



TOEFL Young Students Series (YSS) Writing Tests

August 2023



TOEFL YSS Solutions

Skill	 <i>TOEFL Junior</i>	 <i>TOEFL Primary</i>
Reading	TOEFL Junior Standard	TOEFL Primary Reading & Listening Step 1 and Step 2
Listening	TOEFL Junior Standard	TOEFL Primary Reading & Listening Step 1 and Step 2
Speaking	TOEFL Junior Speaking	TOEFL Primary Speaking
Writing	 TOEFL Junior Writing	 TOEFL Primary Writing



TOEFL YSS Writing Tests



Administered
via computer



Measures writing
ability through
communicative
tasks



Machine scored; uses
natural language
processing and AI



Fixed
administrations
with scheduled
testing dates



August 2023
launch date



Why Use TOEFL YSS Writing Tests?

- 4 skills testing now available for young learners!
- Determine instructional plans for writing
- Identify student strengths and weaknesses in their writing
- Shape communication with parents about student writing
- Research based design that reaches different writing levels within one assessment
- Same-day score reporting



Snapshot of TOEFL YSS Writing Tests

Test	Number of Questions	Score	Approx. Testing Time
TOEFL Junior Writing	5	0–16	40 min
TOEFL Primary Writing	19	0–17	30 min



TOEFL YSS Writing Tests

Learning Objectives and Communication Goals

TOEFL Junior Writing

- Identify correct grammatical and/or mechanics forms in a written academic text
- Use written language effectively to communicate social/interpersonal information
- Produce effective paragraphs in a range of genres across academic subjects

TOEFL Primary Writing

- Describe people, objects, animals, places, activities, and situations
- Read a peer's writing and making appropriate edits in order to make the texts meaningful and accurate
- Sequence a simple event
- Write a short, coherent story



TOEFL YSS Writing Tests: Score Report

- Linked to the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) with levels ranging from:
 - below A1 to B1 (Primary)
 - below A2 to B2 (Junior)
- Provides a score with a CEFR profile
- Provides descriptors of the English-language abilities typical of test takers within a particular score range



TOEFL Junior Writing: Score Report Sample (1)

ETS TOEFL Junior. TOEFL Junior® Official Score Report
Writing

Student Name: Your Name
Student Number: 26792 Date of Birth: 7 July 2011 Gender: F
Test Date: 29 May 2023

Test Center, Country

Writing

A typical student who scores between 13 and 16 can do all of the following:

 14

CEFR Level
B2

- Correctly complete sentences in a written text nearly all of the time
- Produce simple and complex sentences accurately
- Provide answers to informal questions, and the answers are clear, complete and appropriate
- Express an opinion on a school-related topic, almost always with substantial detail and development
- Understand and accurately convey all main ideas and supporting details from an academic lecture, with almost no omissions



TOEFL Junior Writing: Score Report Sample (2)

Score Range	CEFR	Proficiency Descriptors
13-16	B2	<p>A typical student within this score range can do all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Correctly complete sentences in a written text nearly all of the time• Produce simple and complex sentences accurately• Provide answers to informal questions, and the answers are clear, complete and appropriate• Express an opinion on a school-related topic, almost always with substantial detail and development• Understand and accurately convey all main ideas and supporting details from an academic lecture, with almost no omissions

TOEFL Primary Writing: Score Report Sample (1)

		Official Score Report	
Student Name: Your name		Date of Birth: 7 July 2011	
Student Number: 96789		Gender: M	
Test Date: 29 May 2023			
Writing			
The Student's Level is:			
			
3 Out of 4 Ribbons			
<hr/>			
Students at this score range are typically able to describe familiar situations and begin to connect ideas in narratives. They typically can:			
<hr/>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use their vocabulary knowledge to name and describe some everyday actions and objects, such as daily routines, clothes, body parts, animals, and school supplies• Produce short narrative texts with some details about everyday events• Use transition words to give coherence to parts of a text (examples: <i>and, then, but, first, next, and finally</i>)• Construct simple sentences and questions with some correct syntax, word choice, and grammatical forms			
<hr/>			
To improve their writing ability, students should practice:			
<hr/>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Producing short narrative texts in which all the details are connected so that the entire story is coherent• Writing complex sentences by using a wider vocabulary and a variety of grammatical forms and structures			
<hr/>			
CEFR Level: A2			
The student received 14 out of 17 points.			



