

BASIC LISTENING MODUL



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FACULTY OF LANGUAGES AND ARTS
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TOEIC SKILLS:

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Listening

2

OVERVIEW—CURRENT TOEIC

There are four parts to the Listening Comprehension section of the TOEIC. You will have approximately 45 minutes to complete this section.

Part 1: Photographs	10 Questions
Part 2: Question-Response	30 Questions
Part 3: Conversations	30 Questions
Part 4: Talks	30 Questions

To prepare for the four parts of the Listening Comprehension section, you must develop certain listening and analytical skills. Most of the skills targeted in this chapter are useful for all parts of the Listening Comprehension section.

SKILLS LIST

Part 1: Photographs Skill

1. Assumptions
2. People
3. Things
4. Actions
5. General Locations
6. Specific Locations

Part 2: Question-Response Skill

1. Similar Sounds
2. Related Words
3. Homonyms
4. Same Sound/Same Spelling but Different Meaning
5. Suggestions
6. Offers
7. Requests

Part 3: Conversations Skill

1. Questions About People
2. Questions About Occupations
3. Questions About Place
4. Questions About Time
5. Questions About Activities
6. Questions About Opinions

Part 4: Talks Skill

1. Questions About Events and Facts
2. Questions About Reasons
3. Questions About Numbers
4. Questions About Main Topics
5. Paraphrases

OVERVIEW—NEW TOEIC

There are four parts to the Listening Comprehension section of the new TOEIC. You will have approximately 45 minutes to complete this section.

Part 1: Photographs	6 Questions
Part 2: Question-Response	25 Questions
Part 3: Conversations	39 Questions
Part 4: Talks	30 Questions

The following skills are directed towards preparing you for the new question types on the Listening Comprehension section of the new TOEIC. You should also study the listening skills for the current TOEIC, as those question types will also appear on the new TOEIC.

SKILLS LIST

Part 3: Conversations

Skill

1. Graphic
2. Implied Meaning
3. Deleted Sounds
4. Incomplete Sentences
5. Multiple Accents

Part 4: Talks

Skill

1. Graphic
2. Implied Meaning
3. Multiple Accents

AUDIO AND AUDIOSCRIPTS

The MP3 files and audioscripts for all listening segments can be found online at <http://barronsbooks.com/tp/toEIC/audio/>



PART 1: PHOTOGRAPHS

Sample Question

Directions: You will see a photograph. You will hear four statements about the photograph. Choose the statement that most closely matches the photograph and fill in the corresponding oval on your answer sheet. The statements will not be printed and will be spoken only once.



You will hear: Look at the photo marked number 1 in your test book.

- (A) They're waiting at the bus stop.
- (B) They're leaving the building.
- (C) They're selling tickets.
- (D) They're getting off the bus.

(A) (B) (C) ●

Statement (D), "They're getting off the bus," best describes what you see in the photo. Therefore, you should choose answer (D).

SKILL

1

Assumptions

You may have to *make assumptions* when you listen to the TOEIC. These assumptions will be based on what you can infer in the photograph. You will have to determine which of the four statements you hear is true or might be true. One statement (answer choice) will be true or will most likely be true. That choice will be the correct answer.

TIP Listen carefully to the whole sentence and determine which one choice best matches the photo.

PHOTO 1

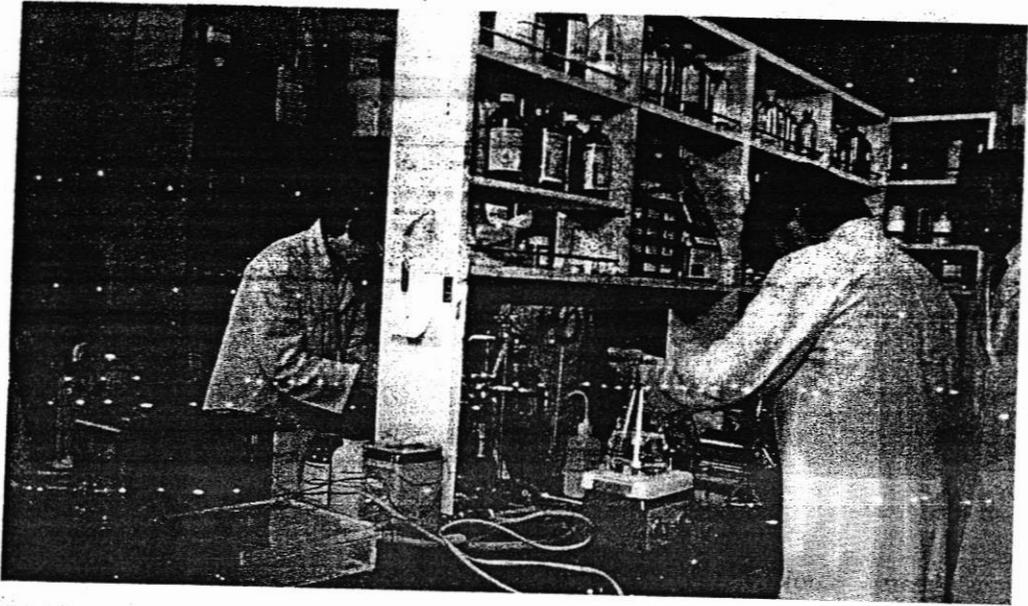
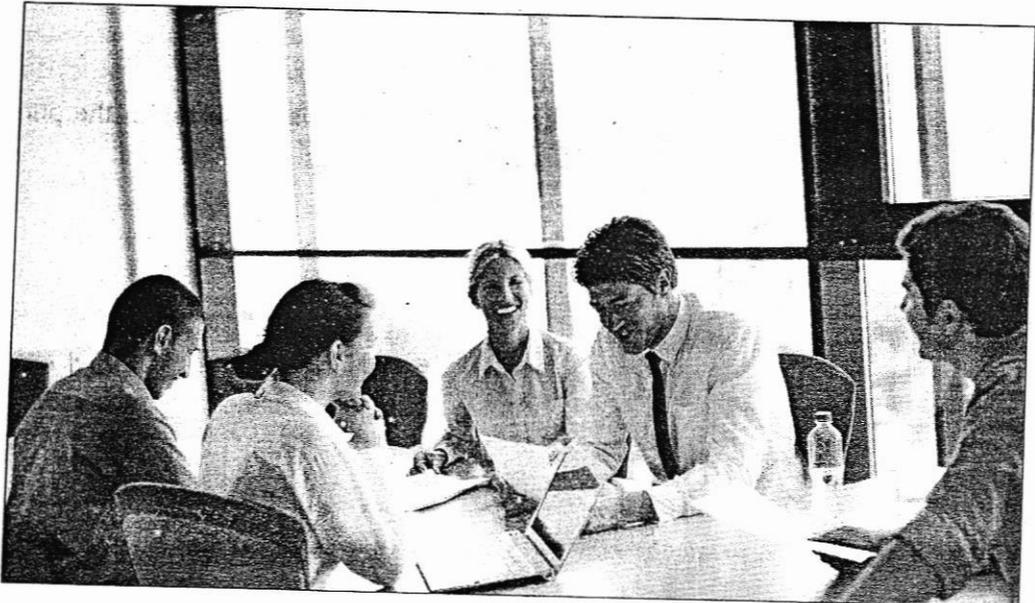


