

TOEFL SAMPLE TEST
COUCH SHIRLEE MAZARIEGOS
TEST TIME: 1 HOUR. (15 MINUTES EACH SECTION)

READING SECTION

The History of the Printing Press

The invention of the printing press by Johannes Gutenberg in the 15th century marked a turning point in human history. Before the printing press, books were laboriously copied by hand, making them rare and expensive. Gutenberg's press used movable type, which allowed for the mass production of books. This innovation led to the rapid spread of knowledge across Europe, played a crucial role in the Renaissance, and ultimately paved the way for the modern knowledge-based economy.

1. What was one major impact of the printing press?

- A. It made hand-copied books more popular.
- B. It limited access to education.
- C. It contributed to the spread of knowledge.
- D. It slowed down the Renaissance.

2. How were books produced before the printing press?

- A. With a typewriter.
- B. Using a movable type.
- C. By hand-copying.
- D. By digital printing.

3. What is implied about the printing press's role in the economy?

- A. It decreased the number of books produced.
- B. It led to a knowledge-based economy.
- C. It increased the price of books.
- D. It eliminated all handwritten books.

Passage 2: The Importance of National Parks

National parks serve as protected areas where wildlife can thrive and ecosystems are preserved. In addition to their environmental benefits, they also offer recreational opportunities such as hiking, camping, and sightseeing. These parks not only attract millions of tourists each year, contributing to local economies, but also play a key role in educating the public about nature conservation. By maintaining the balance between human activity and nature, national parks help ensure biodiversity for future generations.

1. What is one environmental purpose of national parks?

- A. To build more cities
- B. To protect wildlife and ecosystems
- C. To allow hunting in nature
- D. To reduce tourism

2. How do national parks contribute to the economy?

- A. By selling endangered animals
- B. By charging fees for pollution
- C. By attracting tourists
- D. By offering online classes

3. What is implied about the role of national parks in education?

- A. They help teach people about preserving nature
- B. They are only for expert scientists
- C. They replace traditional schools
- D. They focus mainly on sports activities

LISTENING

Audio 1: Lecture – “The Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis”

1. What is the main topic of the lecture?

- A. The idea that language affects our experiences
- B. How linguistic relativity shapes the way we think
- C. If certain words don't exist in your language, there's a reason
- D. You can predict someone's thoughts based on their language

2. Why does the professor mention the word “ambivalent”?

- A. To show that some words don't have direct translations
- B. To illustrate how language influences the perception of emotion
- C. To argue that English is a complex language
- D. To show that all cultures share the same emotions

Audio 2: Conversation – “Registering for a Class in the Registrar’s Office”

3. What is the main purpose of James’s conversation with the registrar staff?

- A. To inquire about the cost of the course
- B. To understand the registration process for a class
- C. To discuss the course content of Introduction to Psychology
- D. To complain about previous registration issues

4. What is recommended for students before enrolling in Introduction to Psychology?

- A. Completion of a course in biology
- B. A basic course in statistics
- C. A prior psychology course
- D. No recommendations are necessary

5. What does the registrar staff mean when they say, “If that happens, you can ask to be placed on a waiting list”?

- A. Students can register for a different course
- B. Students can wait for the next semester to register
- C. Students can request to be notified if a spot becomes available
- D. Students can attend the class without registering

6. How does James feel about the prerequisites for the course?

- A. Relieved and pleased
- B. Concerned and anxious
- C. Indifferent and uninterested
- D. Confused and frustrated

7. When is the deadline for registration for the semester?

- A. This Friday
- B. Next Friday
- C. The end of the month
- D. The beginning of the semester

SPEAKING

ANSWER CORRECTLY EACH QUESTION.

You can use VOCAROO or your mobile recording app

Question 1 (Personal Preference):

Describe your favorite way to relax after a busy day. Explain why this method works for you.

Question 2 (Paired Choice):

Some people prefer to study alone, while others prefer to study in a group. Which do you prefer and why?

Question 3 (Campus Situation):

You hear that the university plans to remove vending machines from all buildings. Do you agree or disagree with this decision? Give reasons for your opinion.

WRITING

Task:

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

“All students should be required to learn a foreign language.”

Give reasons and examples to support your opinion. Write at least 150–200 words.