TOEFL Primary Writing: Score Report Sample (2)

Score Range	CEFR	Proficiency Descriptors
11-15	A2	<p>Students at this score range are typically able to describe familiar situations and begin to connect ideas in narratives. They typically can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use their vocabulary knowledge to name and describe some everyday actions and objects, such as daily routines, clothes, body parts, animals, and school supplies• Produce short narrative texts with some details about everyday events• Use transition words to give coherence to parts of a text (examples: <i>and</i>, <i>then</i>, <i>but</i>, <i>first</i>, <i>next</i>, and <i>finally</i>)• Construct simple sentences and questions with some correct syntax, word choice, and grammatical forms



Test Content: TOEFL Junior Writing



TOEFL Junior Writing

- 5 questions, about 40 minutes
- Students read directions and test questions and listen to the Listen-Write task.
 - Headphones are required for in-classroom testing.
- Students type their responses on a computer or tablet.
- Responses to the Edit task are machine scored.
- Responses to the remaining tasks are scored using Natural Language Processing technology and artificial intelligence capabilities.

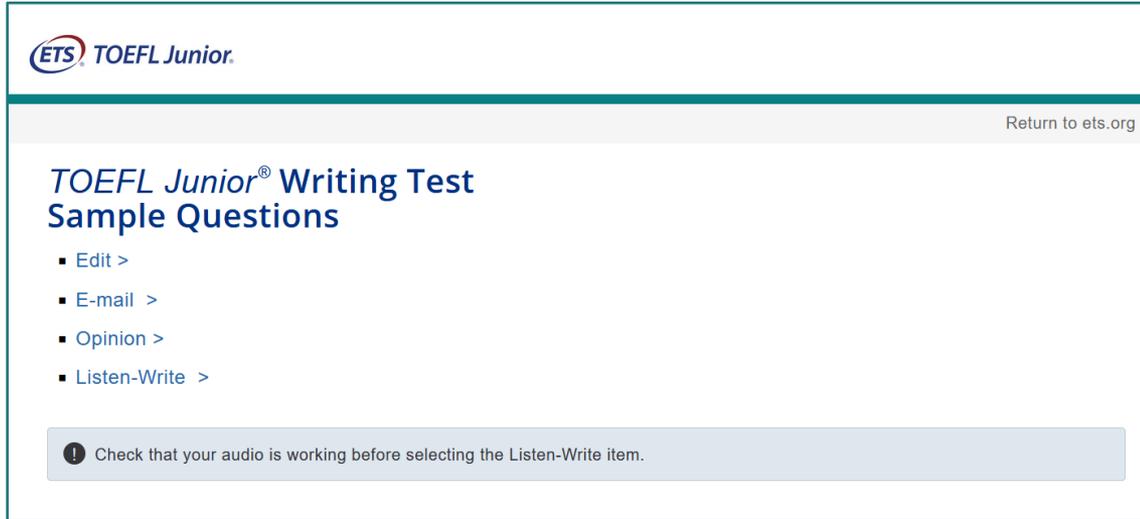


TOEFL Junior Writing Tasks

Tasks	Skills Assessed
Edit	Enabling skills (grammatical and mechanical) that underlie communicative writing skills
E-mail	Use of everyday language, syntax, and vocabulary
Opinion	Ability to express and provide support for an opinion
Listen Write	Ability to understand an academic talk and provide the main points and important details



TOEFL Junior Writing Walkthrough



The screenshot shows the TOEFL Junior website interface. At the top left is the ETS TOEFL Junior logo. At the top right is a link that says "Return to ets.org". The main heading is "TOEFL Junior® Writing Test Sample Questions". Below this heading is a list of four menu items: "Edit >", "E-mail >", "Opinion >", and "Listen-Write >". At the bottom of the page, there is a light blue notification box with an information icon and the text: "Check that your audio is working before selecting the Listen-Write item."

 **ETS TOEFL Junior.**

[Return to ets.org](#)

TOEFL Junior® Writing Test Sample Questions

- [Edit >](#)
- [E-mail >](#)
- [Opinion >](#)
- [Listen-Write >](#)

 Check that your audio is working before selecting the Listen-Write item.





