



TST PREP

TOEFL SOLUTIONS  
*for* OPEN MINDS

# Complete TOEFL Test #11

THE WRITING SECTION

2019 - 2020





**TST Prep - Complete TOEFL Test #11**  
*The Writing Section*



## The TOEFL Writing Section: *Directions*

 This section measures your ability to use writing to communicate in an academic environment. There will be two writing tasks.

For the first writing task, you will read a passage and listen to a lecture and then answer a question based on what you have read and heard. For the second task, you will answer a question based on your own knowledge and experience.

When you see the audio icon  it means that there is an audio version of the text. [Please click the icon to get redirected to the audio file.](#)

If you would like to see a model essay of the question you are answering, you can refer to the answer key.

When you're ready, turn the page to see the directions for the first writing task.



## Writing Task 1 - Integrated Question

 **Directions:** For this task you will read a passage and listen to a lecture about an academic topic.

You may take notes during this time. After the passages have finished, you will then be asked a question about them. After the question, you will have 20 minutes to write your response. Effective responses are usually between 200 to 350 words. You may look at the reading passage and your notes as you write. Keep in mind that the question will not ask for your opinion.

You have 3 minutes to read. You may begin reading now.

The shrimping industry relies on trawls for its harvest. Trawls are huge nets that are dragged behind boats in order to catch shrimp. Other animals, like sea turtles, are often caught inside these nets and soon die without sufficient oxygen. To help reduce the number of accidental deaths among sea turtles, engineers created a Turtle Excluder Device (TED), that must now be installed in all shrimping trawls. This one simple invention has greatly reduced the number of sea turtle deaths per year for a number of reasons.

First, the TED was specifically designed to help sea turtles. The TED mechanism adds a mechanical barrier in the middle of fishing nets that prevents any animal larger than ten centimeters from getting caught deep inside. Once the animal hits this metal grid, it tilts downward, providing that animal with a clear path to exit. Smaller animals, like shrimp, pass through the metal guard and get caught in the end of the trawl net, as usual.

Second, in order to make sure that fishermen use the Turtle Excluder Device, the "Shrimp-Turtle Law" was passed. It states that all trawling shrimping boats must have a TED installed. There are specific organizations in charge of monitoring shrimping vessels to ensure that their TEDs are properly installed and maintained.

Finally, America now tightly controls the import of shrimp. All shrimp products must come from only certified users of TEDs. Countries, companies, or fishermen who do not comply with this law are not allowed to sell their products in the US and some European countries. Since most shrimping businesses want to import their goods to as many locations as possible, they have decided to comply and install TEDs in their trawls.



 Now listen to part of a lecture on the same topic you just read about.

After you listen to the passage, answer the question.

***Summarize the points made in the lecture, being sure to explain how they cast doubt on the specific points made in the reading passage.***

You have 20 minutes to plan and write your response.



## Writing Task 2 - Independent Question

 **Directions:** For this task, you will write an essay in response to a question that asks you to state, explain, and support your opinion on an issue.

Typically, an effective essay will contain a minimum of 300 words. Your essay will be judged based on the quality of your writing. This includes the development of your ideas, the organization of your essay, and the quality and accuracy of the language you use to express your ideas.

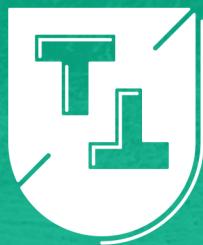
You have 30 minutes to plan and complete your essay.

***Health and wellness is a growing concern for a number of people across the globe. Some people believe a well-balanced diet and exercise routine is the best way to stay healthy. Others suggest that good health has less to do with what you eat, and more to do with how you live. In other words, maintaining positive relationships with friends and family is a better way to remain healthy.***

***Which opinion do you agree with?***

Use specific reasons and examples to support your essay. Be sure to use your own words. Do not use memorized examples.





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**TST Prep - Complete TOEFL Test #11**  
*Writing Section - Answer Key*



### **Integrated Writing Transcript**

There's no doubt that Turtle Excluder Devices are a great idea that must be used by every single shrimping boat. However, they are far from perfect and in need of drastic improvement, regardless of what the author in the reading may believe.

