5 iBT TOEFL Independent Writing Task Practice Questions

Here are some essay topics that have appeared on previous actual iBT TOEFL tests. Practice your essay writing under test conditions. You must finish in 30 minutes and are expected to write a minimum of 300 words. Reading the topic and outlining are included in the 30 minutes. Be sure to allot a few of those minutes at the end for proofreading. The essay must be typed. Practice as many essays as possible. If you finish these, you can request more from the Writing Center or find more in practice test books.

1. Many people feel that natural resources such as air, oceans, rivers, and forests are under threat. If you could choose one resource to protect, which would it be? Why? Be sure to include specific reasons and examples in your answer.

2. In the modern world, is writing a more important skill or is speaking? Be sure to explain your reasoning with specific details and examples.

3. Read and think about the following statement:

   *Childhood is the most important time of a person’s life.*

   Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Be sure to explain your reasoning with specific details and examples.

4. Some people feel that students should be awarded for effort. Others think that students should only be rewarded for achievement and success. Which of these two viewpoints do you agree with? Provide specific reasons and details to support your answer.

5. Read and consider the following statement:

   *People nowadays spend too much time paying attention to the lives of famous people. They would be better off spending that time on more productive pursuits.*

   Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Why? Be sure to include details and examples in your answer.