

TOEFL vs IELTS

search on the internet by Duncan
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<http://secure.vec.bc.ca/toefl-equivalency-table.cfm>

The table below shows comparisons between various test scores and level systems (like TOEIC, TOEFL and IELTS) and the VEC level system. Use this table to compare your own score or VEC level with the approximate equivalent score of another test.

TOEIC	TOEFL Paper	TOEFL CBT	TOEFL IBT	IELTS	Cambridge Exam	CEFR	VEC Online Score	Approximate VEC Level
0 - 250	0 - 310	0 - 30	0 - 8	0 - 1.0			0 - 34	<u>2</u>
	310 - 343	33 - 60	9 - 18	1.0 - 1.5		A1	35 - 38	<u>3</u>
255 - 400	347 - 393	63 - 90	19 - 29	2.0 - 2.5		A1	39 - 45	<u>4 - 5</u>
	397 - 433	93 - 120	30 - 40	3.0 - 3.5	KET (IELTS 3.0)	A2	46 - 53	<u>6 - 7</u>
					PET (IELTS 3.5)	B1 (IELTS 3.5)		
405 - 600	437 - 473	123 - 150	41 - 52	4.0	PET	B1	54 - 57	<u>8</u>
	477 - 510	153 - 180	53 - 64	4.5 - 5.0	PET (IELTS 4.5)	B1 (IELTS 4.5)	58 - 65	<u>9 - 10</u>
					FCE (IELTS 5.0)	B2 (IELTS 5.0)		
605 - 780	513 - 547	183 - 210	65 - 78	5.5 - 6.0	FCE	B2	66 - 73	<u>11 - 12</u>
	550 - 587	213 - 240	79 - 95	6.5 - 7.0	CAE	C1	74 - 81	<u>13 - 14</u>
785 - 990	590 - 677	243 - 300	96 - 120	7.5 - 9.0	CPE	C2	82 - 100	<u>15</u>
Top Score	Top Score	Top Score	Top Score	Top Score	Top Score	Top Level	Top Score	Top Level
990	677	300	120	9	100	C2	100	<u>15</u>

<http://www.mytoeflsuccess.com/toefl-test/toefl-ielts.htm>

The final pressing question, which bothers the majority of the prospective test-takers, is which of the two is more difficult. There is no definite satisfying answer, for it depends on the knowledge and preparation of a test-taker, and tests itself (both tests change every time they are taken).

However, it is generally believed that **IELTS** is more difficult because of its speaking section, where students are obliged to participate in something like an interview with a professional face to face. Besides, unlike the **TOEFL** test, **IELTS** doesn't define strictly and exactly the criteria by which self-expression tasks of writing and speaking are judged, and listening and reading tasks tend to contain plenty of 'tricky' questions, as said by both teachers and students.

<http://www.franklinedu.org/eduen/Vancouver-ESL-School-FAQs/Vancouver/which-is-hardest-the-toefl-ibt-cael-or-ielts.html>

TOEFL vs. IELTS

- **Listening**

Both the [TOEFL](#) and [IELTS](#) require a certain level of vocabulary. The [TOEFL](#) poses questions on campus and academic topics whereas the [IELTS](#) is more comprehensive. Subject and accent-wise, the [TOEFL](#) has a more North American bias; the [IELTS](#) is predominantly British.

- **Speaking**

The [TOEFL](#) iBT presents tasks where Listening, Reading, and Speaking are integrated. This may appear to be daunting. However, since responses are recorded, it is difficult for graders to determine the test-taker's abilities through non-verbal cues. Because of this, graders tend to avoid giving scores that are too high or too low. They tend to look out for fluency and logical progression of ideas. Most students can score in the low to mid-20s range. As the [IELTS](#) is conducted through face-to-face interviews, students have an easier time preparing for the IELTS. Graders will also be able to make accurate assessments of the test-taker's abilities through non-verbal cues more easily.

- **Reading**

The [TOEFL](#) and [IELTS](#) are similar in length and difficulty, but they pose different types of questions. [TOEFL](#) questions are more predictable and easier to prepare for; [IELTS](#) questions are more varied.

Practice tests are useful in that they provide important background knowledge on the reading articles. However, students should spend time working on and familiarizing themselves with actual test questions. For either the [TOEFL](#) or IELTS, a solid foundation in English is crucial. FELC's Reading programs help students to expand their vocabularies rapidly so they may handle the Reading and Writing sections with ease. On average, our students achieve 24 points for Reading.

- **Writing**

Both the [TOEFL](#) and [IELTS](#) are similar in difficulty.

The [TOEFL](#) iBT writing section requires students to first read a short academic passage, then listen to a lecture, and finally write an essay. This is really a test of the student's integrated abilities of Reading, Listening, and Writing. It seems difficult, but is really quite easy. Writing topics for the [IELTS](#) are more varied. They include topics on the government, environment, media, crime, culture, animals, and other controversial subjects.

<http://www.english-test.net/forum/ftopic8975.html>

The TOEFL contains very specific language questions which makes it easier to prepare for it than for the IELTS. There are more preparation materials available for the TOEFL than for the IELTS, the TOEFL is more widely recognized than the IELTS and the TOEFL is computer based with makes the registration process much easier for you.

(...) as for the exam I'd choose IELTS which I consider better than TOEFL, in particular because it offers an oral exam with a face to face conversation instead of a computer.

Now IELTS is generally accepted all over USA (it was not like that in the start) and it's still more popular than TOEFL in other countries such as UK and Australia (since it's managed by British Council, University of Cambridge and IDP).

The rest? TOEFL is not bad at all, the point is that for me IELTS is better, it seems to me more professional (I got both and saw the difference)