Test Content: TOEFL Primary Writing



TOEFL Primary Writing

- 19 total questions, about 30 minutes
- Students listen to directions, view pictures, and read test questions.
 - Headphones are required for in-classroom testing.
- Questions are presented as part of a scenario.
- Students type their responses on a computer or tablet.
- Responses to the first three tasks are machine scored.
- Responses to the final task are scored using Natural Language Processing technology and artificial intelligence capabilities.



TOEFL Primary Writing – At a Glance

Tasks	Examples	Scaffolding Questions	Scored Questions
Write a Word	1	0	5
Build a Sentence	1	0	5
Edit a Text	0	0	4
Write a Story	1	3	1



TOEFL Primary Writing Tasks

Tasks	Skills Assessed
Write a Word	Describe people, objects, animals, places, activities, and situations & enabling skills (e.g., vocabulary, spelling)
Build a Sentence	Describe people, objects, animals, places, activities, and situations & enabling skills (e.g., using English syntax)
Edit a Text	Read a peer's writing and making appropriate edits in order to make the texts meaningful and accurate
Write a Story	Sequence a simple event; write a short, coherent story

TOEFL Primary Writing Walkthrough



[Return to ets.org](#)

TOEFL Primary® Writing Test Sample Questions

- [Write a Word >](#)
- [Build a Sentence >](#)
- [Edit a Text >](#)
- [Write a Story >](#)

 Check that your audio is working before selecting an item.



Thank you!



Sample questions:

<https://www.ets.org/toefl/junior/prepare.html>

<https://www.ets.org/toefl/primary/prepare.html>



TOEFL Junior Writing Task 1: Edit

The paragraph below contains four blanks. Select the correct option to complete each sentence. You will have **2 minutes and 30 seconds**. When you have finished, select **Next**.

When the Vikings traveled the seas, they sometimes depended on the instincts of birds to help them . On foggy days, crew members released large black birds ravens to see which way the ship should travel. If the ship was to land, the ravens flew directly to shore. The Vikings used information to plot the course of their voyage along the coastline.



TOEFL Junior Writing Task 2: E-mail

Now you will read an e-mail. Then you will write a reply to the e-mail. Your reply should answer all of the questions in the e-mail you read. You will have **7 minutes** to read the e-mail and write your reply. Write in complete sentences. When you are finished, check your writing for grammar, spelling, and punctuation.

From: Chris
Sent: April 10, 11:30 A.M.
To: Pat
Subject: Chess club

Dear Pat,

We have been talking about starting a chess club at school. I wanted to get your opinion about how we should do it.

How often should we meet? Why?

Where should we meet? Why?

Finally, we need to advertise our new chess club to attract a lot of members. What do you think is the best way to do this?

Thanks for helping me with this!

Chris

Imagine that you are going to help Chris start a chess club. Write a response to Chris's e-mail. In your response, be sure to answer each of Chris's questions.

