TOEFL® Research: The Foundation of Quality Tests

Tests based in research are tests you can trust. For more than 50 years, the TOEFL® research program has pioneered new ways to assess English-language proficiency and advanced the understanding of English-language learning. Today, the program continues to respond to the needs of score users by researching and developing new assessments for English learners with diverse backgrounds and across age groups.

No other English tests have the research basis and quality processes of the TOEFL tests, which include:



Publishing extensive research, including more than 500 peer-reviewed reports, books, journal articles and book chapters to support TOEFL test design and validity

Building validity into the test design from the beginning by drawing on a solid research base, in-depth needs analyses and extensive input from English-language experts



Repeatedly re-examining test validity, fairness and reliability to ensure the quality of TOEFL scores and help you make the best decisions about test takers

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Standing behind claims that TOEFL scores reflect the actual English communication skills of test takers, based on the extensive peer-reviewed ETS research and independent research by leading experts

Working with the TOEFL Board and the TOEFL Committee of Examiners to support a research program that furthers knowledge in the fields of language assessment, language teaching and second-language acquisition.

The TOEFL Family of Assessments

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