PHOTO 2



➔ **Example**

Look at these statements about Photo 1.

These statements are true.

This is a laboratory.

The people are wearing protective clothing.

There are bottles on the shelves.

There are at least four people in the lab.

There is equipment on the counter.

Wires run from the equipment.

TIP

If you do not have access to the MP3 files, you can download the audioscripts at <http://barronsbooks.com/tp/toeic/audio/>

These statements are probably true, but you can't tell for sure.

The people are lab technicians.

They look like technicians, but they could be pharmacists.

The people are students with a teacher.

A teacher may be working with a class, or they may all be employees.

The technicians are doing experiments.

They might be doing experiments, or they might be producing some chemical compound.

PRACTICE

Look at Photo 2 and read the following statements. Mark the statements True (T), Probably True (PT), or False (F).

- A. There are five people around the table.
- B. It's nighttime.
- C. They're business colleagues.
- D. They're smiling.
- E. There is a bottle on the table.
- F. There is water in the bottle.
- G. They're drinking coffee.
- H. They're eating something.
- I. The computer is open.
- J. They're reading a report.

EXERCISE

Choose the statement that best describes what you see in the photos on page 18.

Photo 1 (A) (B) (C) (D)

Photo 2 (A) (B) (C) (D)

TIP

For more practice, look at the other photos in this book and try to make assumptions about what you see.

SKILL

2

People

You may have to *identify the people* in a photograph. You may identify them by number, gender, location, description, activity, or occupation.

TIP Determine the number, gender, location, description, activity, and occupation of the people as best you can.

PHOTO 3



PHOTO 4



➔ **Example**

TIP

For more practice, look at the other photos in this book and try to identify the people you see in the photos.

Look at these statements about Photo 3.

- Number: There are four people in the photo.
Gender: There are two men and two women in the photo.
Location: On the left, there are two men.
On the right, there are two women.
Description: One of the men is wearing glasses.
The woman on the right is shorter than the other woman.
Activity: The group is looking at a map.
One woman is pointing to the map.
All four people are leaning on the table.
Occupation: Their profession is unknown. They are looking at and discussing a map. We can assume they are planners of some sort.

You may not be able to answer all questions. You may not know their occupation, for example. However, the more assumptions you can make, the easier it will be to answer the questions.

PRACTICE

Complete the information about the people in Photo 4.

- Number: _____
Gender: _____
Location: _____
Description: _____
Activity: _____
Occupation: _____



Remember, statements must be completely true. Be careful about statements that are partly true, but not totally true. Analyze the photo carefully. Pay attention to the number, gender, or occupation of the people in the photo.

EXERCISE

Choose the statement that best describes what you see in the photos on page 20.

Photo 3: (A) (B) (C) (D)

Photo 4: (A) (B) (C) (D)

Track
3

Things

You may have to *identify things* in a photo. When you look at a photo, try to name everything you see. On the TOEIC, you will NOT have to know words, expressions, or idioms that are specific to one particular occupation. For example, in the photo below, you should know the general word "piano." You do not have to know the specific term "grand piano."

TIP Use the context of the photo to help you identify the things.

