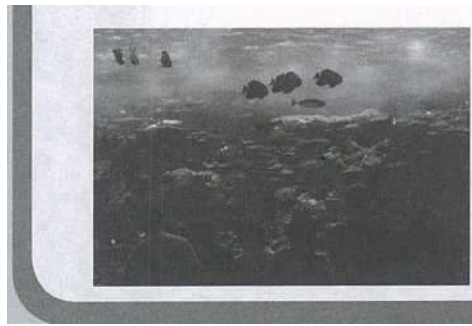
- (A) She is painting a picture.
- (B) She is sitting on a bench.
- (C) She is crossing the street.
- (D) She is looking at a painting on the wall

For this photograph, the correct answer will be the statement that describes the action or outstanding features of the person. Statement (A) best describes the photograph, which shows a person sitting and painting. An incorrect answer is the one that employs verbs/nouns relating to the wrong action/appearance/location of the person, or wrongly describes the surrounding objects. Statement (B) correctly describes the state of the person, which is sitting, but the location is wrongly described. Statements (C) and (D) are also completely wrong because of the wrong action (crossing the street) and the incorrect location of the painting (on the wall).

Example 2: Choose the statement that best describes the photograph

- (A) People are looking at fish.

- (B) People are fishing.
- (C) People are diving.
- (D) People are washing their cars



The correct answer is the statement that describes the general action, appearance, or location of the people. Statement (A) describes the general action of the people, which is observing the fish in the tank. Statement (B) is misleading because of the verb fish. Both statements (C) and (D) are incorrect because they describe the wrong actions (diving and washing their cars).

2. Statement structures

Structure 1: Subject + is/are + V-ing + object: The person is doing something.

This most common structure is used to describe the action of the person in the photograph. When listening, you should identify the verb in the present continuous tense and its object.

Structure 2: Subject + is/are + V-ing + prepositional phrase of place: The person is doing something somewhere.

You should listen to the prepositional phrase of place after the verb, as it precisely describes the location where the person is performing the action.

Structure 3: Subject + is/are + prepositional phrase of place: The person is at somewhere.

Answer choices with the verb be followed by a prepositional phrase of place are not very common. However, you should pay attention to the prepositional phrase of place, as it describes the location of the person.

Structure 4: Subject + is/are + being + past participle: The object is being acted on (by the person). Even though the focus of the photograph is a person, the subject of a correct answer choice may be an object used with the present continuous passive (be + being + past participle). This means that the person's action is emphasized. You, therefore, should pay attention to the object acted on.

Structure 5: Subject + is/are + past participle + adverb: The person is doing something somewhere.

The verb in this structure is in the passive form; however, it does not have a passive meaning. This structure has a similar meaning to Structure 2.

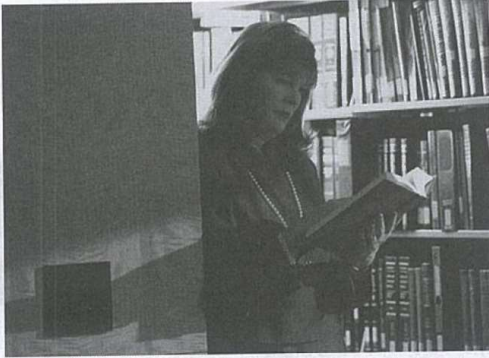
3. Test-taking strategies

1. The correct answer choice should describe the person's outstanding action, appearance, state,
2. The most important element in all statements describing photographs is the verb.
3. After identifying the verbs in the statements, you must listen to the remaining details. Sometimes, the correct statement describes the clothes he/she is wearing or the accessories he/she is bringing.
4. Sometimes, the name of an object is not specifically stated but a general term is used instead. For example, in the photo: the guitar or piano; the correct answer may use a musical instrument — the general term of guitar and piano.
5. In the actual test, all the photographs are in black and white. Therefore, nearly all of the statements which mention colors will be incorrect answers.

4. Check-up

Listen and choose the statement that best describes each photograph. (track 1-1-02)

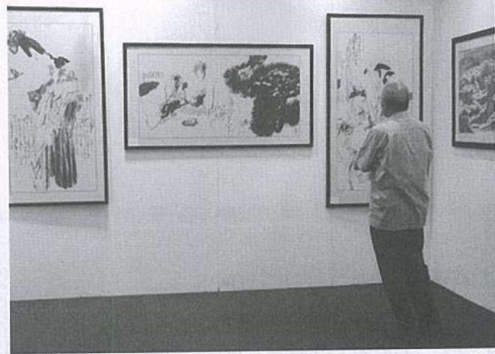
1.



(A) She is reading a book.

(B) She is holding a map.

2.



(A) A man is taking a picture.

(B) A man is in an art gallery.

