



Listening Strategy TOEFL

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Definition

- Stands for: Test of English as Foreign Language
- It evaluates the potential success of an individual to use and understand Standard American English at a college level. It is required for non-native applicants at many English-speaking colleges and universities.
- **TOEFL Score is the Most Preferred Score**
- **Measures Skills Academically**

Format



- Paper-based
 - Listening (50 questions → 35 minutes)
 - Structure and Written expression (40 questions → 25 minutes)
 - Reading (50 questions → 55 minutes)
 - Total → 2 hours**

- Computer-based
 - More types of questions → **4 hours**

Listening Section



- ❖ Part A
 - ❖ 30 short conversations
 - ❖ Each followed by a questions
- ❖ Part B
 - ❖ 2 long conversations (dialogue)
 - ❖ Each followed by a number of questions
- ❖ Part C
 - ❖ 2 or 3 talks (monologue)
 - ❖ Each followed by a number of questions

General Strategies for part A



- Focus on the second line
- The correct answer is probably: restatement/synonyms
- If you do not understand the complete conversation:
Find the restatement of what you hear
- If you do not understand at all
Choose the most different from what you hear
- Easy → difficult

Question Example



On the recording, you hear:

(man) : I've always wanted to visit Hawaii with you.

(woman) : **Why not next month?**

(narrator) : What does the woman mean?

In your text book, you read:

(A) Next Month isn't a good time for the trip.

(B) She doesn't want to go to Hawaii.

(C) She suggests taking the trip next month.

(D) She's curious about why he doesn't want to go.

Example Part A



1. (A) The coffee is much better this morning.
(B) The coffee tastes extremely good.
(C) The coffee isn't very good
(D) This morning he definitely wants some coffee.
2. (A) The two classes meet in an hour and a half.
(B) The class meets three hours per week.
(C) Each half of the class is an hour long.
(D) Two times a week the class meets for an hour.
3. (A) A few minutes ago, the flight departed.
(B) The flight will start in a while.
(C) They are frightened about the departure.
(D) The plane is going to take off soon.

Conversation



Conversation 1:

(woman) : Are you enjoying your coffee?

(man) : **It tastes extremely bitter this morning.**

(narrator) : What does the man mean?

Conversation 2:

(woman) : Can you tell me how often the philosophy class meets?

(man) : **It meets twice a week, for an hour and a half each time.**

(narrator) : What does the man mean?

Conversation 3:

(man) : I'm tired of just sitting here!

(woman) : **Relax. I'm sure that the flight will depart within a few minutes.**

(narrator) : What does the woman mean?

General Strategies for part B & C

- ✓ Preview the answers
 - Anticipate the topics and questions
- ✓ Listen carefully to the first line of the conversation
 - Main idea, subject, topic
- ✓ As you listen, draw conclusions
 - Who is talking?
 - Where and when it takes place?
- ✓ Listen, and follow along with the answer in your text book
- ✓ If you are not sure, just guess

Example Part B

Questions 31 through 34. Listen a conversation between two friends who are making plans.

31. (A) Attend a football game alone
(B) Go to a sporting event
(C) Eat in the cafeteria and study
(D) See a play
32. (A) It's the final game of the season.
(B) It's better than the drama department's play.
(C) It's a very important game.
(D) It's close to the cafeteria.
33. (A) A play
(B) A game
(C) A study group meeting
(D) Dinner in the cafeteria
34. (A) Saturday night
(B) After dinner in the cafeteria
(C) Sunday afternoon
(D) Maybe next weekend

- (narrator) : Listen to a conversation between two friends who are making plans.
- (woman) : Do you have any plan this weekend?
- (man) : There's so much to choose from on campus that I'm not sure what I'm going to do.
- (woman) : The football game's on Saturday night, and I'm going with a group of friends.
Do you want to go with us?
- (man) : Of course I'd be like to go to the football game: it's the biggest game of the season. And it's sounds like fun to go with a large group of people.
- (woman) : Good. We'll be meeting at the cafeteria for dinner at six o'clock on Saturday night, and then we'll go on to the game together.
- (man) : That takes care of my plans for Saturday night. But now I need to make decision about Sunday afternoon. The music department is sponsoring a concert then, and I'd really like to hear that concert. But there's also a play being presented by the drama department that I really wanted to see. It's too bad those two event at the same time.
- (woman) : You know, if you go to the game on Saturday night and a concert or play on Sunday, that doesn't leave much tome for studying.
- (man) : Oh, well. Maybe I can do that the weekend after this one..

31. What is the woman planning to do Saturday?
32. Why does the man want to go to the football game?
33. What is the same time as the music department's concert?
34. When does the man plan to study?

Example Part C

Questions 39 through 42. Listen to a sociology professor talk to her class

39. (A) On the first day of class
(B) In the middle of the semester
(C) At the end of class
(D) In the final week of the semester
40. (A) Later today
(B) By Friday of this week
(C) In two weeks
(D) In three weeks
41. (A) Journal and magazine articles
(B) Books from outside the library
(C) Books listed in student journals
(D) Both books and journals
42. (A) Two
(B) Three
(C) Five
(D) Seven



(narrator) : Listen to a sociology professor talk to her class

(woman) : Before I start today's sociology lecture, I'd like to talk with you about the papers that you should be working on. As you know, the topic for the paper is the relationship between gun control and violence. The paper itself is due in two weeks, but I would like to see your outlines by Friday of this week so that I can be sure that you are on the right track with the assignment.

You need to do some research for this paper, so you should be spending some time in library. I would like you to have at least three books and at least three recent journal articles as source.

The paper should be five pages long; in addition to the five pages of composition. You should have a title page and a one page reference list of the sources that you used in preparing this paper.

39. When does this talk probably take place?

40. When is the paper due?

41. What types of references should be used in writing the paper?

42. How many total pages should be in the paper, including the title page and the reference list?



THANKS!