PHOTO 5

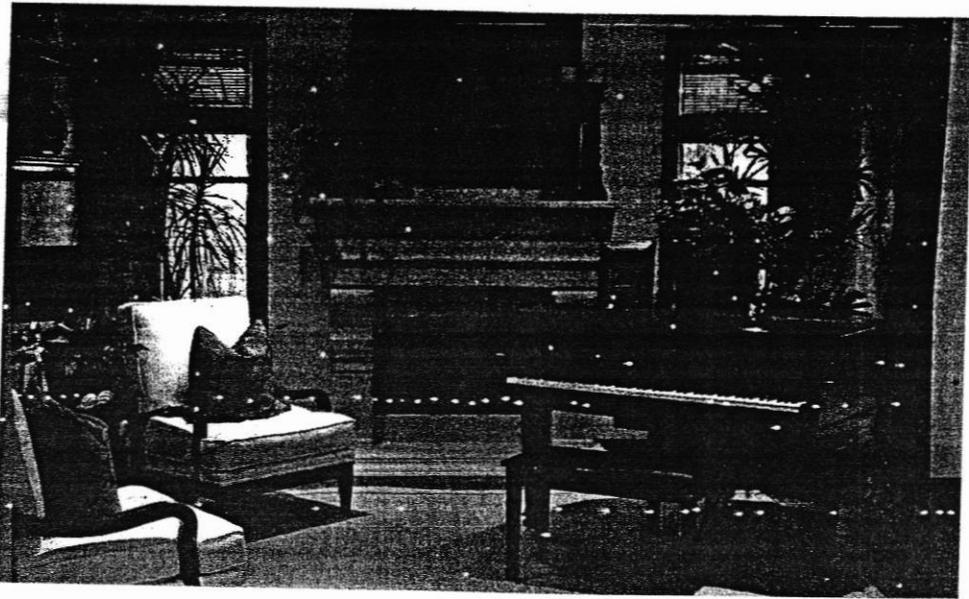
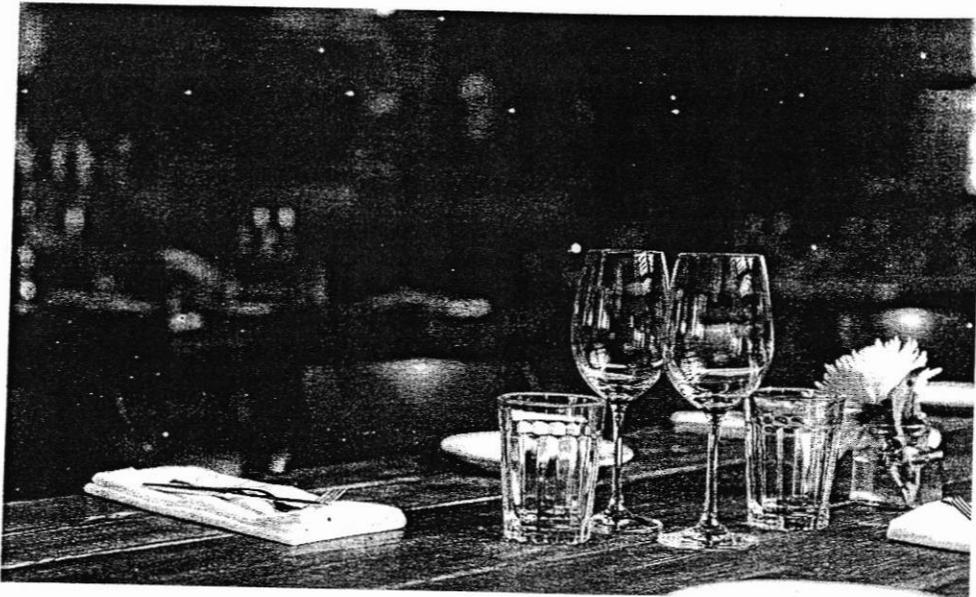


PHOTO 6



➔ **Example** _____

Find the following items in the photo. Keep in mind the context of Photo 5: It is a living room in a private home.

Words to Find

window	window shade	curtain
chair	cushion	carpet
floor	wall	fireplace
mantel	plant	plant
piano	piano bench	vase
candle	piano keys	shelf

PRACTICE

Make a list of the items you see in Photo 6.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

EXERCISE

Choose the statement that best describes what you see in the photos on page 22.

Photo 5 (A) (B) (C) (D)

Photo 6 (A) (B) (C) (D)

TIP

For more vocabulary practice, look at the other photos in this book and try to name as many things as you can.

SKILL

4

Actions

You may have to *identify the actions* in a photo. There may be more than one action happening, even if there is only one person in the photo. If there are several people in the photo, they may all be doing the same thing or they may each be doing something different.

TIP Determine what each person in the photo is doing.

