## **TOEIC** Overview

The **Test of English for International Communication**, or **TOEIC**, is an international standardized test of English language proficiency for non-native English language speakers. It is intentionally designed to measure the everday English skills of people working in an international environment.

The TOEIC exam comes in different forms:

- 1. **TOEIC Listening & Reading Test** consists of two equally graded tests of comprehension assessment activities totaling a possible 990 score.
- 2. TOEIC Speaking & Writing Test. The Reading test is composed of tasks that assess pronunciation, intonation and stress, vocabulary, grammar, cohesion, relevance of content and completeness of content. The Writing test is composed of tasks that assess grammar, relevance of sentences to the pictures, quality and variety of sentences, vocabulary, organization, and whether the opinion is supported with reason and/or examples. Both assessments use a score scale of 0 200.

In Thailand, the Listening & Reading Test is done almost exclusively. This test is made up of 200 multiple choice questions (100 for listening, 100 for reading), and is conducted over 2 hours. In 2020, the balance of question types was adjusted following the redesign in 2006. As of 2020, the breakdown of questions is as follows:

## Listening (45 minutes) - four parts

- 1. **Photographs** [6 questions] Students hear 4 statements about a picture in the test book. Select the one statement that best describes what is seen in the picture.
- 2. **Question-Response** [25 questions] Students hear a question or statement, followed by three responses spoken in English. Select the best response to the question or statement.
- **3.** Short Conversations [39 questions] Students hear some conversations between two or more people, and are asked to answer three questions about what the speakers say in each conversation. Select the best response to each question.
- 4. Short Talks [30 questions] Students hear some talks given by a single speaker, and are asked three questions about what the speaker says in each talk. Select the best response to each question.

## Reading (75 minutes) - three parts

- 5. Incomplete Sentences [30 questions] A word or phrase is missing in each of the sentences. Select the best answer to complete the sentence.
- 6. **Text Completion** [16 questions] Student reads a text with a word or phrase missing in some of the sentences. Select the best answer to complete the text.
- **7. Reading Comprehension** *[54 questions]* Student reads a selection of texts, such as magazine or newspaper articles. Each text is followed by several questions. Select the best answer for each question.

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Students in Thailand usually take the TOEIC exam for one of three reasons:

- 1. To apply for a job which has a minimum required score
- 2. To apply for a promotion within their company which has a minimum required score
- 3. To qualify for a raise or bonus once a minimum required score has been obtained

The score required is at the discretion of the company or organization, though 500-750 is the most common range.

While the TOEIC exam does not have a one-to-one CEFR equivilant, it is possible to estimate a range based on current CEFR levels.

CEFR <b>A1 - C2</b>	TOEIC 10 - 990
C2	900 - 990
Cl	750 - 900
B2	600 - 750
B1	500 - 600
A2	250 - 500
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Assuming the student is already at the CEFR level on the left, after completing a TOEIC preparation course of 30 lessons, it is reasonable to expect a score of:

A1 - Not recommended A2 - 250 to 500 B1 - 500 to 600 B2 - 600 to 750 C1 - 750 to 900 C2 - 900 to 990

These scores are for the Listening and Reading test, exclusively.

TOEIC is not easy, nor is it impossible. Many students panic after only a few lessons of study, wondering how they will ever reach the level necessary to get their target score. The answer? **Patience** and **perseverance**.

No one can achieve their target score overnight, unless they weren't aiming high enough! Work on objectives one at a time. Lots of small improvements can eventually add up to vast increases in final scores! The good news is that you have come to the right place.

Our teachers will **work with you**, and focus on developing the skills that you need to improve the most. You can either follow our teachers' plans, or if you prefer we can target the areas that you believe to be your weakness. Feel free to make any specific requests you may have to our staff or teachers at any time.