First of all, TEDs are metal barriers that, in theory, don't allow anything more than 10 centimeters to pass through them. However, many small and mid-sized turtles are still constantly caught deep in the nets of trawls. Species like the leatherback and loggerhead turtles are smaller and unable to use the metal barriers to their advantage.

It's also important to keep in mind that TEDs don't only exclude turtles, but there are instances where some lucky shrimp hit the metal barrier and escape the trawl. In order to reduce shrimp loss, and, more importantly, their profits, many boat owners prefer not to use the device at all. When it comes time to drop the trawl in the open sea, shrimpers will simply remove the TED. And it's almost impossible for any organization to monitor these ships so far from shore.

And, finally, it should be noted that many vessels that claim to be certified TED trawl users and have documents that claim that they comply with the rules of the Shrimp-Turtle Law, actually have fake documents. You see, shrimping is an international business and the documentation to be considered TED-certified changes based on the country of the boat in question. With so much difference between countries, few people know when a vessel is holding a fake certification or a real one.



### **Task #1: Integrated Writing**

The reading and the lecture are about the pros and cons of the Turtle Excluder Device (TED). The writer believes there are many benefits to the use of TED, and that it has decreased the number of sea turtles caught in trawls by shrimpers. The speaker in the listening passage disagrees. He claims there are still many issues with TED, and challenges each of the writer's points.

First, the article posits that the design of TED includes a metal barrier inside the net that prevents larger animals from getting caught. Additionally, it says, TED also provides a path for the sea turtles to exit. However, the professor points out that small and mid-sized turtles still get caught deeper in the trawls. He states this is because the metal barrier only prevents creatures larger than ten centimeters to pass through it.

Also, the author notes that laws have been passed requiring shrimp boats to have TED and use it properly. The lecturer rebuts this argument. He says that it is impossible for organizations to regulate the fishermen while they are fishing for shrimp and that they can just remove the TED right before putting the nets into the ocean. Furthermore, he argues that they are inclined to do this because sometimes TED can also prevent shrimp from passing into the depths of the trawls, which decreases their profits.

Another reason the writer feels that TED is beneficial is that under import regulations, the shrimp sold in the US can only come from suppliers who are certified TED users. Again, the speaker holds there are flaws in this argument. He suggests that there are many boat owners who claim to be TED-certified, but, in reality, have fake documentation. The lack of consistency in TED certification from country to country allows many to deceive ports and sell their shrimp anyways.

To sum up, both the author and the lecturer hold conflicting views about TED.



## **Task #2: Independent Writing**

There is no shortage of opinion on the best way to stay in shape. In my opinion, I believe a combination of a balanced diet and exercise is the best way to remain healthy. I feel this way for two main reasons, which I will explore in the following paragraphs.

First of all, a well-balanced diet has been proven to help people stay fit throughout history. Most importantly, cutting out heavily processed foods and fast foods is an absolute must for those who are overweight. My personal experience is a great example of this. My mother always used to struggle with losing weight. She tried so many different kinds of diets throughout her life. They were always focused on denying her one of the food groups, such as bread and grains, but never addressed over-processed food consumption. Finally, she went to a nutritionist who advised her to just eat natural and organic food in the proper proportions. My mom lost thirty pounds in eight weeks after that. More importantly, she felt stronger physically and more focused mentally. For this reason, I would start by altering my diet if I wanted to improve my overall health.

Secondly, exercise is the next best way to stay fit and active. Working out causes the heart rate to increase and this leads to burning calories and fat. It is not necessary to spend hours and hours at the gym either. The most important thing is to get a little bit of exercise every single day. Drawing from my own experience, when I first moved to Madrid, I didn't have a car. I had to walk 45 minutes to and from school every day. Moreover, on weekends, I would ride my bicycle around the local neighborhood to go shopping and meet friends. It's certainly clear to see how daily, moderate exercise is a key component to improving one's overall health.

In conclusion, I do believe that good health is best achieved by treating the body to good food and moderate exercise. This is because these two habits will eventually lead to a reduction in weight and an increase in overall well-being.





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