PHOTO 7

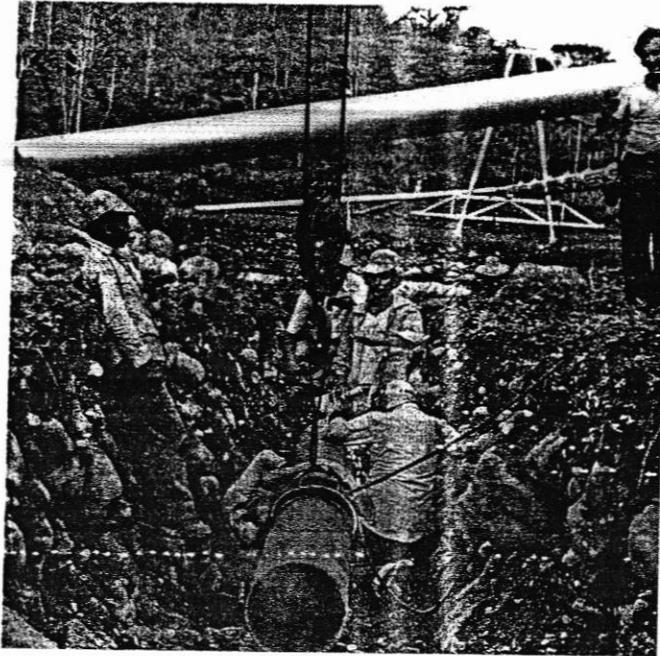
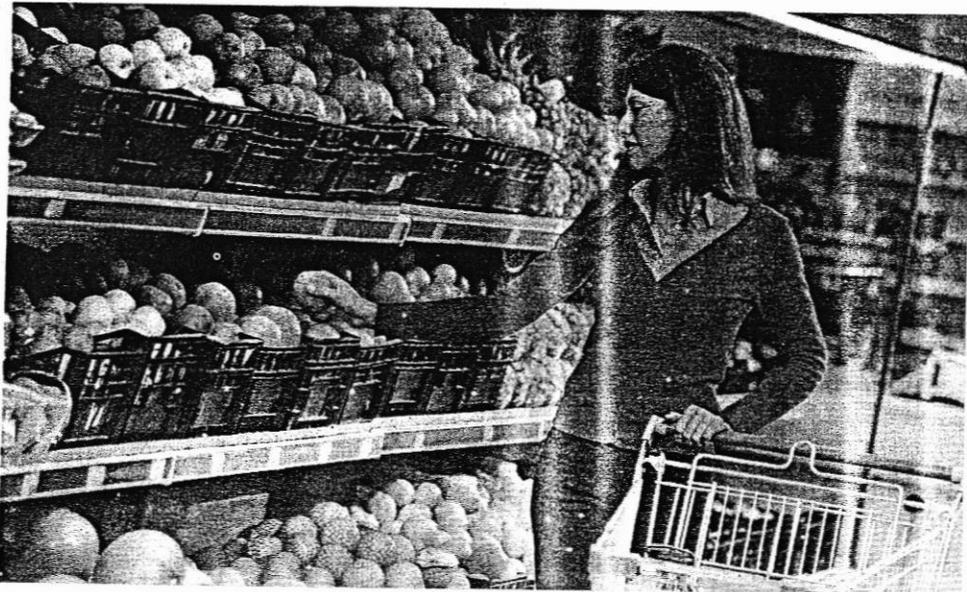


PHOTO 8



➡ **Example** _____

Identify the following actions in Photo 7:

- standing in the trench
- standing next to the trench
- kneeling in the trench
- wearing a hard hat
- holding the pipe
- looking at the pipe
- laying the pipe
- leaning against the rocks

PRACTICE

Make a list of the actions you see in Photo 8.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

TIP

For more practice, look at the other photos in this book and identify past, present, and future actions.

Track
5

EXERCISE

Choose the statement that best describes what you see in the photos on page 24.

Photo 7 (A) (B) (C) (D)

Photo 8 (A) (B) (C) (D)

SKILL

5

General Locations

You may have to *identify the general location* of a photograph. When you look at a picture, analyze the clues to determine a location. If you see a car, a mechanic, some tools, and a customer in a photo, you can assume the location is an automobile repair shop. If you see men and women working at desks with computers, you can assume the location is an office. A photo is full of clues to help you identify the general location.

TIP Use the context of the photograph to help you make assumptions about the general location.

PHOTO 9

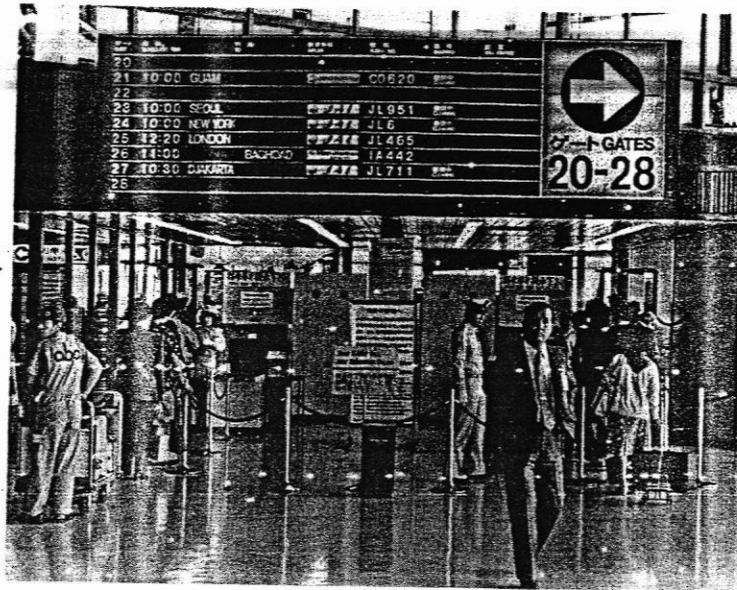
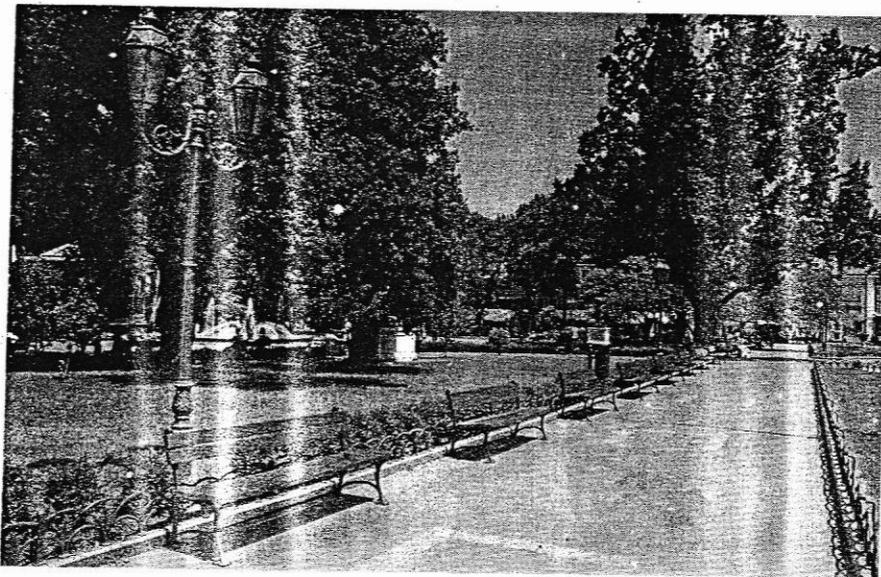