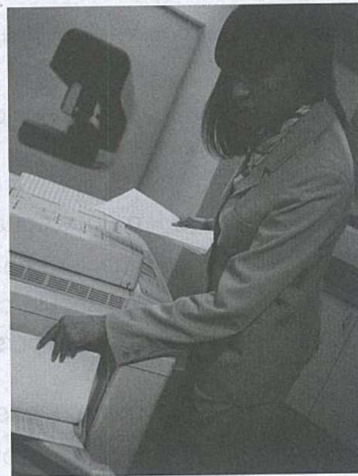
3.



(A) A public phone is being used.

(B) A woman is using her cell phone.

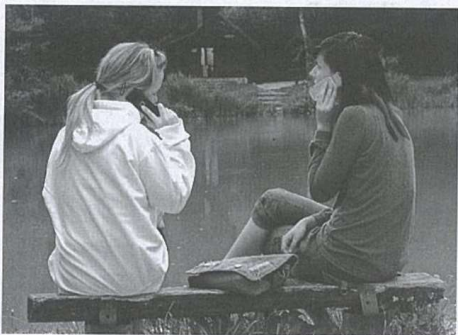
4.



(A) The woman is filling out some papers.

(B) The woman is standing at a copier.

5.



(A) The women are looking at each other.

(B) The women are seated side by side.

5. Practice

Listen and choose the statement that best describes each photograph (track 1-1-04)

1.



- (A) The man is watering the plants.
- (B) There are leaves on all of the trees.
- (C) He is putting the hose away.

2.



- (A) Some people are walking on the path.
- (B) They are riding their bicycles uphill.
- (C) Bicycles are parked along the path.

3.



- (A) Vegetables are being placed on the table.
- (B) The food is in her shopping cart.
- (C) She is shopping for some produce.

4.



- (A) They are taking the elevator down.
- (B) They are going down the escalator.
- (C) They are walking down the steps.

5.



- (A) The man is getting out of the vehicle.
- (B) The man is standing beside the car.
- (C) The man is parking his car.

6.



- (A) They are moving in a line.
- (B) They are sitting on the ground.
- (C) They are climbing over a wall.

7.



- (A) A truck is moving down the street.
- (B) The street is filled with cars.
- (C) Some people are in the street.

8.



- (A) The front of the house is being painted.
- (B) A man is working on the roof.
- (C) The ladder goes up to the roof.

6. Practice with possible statements

Listen and choose the statement that best describes each photograph. Then. Listen again and fill the missing words in the gapped statements below. (track 1-1-06)

1.



(A) She _____ the stairs.

(B) She _____ on the handrail.

(C) She _____ the stairs.

■ handrail

2.



(A) She _____ a _____.

(B) She _____ a _____ from the shelf.

(C) She _____ a _____ at a library.

■ shelf

3.



(A) A _____ is _____ on the screen.

(B) One man is _____ the screen.

(C) Some people are _____ their _____.

■ screen

4.



(A) The man _____ a suitcase.

(B) The man _____ a suit.

(C) The man _____ the sofa.

■ suitcase suit

5.



(A) They _____ just _____ the finish line.

(B) The bikers _____ helmets.

(C) The bicycles _____ on the front.

■ finish line biker helmet front

6.



(A) The man is _____ the lawn.

(B) The man is _____ some _____.

(C) The man is _____.

■ lawn

7.



(A) A woman _____ a broom.

(B) The area is _____.

(C) A woman is _____ the _____.

■ broom area

8.



(A) They are _____.

(B) They are _____ in a circle.

(C) They are _____ in step.

■ in a circle in step

9.



(A) She is _____ the clothing item.

(B) She is _____ the item.

(C) She is _____.

■ clothing item

10.



- (A) He is _____ some _____.
- (B) He is _____ some _____.
- (C) He is _____ some _____.

11.



- (A) She is _____ her _____.
- (B) She is _____ at her _____.
- (C) She is _____ some _____.

12.



- (A) They are sitting _____ each other.
- (B) They are _____ by the _____.
- (C) The flowerpot _____ the _____.

■ flowerpot

HOMEWORK

Common vocabulary in part 1- 2 (Track 1-2-05-a)

First, look up new words in the dictionary, then listen to the words in the box. Then, listen and fill the missing words in the gapped statements below.

Nouns 1: transportation and structures

- | | |
|------------|----------------|
| ■ car | ■ truck |
| ■ boat | ■ platform |
| ■ ship | ■ intersection |
| ■ train | ■ building |
| ■ airplane | ■ bridge |
| ■ vehicle | ■ area |
| ■ bicycle | ■ stair/step |

[Check-up 1]

1. Some _____ are parked near a building.
2. The _____ is next to the dock.
3. The _____ is waiting in the railway station.
4. There are _____ on the highway.
5. The _____ are parked in a row.
6. Some _____ are crossing a bridge.
7. The _____ is empty.
8. The _____ is deserted.
9. Boats are going under the _____
10. A flowerpot has been placed on the _____

Nouns 2: furniture and office facilities

- | | |
|-------------|------------|
| ■ chair | ■ drawer |
| ■ table | ■ cabinet |
| ■ picture | ■ light |
| ■ clock | ■ lamp |
| ■ furniture | ■ document |

■ sofa

■ paper

[check-up 2]

1. There are _____ on the lawn.
2. A _____ has been hung on the wall.
3. The _____ are lined up on a wall.
4. There is _____ by the doorway.
5. Some _____ are arranged around the table.
6. The _____ is full of folders.
7. There are _____ under the counter.
8. Some _____ have been turned on.
9. _____ are displayed by the wall.
10. Some _____ have been organized on a counter.

