

Correlation Table

TOEIC[®] Speaking and Writing Scores Descriptors and the CEFR levels*

1

Identify the minimum score nearest to the achieved score for each part

2

Translate the achieved score for each part into the corresponding CEFR level*

3

Find the general description related to the achieved score for each part

Total minimum score frequently required by higher education and companies

| TOEIC [®] Scores for each part Minimum scores needed per level (0 to 200 pts) | CEFR levels* | | General Description |
|---|---|-----------|---|
| 180 pts⁽¹⁾ for Speaking 180 pts⁽¹⁾ for Writing | Proficient user - Effective Operational Proficiency | C1 | Can understand a wide range of demanding, longer texts, and recognise implicit meaning. Can express him/herself fluently and spontaneously without much obvious searching for expressions. Can use language flexibly and effectively for social, academic and professional purposes. Can produce clear, well-structured, detailed text on complex subjects, showing controlled use of organisational patterns, connectors and cohesive devices. |
| 160 pts for Speaking 150 pts for Writing | Independent user - Vantage | B2 | Can understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialisation. Can interact with a degree of fluency and spontaneity that makes regular interaction with native speakers quite possible without strain for either party. Can produce clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options. |
| 120 pts for Speaking 120 pts for Writing | Independent user - Threshold | B1 | Can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc. Can deal with most situations likely to arise whilst travelling in an area where the language is spoken. Can produce simple connected text on topics which are familiar or of personal interest. Can describe experiences and events, dreams, hopes and ambitions and briefly give reasons and explanations for opinions and plans. |
| 90 pts for Speaking 70 pts for Writing | Basic user - Waystage | A2 | Can understand sentences and frequently used expressions related to areas of most immediate relevance (e.g. very basic personal and family information, shopping, local geography, employment). Can communicate in simple and routine tasks requiring a simple and direct exchange of information on familiar and routine matters. Can describe in simple terms aspects of his/her background, immediate environment and matters in areas of immediate need. |
| 50 pts for Speaking 30 pts for Writing | Basic user - Breakthrough | A1 | Can understand and use familiar everyday expressions and very basic phrases aimed at the satisfaction of needs of a concrete type. Can introduce him/herself and others and can ask and answer questions about personal details such as where he/she lives, people he/she knows and things he/she has. Can interact in a simple way provided the other person talks slowly and clearly and is prepared to help. |

* CEFR: The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages outlines an ascending series of common reference levels for describing learner proficiency. This CEFR describes both knowledge and skills in positive "can do" statements at six levels of proficiency for different language skills from A1 level (Basic User - Breakthrough) to C2 level (Proficient User - Mastery).

The benchmarking study of the TOEIC[®] Speaking and Writing scores to the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) was conducted by Tannenbaum, R.J., & Wylie, E.C.-2006. The results of the standard setting are recommended minimum score requirements, or cut scores. The mapping of TOEIC scores to each CEFR level in this particular study are presented as guidelines for minimum thresholds for each level. ETS does not recommend to use the minimum cut scores strictly.

For more information about this study please contact us at cef@etsglobal.org

N.B: For A1 to B1 levels ETS advises to take the TOEIC Bridge[™].

TOEIC[®] Speaking and Writing scores are reported in 10-point increments. No total score is reported.

⁽¹⁾ These cut scores were adjusted from the recommended study values.