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Barron's TOEFL iBT Test Of English As A Foreign Language, 14th Edition



Synopsis

The most up-to-date test prep manual on the market, TOEFL iBT presents a general overview of the exam as well as seven model tests with explanations or examples for all questions. Also included is a review of the required academic skills, including note taking, paraphrasing, summarizing and synthesizing.

Book Information

File Size: 76666 KB

Print Length: 824 pages

Publisher: Barron's Educational Series, Inc. (April 1, 2013)

Publication Date: January 19, 2015

Sold by:Â Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00SG3VT44

Text-to-Speech: Not enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Not Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Not Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #248,261 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #20

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#85 inÂ Books > Education & Teaching > Higher & Continuing Education > Test Preparation >

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Customer Reviews

I am an English instructor of ESL students, many who are preparing for the Toefl exam. I have reviewed 5 books myself before recommending students buy one. While this book appears to be well organized, WATCH OUT!!! It is loaded with typos and errors from the start. For example, in the Model Test 1: Pretest, I counted 11 errors in just 5 pages!!! For example, They indicate which paragraph to read, and have them numbered incorrectly (1 and 2 are ok, but they have questions for paragraph 5 and there are only 4 paragraphs!) Vocabulary words on the test should be highlighted, but they missed one, so a student has to search for it in the paragraph, thus wasting valuable time for a timed test. For the question asking the student to insert a sentence, the correct

answer is "C" and the answer key has the correct answer as "B" - which is NOT correct!! Then they go on to say why B is correct, while explaining the answer response for "C". This is just careless and unforgivable for a test publisher! On one answer - where three choices are required - they list the correct choices as: "E, F and D". Fine, but why not make it: D, E, and F? The Toefl test is difficult enough for ESL students, and I would NEVER recommend a book that makes the test literally impossible and so confusing. The Princeton books are so far, my top picks.

I agree with the previous comment about how daunting it is to pick the right book to purchase in the beginning - I chose the Barron's edition with audio CDs and McGraw Hill's ETS standard edition. The latter was helpful in evaluating one's own speaking level against real life examples, but the former was far superior in its content layout and diversity of subjects covered. In my opinion study tips & tricks will never be as effective as actually sitting model tests under simulated environment repetitively. I highly recommend running the full listening/speaking section all the way without stopping (except for the writing sections within those sections) as this will give you more rigorous practice than those offered in the actual test where you get to pause after each question. I spent two weeks on this book and an afternoon skimming through official ETS test prep book, and scored 115 out of 120.

The book had adequate examples to practice, some good study tips and exam strategies. I got a 110 in my TOEFL exam. It was the most cost-efficient. The most confusing thing while buying the book was Barron publishes 3 versions of this book - with audio CD, with CD ROM and only the book. The audio CD version contains audio for all listening sections but no computer-based tests / scoring. I believe the CD ROM version has that. Other things that would be good to have:- a feature to record your speaking section (available with Longman)- a feature to record your written skills and get an automated evaluation.

I tried 3 books for TOEFL IBT; this one was the best of all, it have 7 complete tests, and 10 Audio CDs with a good price. and also a section for teaching the technics. I thing it is almost perfect. and it delivered much faster that exepcted. Have fun with TOEFL. Good luck for all.

You definitely need the CD that is supposed to come with this book. This book is supposed to prepare you for the TOEFL IBT, which is on line and on a computer and the bulk of it contains the tests you need to practice. However, CD is not included. Without it, how are you going to practice

Listening and Speaking parts? They all depend on you listening to some instructions and also the parts you need to listen to. The book contains the texts of those speeches but it does not make sense to read the stuff you need to be listening to. What bothered me the most is the fact that I thought the reason they did this was for making some extra profits by making you buy the cd at an additional cost. This book without any doubt needs to come with a cd.

Inside there is exactly what is needed for a good toefl prep! A complete pack of 2 books and 10 cds for 8 tests.the 1st book for some common words and the other one is for clues, explanations, techniques and the written support of the tests.The first cd contains all the tests: the learner can follow the time requirements of the actual toefl or not.And there are even more features.

This is a review for the Barron's Toefl ibt book with a CD.All in all, the book is good for preparation for the Toefl test, but no way I would give it a 4 stars even. It does cover all the sections in the test pretty good, but the difficulty level of this book is way higher than the actual ETS standart for TOEFL is. The reading passages are ok, but the questions are deceptive: some of them are actually a GRE-quality, which is way more difficult than TOEFL. As, for example, in one of the questions, you are asked to choose the word closest in meaning to "radical". The sentence in the text is as follows: "The revolution in flight required radical alteration in body form". The answer choices are: a)very clear; b)very wide; c)very fast; d)very new. Obviously this is NOT a 2 point question, and everyone knows what "radical" means. But differentiation between "very clear", "very new" and "very wide" is too much for the TOEFL test.Also, in the listening sections, the dictors sometimes speak so fast, they're almost out of breath: not acceptable quality for preparation. And let me tell you, I am not whining here because I can not get a score high enough - I answer 92-95% of the questions correctly. And I also understand the strategy of the maker: better to be pleasantly surprised on the test, then experience a rude awakening, but it is just annoying.Then, the CD is awful. Mine does not save my login, so every time I log in as a new user, and which is most important it doesn't save my scores in the review. The essay can only be saved in a practice mode, which is also uncomfortable. The test screen is microscopic, which is fine for the listening and even speaking sections, but staring at tiny characters for 1 hour during the reading section is no joke. Trying to see what you have typed in the essay is also a pain.So solid 3 stars it is, not more.

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