

TOEFL iBT — Mock Paper 7

Anusuya Dash English Academy

Free sample paper - for practice only. Not an official exam paper.

Student name: _____ **Date:** _____

This mock mirrors the TOEFL iBT structure (Reading, Listening, Speaking, Writing) in a shortened, practice-friendly form. Speaking and Listening are conducted live (see add-on fees).

Section 1 — Reading (18 minutes, 10 questions)

Passage: The Domestication of the Horse

The domestication of the horse ranks among the most consequential events in human history, yet pinning down when and where it happened has proved unexpectedly difficult. Unlike cattle or sheep, early domestic horses differed little in bone structure from their wild relatives, so archaeologists cannot rely on skeletons alone. Instead they have assembled a case from indirect clues.

One line of evidence is dental. Horses that are bitted — controlled by a mouthpiece — develop a distinctive wear pattern on their premolars. Excavations of the Botai culture in northern Kazakhstan, dated to around 3500 BCE, revealed exactly this wear, suggesting the animals were being ridden or driven. A second clue came from pottery: chemical residues on Botai vessels matched the fatty acids of mare's milk, implying that horses were not merely hunted but milked, a practice only possible with tamed animals.

Genetics has since complicated the story. Analysis of ancient horse DNA showed that the Botai horses were not, in fact, the ancestors of most modern domestic horses; that lineage instead spread rapidly from the lower Volga region several centuries later, around 2200 BCE, displacing other populations. It appears domestication may have happened more than once, with one especially successful lineage eventually dominating.

Whatever its precise origin, the domestic horse transformed the ancient world. It multiplied the speed at which people, goods and ideas could travel, reshaped warfare, and knitted together the vast steppe with settled civilisations to its south. Few single species have so thoroughly rewired human society.

Questions 1-10

1. Why is it hard to identify early domestic horses from skeletons? (A) Bones rarely survive (B) They resembled wild horses (C) Horses were cremated (D) They were very small
2. The word "consequential" in paragraph 1 is closest in meaning to: (A) unfortunate (B) important (C) recent (D) confusing
3. What does premolar wear indicate? (A) old age (B) poor diet (C) use of a bit (D) disease
4. The Botai pottery residue suggests horses were: (A) hunted only (B) milked (C) sacrificed (D) sold
5. According to the passage, the Botai horses were: (A) the ancestors of modern horses (B) not the ancestors of most modern horses (C) never tamed (D) wild donkeys
6. Modern domestic horses mainly descend from a lineage from: (A) Kazakhstan (B) the lower Volga (C) Arabia (D) China

7. The word “displacing” in paragraph 3 is closest in meaning to: (A) joining (B) replacing (C) feeding (D) counting
8. The passage suggests domestication: (A) happened only once (B) never truly happened (C) may have happened more than once (D) is fully understood
9. Which is NOT mentioned as an effect of the domestic horse? (A) faster travel (B) changes in warfare (C) linking steppe and settled peoples (D) the invention of writing
10. The main purpose of the passage is to: (A) argue horses should not be ridden (B) explain how horse domestication is reconstructed from indirect evidence (C) describe modern horse breeds (D) compare horses and cattle

Section 2 — Listening (10 questions) — conducted live

Questions 1-10 (write short answers)

1. Bioluminescence differs from fluorescence because it generates light _____.
2. Name the light-producing molecule: _____
3. Name the enzyme involved: _____
4. The third ingredient required is: _____
5. The light is called “_____ light” because little heat is produced.
6. Roughly what fraction of deep-sea animals can produce light? _____
7. Anglerfish use light as a _____ to attract prey.
8. Some squid release a cloud of light instead of _____.
9. Glowing on the underside to hide one’s silhouette is called _____.
10. Many deep-sea animals get luciferin from their diet or from _____.

Section 3 — Speaking (conducted live — book a slot)

Task 1 (Independent): Some students prefer to study alone; others prefer to study in groups. Which do you prefer and why? (15 sec prep, 45 sec response.)

Task 2 (Integrated): Read the short campus announcement below (45 sec), then respond to the point made in the accompanying conversation. *Announcement: The university library will reduce its opening hours on weekends to save costs, closing at 6 p.m. instead of 10 p.m.* Prompt: The speaker in the conversation disagrees with the change. State their opinion and the reasons they give. (30 sec prep, 60 sec response — teacher supplies the spoken opinion live.)

Section 4 — Writing (Integrated + Independent)

Integrated Writing (20 minutes, 150-225 words). *Read the passage, then summarise how the points made in the lecture (delivered live by the teacher) cast doubt on the reading.* Reading passage — “Should cities ban private cars from centres?”: Supporters of banning private cars from city centres argue three benefits: cleaner air, because vehicle emissions fall; safer streets, because pedestrians face fewer accidents; and livelier commerce, because people linger and spend more when streets are pleasant. (The teacher will deliver a lecture that challenges each of these three points; the student summarises the challenges.)

Independent Writing (30 minutes, at least 300 words). *Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? “It is better to have a broad general education than to specialise early in one subject.” Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer.*

How to get this corrected

Attempt the Reading and Writing sections under timed conditions, then send photos or a document of your answers to **Anusuya Dash** on WhatsApp at **+91 99374 98972**. You will receive your marked paper within 48 hours with an estimated band/score, every error explained, and a personal improvement note - completely free.

The Listening and Speaking sections of this paper are conducted live. Ask about the demo session.

Website: <https://anusuyadash.neocities.org>