Nouns 3: Displayed merchandise and containers

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| ■ display shelf (pl. shelves) | ■ suitcase |
| ■ shirt | ■ book |
| ■ merchandise | ■ globe |
| ■ basket | ■ guitar |
| ■ box | ■ food |
| ■ carton | ■ dish |
| ■ container | |

[check-up 3]

1. Display _____ are stocked with products.
2. Some _____ are on display in a store.
3. There is _____ on the shelves.
4. Some _____ are filled with food.
5. There are _____ in a vehicle.
6. Some _____ are arranged in a row.

7. The _____ is filled with clothes.
8. The _____ are different sizes.
9. Some _____ are hanging on a wall.
10. _____ are stacked on the table.

Nouns 4: Floral decoration and crops

- plant (potted plant)
- fruit
- flower
- flower arrangements
- grassy area
- crop

[check-up 4]

1. Some _____ are behind the sofa.
2. _____ has been placed on the table.
3. _____ are on display.
4. There is a _____ beside the path.
5. _____ have been planted in rows.

Nouns 5: Tools and equipment

- | | |
|-------------|--------------|
| ■ ladder | ■ instrument |
| ■ equipment | ■ tool |
| ■ machine | ■ cord |

[check-up 5]

1. The _____ is leaning against the tree.
2. Some _____ has been arranged in front of the man.
3. There are _____ at a construction site.
4. There are _____ leaning against the wall.
5. There are some _____ next to a work area.

Common vocabulary in part 1- 2 (Track 1-2-05-b)

Verb 1: Past participles

- | | |
|------------|-------------|
| ■ parked | ■ displayed |
| ■ arranged | ■ stacked |

- | | |
|--------------|-------------|
| ■ placed | ■ attached |
| ■ unoccupied | ■ connected |
| ■ lined up | ■ piled up |

[Check-up 6]

1. Cars are _____ along the street.
2. The merchandise is _____ in rows.
3. A picture has _____ over the bed.
4. The room is _____
5. Trucks are _____ on the street.
6. Some food items for sale are _____
7. Books are _____ on the shelves.
8. There are cords _____ to the machine.
9. The train cars are _____
10. Some building materials are _____ up.

Verb 2: Past participles

- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| ■ filled with | ■ stocked |
| ■ organized | ■ surrounded |
| ■ posted | ■ taken out |
| ■ set | ■ turned on |
| ■ situated | ■ laid out |

[Check-up 7]

1. Some baskets are _____ food.
2. Some documents have been _____ on the desk.
3. Some papers have _____ on the board.
4. A table has _____ for a meal.
5. Two chairs have _____ on the lawn.
6. The shelf is _____ products.
7. The house is _____ by a fence.
8. The boats have _____ on the water.
9. Some lights have _____
10. Some products are _____ for sale.

Verb 3:

- | | |
|---------|------------|
| ■ hang | ■ float |
| ■ lean | ■ grow |
| ■ cast | ■ stand |
| ■ cross | ■ approach |

[Check-up 8]

1. Some shirts are _____ in a store.
2. Chairs are _____ against the tables.
3. The ladder is _____ shadows.
4. Some trucks are _____ a bridge.
5. A bicycle is _____ against the wall.

Preposition 1: on/ in

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|
| on display | • in a vehicle |
| on the ground | • in the corner |
| on a cart | • in the parking area |
| on the highway | • in the middle of the room |
| on the hill | • in a line |
| on the shelves | • in rows |
| on either/each side of | • in a similar style |

[Check-up 9]

1. Some goods are _____ in a store.
2. An aircraft is _____ .
3. Some flowers are _____
4. There are vehicles _____ .
5. There are buildings _____ .
6. There are lamps _____ the sofa.
7. A plant is _____ .
8. There are cars _____

Preposition 2: near/ beside/ by

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| ■ near the beach | ■ beside the path |
| ■ near the building's entrance | ■ beside the entrance |
| ■ near the platform | ■ by the doorway |

- near the dock
- by size

[Check-up 10]

1. There are buildings _____ the beach.
2. Plants are _____ the entrance.
3. There is a cabinet _____.
4. The saucepans are arranged _____ size.

Preposition 3: around/ at/ under/ behind/ between/ over

- around the table
- at the station
- under construction
- behind the sofa
- between the cabinets
- over the water

[Check-up 11]

1. The chairs are _____.
2. The train is _____
3. Some chairs are _____
4. There is a gap _____.