




Test Comparison Guide




Differences between the DET, IELTS, TOEFL and PTE for English language testing trainers and counselors

Overview				
TESTS	duolingo english test	IELTS™	TOEFL.	Pearson PTE
Cost	\$65	\$200-300	\$200-300	\$200-300
Duration	About 1 hour	2 hours 45 minutes	2 hours 30 minutes	2 hours
Registration	No fixed test dates or times. No prior registration required.	Test dates and times are fixed. Registration must be done in advance.	Test dates and times are fixed. Registration must be done in advance.	Test dates and times are fixed. Registration must be done in advance.
Accessibility	The test can be taken at home or any other location with a stable connection. Test takers may find it less stressful as they can take the test in a familiar space.	The test can only be taken at specified test centers.	The test can be taken at home or at specified test centers.	The test can be taken at specified test centers. The 'at-home' version of the test is not accepted for visas in some countries.
Results	2 days	Up to 2 weeks	8 days	Between 2-5 days
Sharing scores	Scores can be sent to an unlimited number of schools, for free. Students do not need to select the schools they'll share scores with, in advance.	Scores can be sent to 5 schools for free. Additional score reports can be shared for a cost of USD 3.75 per additional university.	Scores can be sent to 4 schools for free. Additional score reports can be shared for a cost of USD 25 per additional university.	Scores can be sent to an unlimited number of schools, for free.
Practice	The practice test available on the DET website can be taken on a desktop or mobile phone an unlimited number of times, for free.	Limited free practice materials	The practice test available on the TOEFL website can be taken an unlimited number of times, for free.	Limited free practice materials
Skills assessed	Speaking, Listening, Reading, Writing	Speaking, Listening, Reading, Writing	Speaking, Listening, Reading, Writing	Speaking, Listening, Reading, Writing
Sections	2 (mixed language skills + speaking and writing samples)	4 (reading + listening + writing + speaking)	4 (reading + listening + writing + speaking)	3 (speaking & writing + reading + listening)




Speaking

TESTS	 duolingo english test	IELTS™	 ETS TOEFL	 Pearson PTE
Format	There's 1 format: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respond to an audio, visual or written prompt 	There is an interview in 3 parts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General questions on familiar topics Extended speaking in response to a topic Discussion with the examiner 	There are 2 formats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Independent question that asks for an opinion Integrated question where the test taker speaks in response to a prompt that involves both reading and listening 	There are multiple different question formats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Read Aloud Repeat Sentence Describe Image Re-tell Lecture Answer Short Question
Timing	12-13 minutes	40 minutes	36 minutes	30-43 minutes

Writing




TESTS	 duolingo english test	IELTS™	 ETS TOEFL	 Pearson PTE
Format	2 question formats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respond to a visual or written prompt Summarize the Conversation 	2 question formats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Report or Letter Discursive essay 	2 question formats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integrated writing task Writing for an Academic Discussion task 	2 question formats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summary task Essay
Timing	19 minutes	60 minutes	30 minutes	30 minutes
Time per question	Maximum 5 minutes per question	20 minutes for Task 1 and 40 minutes for Task 2	20 minutes for Integrated writing and 10 minutes for Academic Discussion	10 minutes for Summary Task 1 and 20 minutes for Essay

Reading

TESTS	 duolingo english test	IELTS™	 ETS TOEFL	 Pearson PTE
Question types	9 question types: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Read and Select Fill in the Blanks Read and Complete Read Aloud Complete the Sentences Complete the Passage Highlight the Answer Identify the Idea Title the Passage 	14 question types: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Matching Headings Matching Features Matching Paragraph True/False/Not Given Multiple Choice Sentence Completion Short Answer Diagram Completion Match Sentence Endings Flow-chart Completion Table Completion Summary Completion Choose a Title List of Options 	7 question types: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Vocabulary Rhetorical Purpose Factual Information Negative Factual Information Sentence Simplification Insert Text Prose Summary 	5 question types: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Fill in the Blanks Multiple Choice Multiple Answer Re-order Paragraphs Single Answer

Timing	28-38 minutes	60 minutes	35 minutes	30 minutes
Length	Passages are less than 150 words long.	Passages are around 700 - 1000 words long.	Passages are around 700 words long.	Passages are up to 300 words long.

Listening

TESTS	 duolingo english test	IELTS [™]	 ETS TOEFL	 Pearson PTE
Question types	2 question types: 1. Listen and Respond 2. Listen and Type	10 question types: 1. Matching 2. Multiple Choice 3. Note Completion 4. Form Completion 5. Table Completion 6. Sentence Completion 7. Summary Completion 8. Short Answer Questions 9. Map & Plan Labeling 10. Diagram & Flow Chart Completion	7 question types 1. Gist-Content and Gist-Purpose 2. Detail 3. Function 4. Attitude 5. Organization 6. Connecting Content 7. Inference	8 question types: 1. Summarize Spoken Text 2. Multiple Choice, Multiple Answers 3. Fill in the Blanks 4. Highlight Correct Summary 5. Multiple Choice, Single Answer 6. Select Missing Word 7. Highlight Incorrect Words 8. Write from Dictation
Timing	14-17 minutes	40 minutes	36 minutes	30-43 minutes
Length of audio	5-30 seconds	3-4 minutes	3-5 minutes	60-90 seconds