From: Pat
To: Chris
Subject: RE: Chess club

Copy

Cut

Paste

Undo

Redo

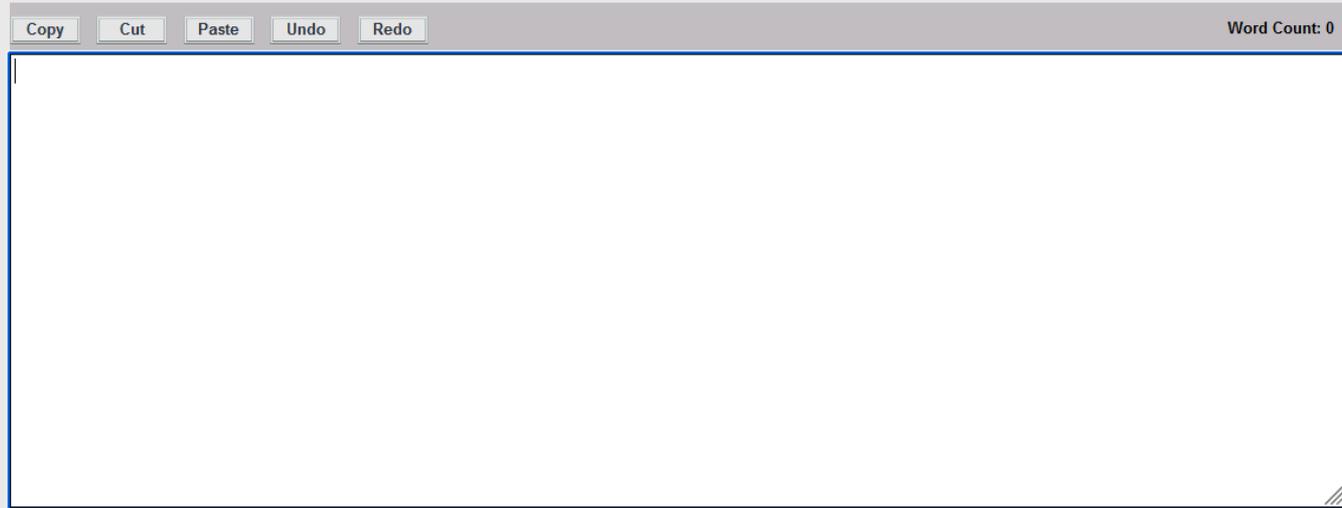
Word Count: 0

Empty text area for writing a response to the email.

TOEFL Junior Writing Task 3: Opinion

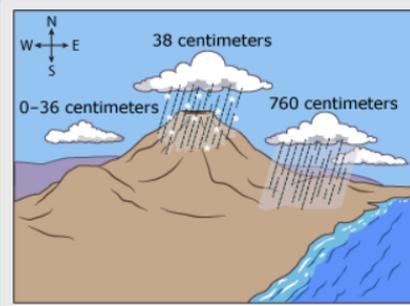
Now you will write a paragraph expressing your opinion on a topic. You will have **10 minutes** to plan and write your response. Be sure to include reasons and examples to support your opinion. Write in complete sentences. When you are finished writing, check your response for grammar, spelling, and punctuation. Your paragraph should be between 100 and 150 words long.

Some people think that students should not be allowed to have mobile phones in school. Others think that it is acceptable for students to have mobile phones in school. What do you think?



The image shows a writing interface. At the top, there is a toolbar with five buttons: Copy, Cut, Paste, Undo, and Redo. To the right of the toolbar, it says "Word Count: 0". Below the toolbar is a large, empty rectangular text area with a blue border, intended for the student to write their response. A small cursor is visible at the top left of the text area.

TOEFL Junior Writing Task 4: Listen-Write Academic



Annual Rainfall on Mauna Kea

Write a paragraph that explains the reasons for the different amounts of rainfall around Mauna Kea. Be sure to include as many details as possible in your answer. Write in complete sentences. When you are finished writing, check your response for grammar, spelling, and punctuation. You have **10 minutes** to write your response.

Copy

Cut

Paste

Undo

Redo

Word Count: 0

A large, empty rectangular box for writing the response, with a small cursor icon in the bottom right corner.

TOEFL Primary Writing Task 1: Write a Word

Directions

Meet Sarah, Kelly, and Lucas. Their school day is over. You are going to write about what Sarah, Kelly, and Lucas do after school.

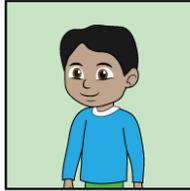
Select **Next** to go on.



Sarah



Kelly



Lucas

Look at the picture. Then type the missing word in the sentence.



Sarah puts her books on her .

TOEFL Primary Writing Task 2: Build a Sentence

Look at the picture. Then select the words in the correct order to write the sentence.



					.
--	--	--	--	--	---

rules	children	The	the	read
-------	----------	-----	-----	------

TOEFL Primary Writing Task 3: Edit a Text

Kelly wrote about someone from history, and she needs some help with her writing. For each box, select the correct word or phrase.

Ralph Baer is called the father of video games. Baer

(A) working

(B) worked

(C) will work

as an inventor.

In the 1960s, he had an idea

(A) at

(B) by

(C) for

television sets. Television was very popular

in the 1960s, and Baer believed

(A) that

(B) which

(C) how

people could do more with television than

TOEFL Primary Writing Task 4: Write a Story

Directions

These four pictures show a story about a game.

Your friend wants to know what happened. You are going to write the story for your friend.

First you are going to answer some questions in complete sentences. Then you will use your answers to help you write the story. Select **Next** to go on.