PHOTO 10



➔ **Example** _____

The following is a list of context clues in Photo 9. You may hear these words or variations of these words in Part I. Pay attention—the words may differ on the actual test.

Context Clues

Security checkpoint	Security officers
Departure information	Man with mobile phone
Gate sign	Airline names
People with baggage	Names of destinations
Porter with luggage cart	Sign about X-ray
Security personnel	Uniformed personnel

TIP

For more practice, look at the other photos in this book and find the clues that will help you identify the general location.

PRACTICE

Determine the general location in Photo 10. List the context clues you used.

Location _____

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____



Use context clues to determine where the action is taking place.

EXERCISE

Choose the statement that best describes what you see in the photos on page 26.

Photo 9 (A) (B) (C) (D)

Photo 10 (A) (B) (C) (D)

Track
6

Specific Locations

You may have to *identify the specific location* of people and things in a photograph. When you look at a photo, analyze the relationship of the people and things.

TIP Listen for the correct preposition.

PHOTO 11



PHOTO 12



➔ **Examples**

Prepositions and Phrases of Location

above	beneath	far from	near	over
across	beside	in	next to	to the left of
around	between	in back of	on	to the right of
at	by	in front of	on top of	under
below	close to	inside	outside	underneath

Look at these sentences about specific locations in Photo 11.

The server is next to the table.

There is a bottle in front of the woman.

The forks are on a plate.

There is a plate in the server's hand.

The man is sitting across from a woman.

A woman is sitting next to the man.

PRACTICE

Write sentences about specific locations in Photo 12 using the prepositions and phrases provided.

- A. (on) _____
- B. (in front of) _____
- C. (over) _____
- D. (between) _____
- E. (to the left of) _____
- F. (on top of) _____

EXERCISE

Choose the statement that best describes what you see in the photos on page 28.

Photo 11 (A) (B) (C) (D)

Photo 12 (A) (B) (C) (D)

Track
7

NEW TOEIC—PART 1: PHOTOGRAPHS

There are NO changes in Part 1: Photographs in the types of statements. The statements will focus on people, actions, places, or things. The skills and strategies to prepare for Part 1 are the same for both the current and the new TOEIC.

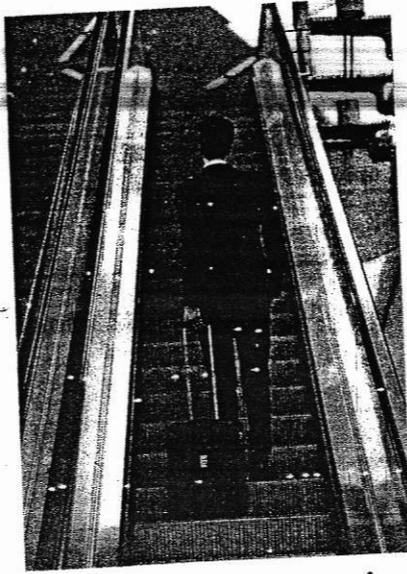
There will be fewer statements. There are only 6 rather than 10 statements.

