

TOEFL iBT

Name: _____ Score: _____

1. About how many minutes is TOEFL Writing? Use the figure ETS publishes.

2. Which is correct?
 - ☐ The teacher gave us a useful advice.
 - ☐ The teacher gave us some useful advice.
 - ☐ The teacher gave us useful advices.
3. What belongs in the first sentence of the email?
 - ☐ A polite greeting and some background
 - ☐ Why you are writing
 - ☐ An apology for taking the reader's time
4. Your post states a position, gives a reason and an example, and never mentions either classmate. What happens?
 - ☐ Nothing — the professor's question is what you were asked
 - ☐ Task completion is capped: you did not join the discussion
 - ☐ It scores higher, because it stays focused
5. Why does 'With the development of society' cost you marks?
 - ☐ It is grammatically wrong
 - ☐ It adds no information and a marker reads past it, in a section with no time to spare
 - ☐ It is too informal for academic writing
6. Complete: Writing has about _____ items.

7. Complete: 'The list of participants _____ on my desk.'
 - ☐ are
 - ☐ is
 - ☐ were
8. Complete: 'The result depends _____ the temperature.'

9. 'It depends on the situation' is a clear position.

☐ True ☐ False

10. A long complex sentence with two errors scores better than a short correct one.

☐ True ☐ False

TOEFL iBT

1. **23**

ETS says about 23 minutes and 12 items.

2. **The teacher gave us some useful advice.**

'Advice' is uncountable: no 'a', no plural. The same goes for information, equipment, research and homework.

3. **Why you are writing**

A reader who knows the purpose reads everything after it correctly. Background before purpose makes them guess.

4. **Task completion is capped: you did not join the discussion**

The task is to contribute to a discussion. A post that ignores both classmates is an essay posted in a thread, and it is marked as one.

5. **It adds no information and a marker reads past it, in a section with no time to spare**

It is not an error; it is empty. In 23 minutes a wasted opening sentence is a real cost, and these phrases appear in thousands of scripts.

6. **12**

About 12 items across Build a Sentence, Write an Email, and Academic Discussion.

7. **is**

The subject is 'the list', not 'participants'. English agrees with the subject, not with the nearest noun — a favourite trap.

8. **on**

'Depend on' is one item. Learn the verb and its preposition together, the way you learn a single word.

9. **False**

It becomes one the moment you say WHAT it depends on, in the same sentence. Without that it reads as avoiding the question.

10. **False**

Complexity only earns marks when it is accurate. Write the sentence you can control, then join two if you have the words.