PRACTICE

Track
8

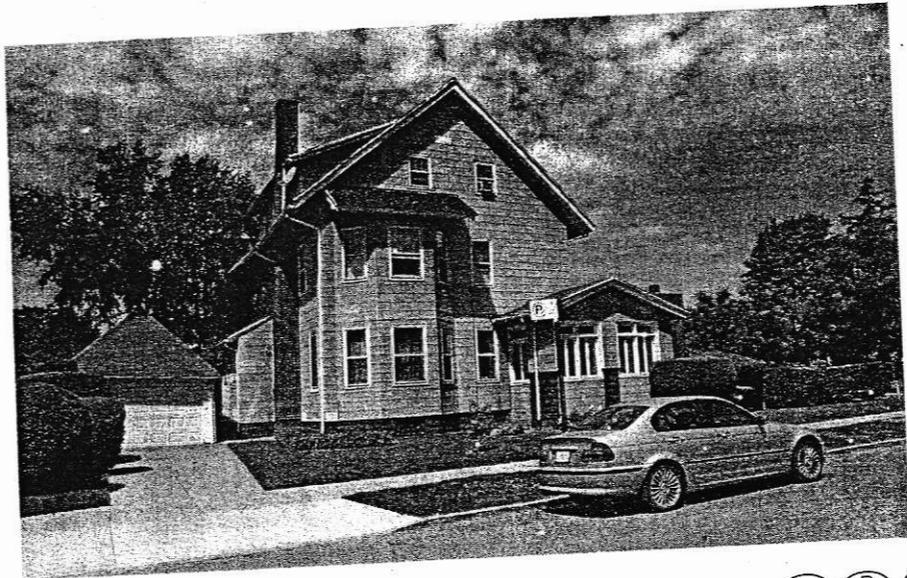
Directions: You will see a photograph. You will hear four statements about the photograph. Choose the statement that most closely matches the photograph and fill in the corresponding oval on your answer sheet.

1.



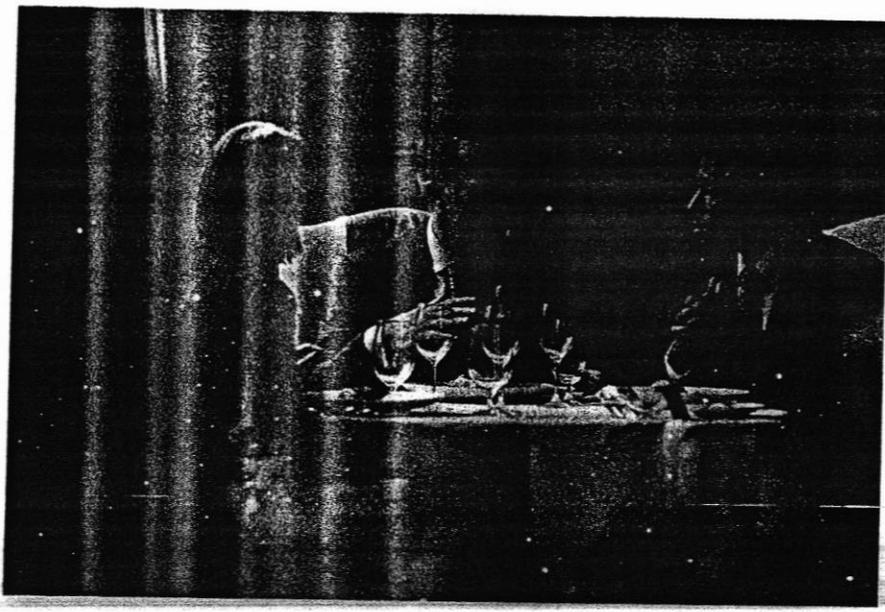
(A) (B) (C) (D)

2.



(A) (B) (C) (D)

3.



(A) (B) (C) (D)

4.



(A) (B) (C) (D)

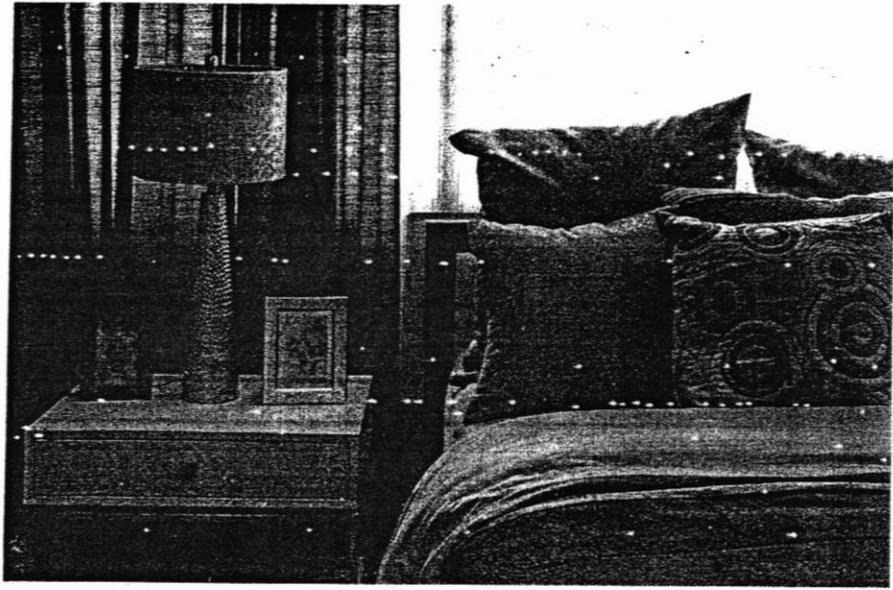
NEW TOEIC

5.



(A) (B) (C) (D)

6.



(A) (B) (C) (D)



STRATEGY SUMMARY

Strategies for Analyzing Photographs

- When you look at a photograph, analyze the people. Determine their number, gender, location, and occupation.
- Look for context clues in the photo.
- Listen for the meaning of the *whole sentence* to determine which choice best matches the photo.

PART 2: QUESTION-RESPONSE

Sample Question

Directions: You will hear a question and three possible responses. Choose the response that most closely answers the question and fill in the corresponding oval on your answer sheet. The statements will not be printed and will be spoken only once.

You will hear: 1. How can I get to the airport from here?

(A) Take a taxi. It's just a short ride.

(B) (C)

(B) No, I don't.

(C) You can get on easily.

The best response to the question "How can I get to the airport from here?" is Choice (A), "Take a taxi. It's just a short ride." Therefore, you should choose answer (A).



Similar Sounds

On the TOEIC, you may have to distinguish between words with *similar sounds*. When you hear the answer choices, pay attention to the meaning. There will be context clues that help you understand the meaning. Do not be confused by words with similar sounds.

TIP Listen carefully to the meaning of the statement or question and determine which answer choice really answers the question.

Examples

Here are examples of similar sounds:

Different Vowel Sounds			
bass	car	deep	gun
base	core	dip	gone
boots	cart	fall	grass
boats	court	full	grease
bus	drug	fun	letter
boss	drag	phone	later
Different Initial Consonant Sounds			
back	core	race	hair
pack	tore	case	fair
rack	sore	place	tear
Different Final Consonant Sounds			
cab	little	nab	think
cap	litter	nap	thing
Two or More Words That Sound Like One Word			
mark it	sent her	letter	in tents
market	center	let her	intense
Words That Have Sounds That Are Part of a Longer Word			
nation	mind	give	intention
imagination	remind	forgive	unintentional

Track
9

EXERCISE

Choose the best response to each question.

1. (A) (B) (C)
2. (A) (B) (C)
3. (A) (B) (C)

SKILL

2

Related Words

On the TOEIC, you may have to distinguish between *related words*. When you hear the answer choices, pay attention to the meaning. Be careful of words from the same word family or words with associated meanings. An answer choice that contains a word related to the context of the question is not necessarily the correct answer.

TIP Listen for the choice that completely answers the question.

➔ **Examples**

These are some related words:

Airline				
ticket	pilot	reservation	baggage claim	check-in
seatbelt	flight attendant	ticket counter	crew	turbulence
Hotel				
room	pool	floor	suite	fitness center
front desk	check in/out	bed	lobby	housekeeping
Restaurant				
table	server	menu	tray	waiter/waitress
dish	napkin	meal	dinner	breakfast
lunch	dessert	tip	plate	bill/check
Bank				
cash	deposit	withdrawal	teller	officer
account	loan	savings	receipt	check
Weather				
sunny	cool	rain	drizzle	wind
cold	sleet	rainstorm	mist	breeze
freezing	warm	hot	cloudy	blizzard
snow	humid	smoggy	thunder	tornado
chilly	humidity	fog	lightning	hurricane

Track
10

EXERCISE

Choose the best response to each question.

1. (A) (B) (C)
2. (A) (B) (C)
3. (A) (B) (C)



Homonyms

On the TOEIC, you may have to determine whether the answer choices contain a word that is a *homonym*. Homonyms are words that are pronounced the same, but have different meanings and different spellings.

TIP Listen for the meaning of the word in the context of the sentence.

Examples

Homonyms

allowed	feet	male	right	tale
aloud	feat	mail	rite	tail
bear	find	meat	write	threw
bare	fined	meet	sail	through
blew	flew	mind	sale	too
blue	flu	mined	seen	two
bough	flour	morning	scene	to
bow	flower	mourning	sight	wait
buy	for	one	site	weight
by	four	won	sowing	week
do	loan	pale	sewing	weak
due	lone	pail	steak	
dew	made	plane	stake	
fare	maid	plain	steel	
fair			steal	

Track 11 **EXERCISE**

Choose the best response to each question.

1. (A) (B) (C)
2. (A) (B) (C)
3. (A) (B) (C)

4

Same Sound/Same Spelling but Different Meaning

On the TOEIC, you may have to distinguish between *words that have the same sound and same spelling but have a different meaning*. When you hear the answer choices, pay attention to the meaning. Be careful of words with the same sounds and same spellings, but with different meanings.

TIP Listen to the context for the word that answers the question.

➔ **Examples**

Different Meanings for the Same Word

Call:	Animal or bird noise Shout Telephone call	File:	Folder Row Tool
Class:	Social position Group of students Level of quality	Hard:	Difficult Tough Firm
Court:	Tennis court Court of law Royal court	Note:	Musical note Short letter Currency
Date:	Type of fruit Meeting with someone Particular day	Seat:	A chair Location of power Membership in a club
Band:	Group of musicians Strip of cloth or other material	Park:	Open, grassy area in a city Leave your car in a certain place
Bank:	Financial institution Land along a river	Right:	Correct Opposite of <i>left</i> Just or fair
Left:	Past tense of <i>leave</i> Opposite of <i>right</i>		

EXERCISE

Choose the best response to each question.

1. (A) (B) (C)
2. (A) (B) (C)
3. (A) (B) (C)

Offers

Some of the questions in Part 2 may actually be offers. Learn to recognize the words, phrases, and suggestions that signal an offer.

TIP Listen for words that signal offers.

➔ **Examples** _____

If you hear these question types, which begin with these common offer markers, listen to see what is being offered.

Offers

Let me	}	carry your books.
Allow me to		
Can I		
Shall I		
Do you want me to		
Would you like me to		

The answers to those questions are usually polite responses that accept or decline an offer. If you see or hear answers like these, look or listen for questions that make an offer.

Answers

Thank you.	You're too kind.
That's very kind of you.	No, thanks. I can manage.
I'd appreciate that.	

EXERCISE

Choose the best response to each question.

1. (A) (B) (C)
2. (A) (B) (C)
3. (A) (B) (C)

7

Requests

A request is a polite way of asking someone to do something. Learn to recognize requests and the information in them.

TIP Listen for words that signal requests.

➔ **Examples**

If you hear these question types, which begin with these common request markers, listen to see what is being requested.

Requests

Can you	}	speak louder?
May I		
Would you		
Could you		
Do you think you could		
How about	}	speaking louder?
Would you mind		

The answers to those questions are usually polite responses that acknowledge a request. If you see or hear answers like these, look or listen for questions that make a request.

Answers

Of course.	I'm sorry. I can't.
Is this OK?	Regretfully, no.
No problem.	Not at all. I'd be glad to.
Certainly.	I'd be happy to.

Track
15

EXERCISE

Choose the best response to each question.

1. (A) (B) (C)
2. (A) (B) (C)
3. (A) (B) (C)

NEW TOEIC—PART 2: QUESTION-RESPONSE

There are NO changes in Part 2: Question-Response in the types of questions. The skills and strategies to prepare for Part 2 are the same for both the current and the new TOEIC.

There will be fewer questions. There are only 25 rather than 30 questions.

PRACTICE

Track
16

Directions: You will hear a question and three possible responses. Choose the response that most closely answers the question and fill in the corresponding oval on your answer sheet.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. (A) (B) (C) | 11. (A) (B) (C) | 21. (A) (B) (C) |
| 2. (A) (B) (C) | 12. (A) (B) (C) | 22. (A) (B) (C) |
| 3. (A) (B) (C) | 13. (A) (B) (C) | 23. (A) (B) (C) |
| 4. (A) (B) (C) | 14. (A) (B) (C) | 24. (A) (B) (C) |
| 5. (A) (B) (C) | 15. (A) (B) (C) | 25. (A) (B) (C) |
| 6. (A) (B) (C) | 16. (A) (B) (C) | |
| 7. (A) (B) (C) | 17. (A) (B) (C) | |
| 8. (A) (B) (C) | 18. (A) (B) (C) | |
| 9. (A) (B) (C) | 19. (A) (B) (C) | |
| 10. (A) (B) (C) | 20. (A) (B) (C) | |

PART 3: CONVERSATIONS

Sample Questions

Directions: You will hear a short conversation between two people. You will see three questions on each conversation and four possible answers. Choose the best answer to each question and fill in the corresponding oval on your answer sheet. The conversations will not be printed and will be spoken only once.

- You will hear:
- Man: We'll need your medical history so take this form and fill it out, please.
- Woman: Will there be a long wait for my appointment?
- Man: No, the doctor is seeing patients on schedule.
- Woman: That's good news. The last time I was here, I waited almost an hour.
- Man: I'd say you won't have to be in the waiting room longer than a few minutes. Certainly not a half an hour. Not even twenty minutes.

Question 1

You will read: Where are the speakers?

- (A) At a sidewalk cafe
- (B) In a history class
- (C) At an airport check-in counter
- (D) In a physician's office

(A) (B) (C) (D)

The best response to the question "Where are the speakers?" is Choice (D), "In a physician's office." Therefore, you should choose answer (D).

Question 2

You will read: Who is likely talking?

- (A) A doctor and a nurse
- (B) A clerk and a shopper
- (C) A receptionist and a patient
- (D) A pilot and a passenger

(A) (B) (C) (D)

The best response to the question "Who is likely talking?" is Choice (C), "A receptionist and a patient." Therefore, you should choose answer (C).

Question 3

You will read: How long will the woman have to wait?

- (A) A little bit
- (B) Twenty minutes
- (C) Thirty minutes
- (D) Over an hour



The best response to the question “How long will the woman have to wait?” is Choice (A), “A little bit.” Therefore, you should choose answer (A).



Questions About People

On the TOEIC, questions about people are common. They ask you to identify the speaker or the performer of an action. Questions about people usually begin with *who*, although some what questions may also be about people.

TIP When you see a *who* question, listen for information about people.

Examples

If you see these question types, listen for answers about people.

Questions

<i>Questions with What</i>	<i>Questions with Who</i>
What is your name?	Who is taking part in this conversation?
What is her title?	Who is the man?
	Who is the woman?
	Who are the speakers?

Answers

<i>Proper names</i>	<i>Identification by activity or role</i>	<i>Identification by group</i>	<i>Identification by relationship</i>
Mr. Tanza	A tourist	Business people	His boss
Mrs. Green	A passenger	Family members	Her son
Ms. Hu	A driver	College students	Their teacher
Dr. Shapiro	A jogger		My colleague
			The woman's friend

EXERCISE

Choose the best answer to the question.

1. Who are the speakers?

- (A) Lifeguards at the beach
- (B) Painters
- (C) Salespeople selling coats
- (D) Bartenders

(A) (B) (C) (D)

2. Who will prepare the wall?

- (A) The man
- (B) The woman
- (C) The boss
- (D) The helper

(A) (B) (C) (D)

3. Who owns the house?

- (A) The man's father
- (B) The man's mother
- (C) The man's brother
- (D) The man's friend

(A) (B) (C) (D)