

ETS TOEIC NEWS

Australia / New Zealand

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NEW TOEIC TEST DEVELOPMENTS

Students and clients alike continue to be a little apprehensive about the "New" TOEIC test, and it is worthwhile to pass back to you the latest news from the recent International Representatives meeting held in San Francisco in late January.

The new test has been launched in Japan and South Korea and the results are all encouraging, as we move towards the world-wide release in September of this year. Remember though, the old test series continues to be in use, and the hard evidence now confirms the parallel nature of the new and old tests.

Scores are able to be used from both tests with equal confidence, even though we have made the new test content even more "life like" and reflective of modern English usage.

The new optional speaking and writing tests have also been released in Japan and South Korea, fully trialling the Internet technologies involved in administration, scoring and feedback.

While we believe that the speaking and writing options will not be uniformly requested by students initially, we expect steadily increasing demand over time. Also these components will be attractive to Schools wishing to base their General English courses around TOE-IC, particularly in view of a new "on line" practice test for Speaking and Writing which is efficient and cost effective, and designed to assist students and teachers alike in the learning process. We will keep you advised of these features and benefits.

In the meantime, we are reassuring all students and clients about the usefulness and acceptability of both old and new TOEIC Test scores, despite the inevitable rumours and speculation which accompany any changes in everyday routines.

It is important to note there will be a cross over period of approx. 18 months to 2 years of both the New Test and Current Test being used simultaneously.



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1 MONTH WAITING POLICY CHANGED

A couple of weeks ago we received an update from ETS regarding the 1 Month Waiting Policy changing to 28 Days between tests.

This is a welcome outcome to months of discussions with ETS following your feedback. We have achieved our objective of making TOEIC testing more easily administered by test centres and suitable to candidates.

An email was sent to the TOEIC

Contact at your school a couple of weeks ago advising of this change and we have updated this on our website, in the Examinee Handbook Additional Page, and Proctor Supplement Additional Instructions.

Please ensure you ask each student that registers for a TOEIC Test if they have sat the test within the last 28 days from the test date as this will determine if they can sit the test or not.

TOEIC CERTIFICATES

We often have enquiries from Schools and Students asking if they can order a Certificate or Score Report after a test has been completed.

The answer is YES. Both can be ordered at any time.

We require the Certificate or Score Report to be ordered via email to our TOEIC@pro-match.com email address. We also require the details of the student including full name, date of birth, test date and name of test centre. Once we have this information we are then able to organise a copy of the certificate or score report to be sent out.

If the school orders a certificate or score report for the student we invoice the school directly. This means we send the certificate or score report straight away to the person placing the order from the school. The school can expect to receive an invoice within 1-2 weeks of ordering the Certificate or Score Report.

Alternatively, the student can order the score report or certificate directly with us, however we requirement payment prior to sending the results in the mail. We provide the student with banking details if required and mail the results once payment has been received. This

process does take longer for the student to receive their score report or certificate.

The cost of an extra **Score Report** is:

Australia \$13.00 New Zealand \$16.00 plus postage

The Cost of an extra **Certificate** is: **Australia** \$45.00 **New Zealand** \$50.00

plus postage.

Remember, it is cheaper to order the Certificate up front with the Test. A discount is given at this time.

RECYCLING EXAMINEE HANDBOOKS

As you know, TOEIC Examinee Handbooks are provided to each student to read through prior to taking the TOEIC Test.

The book provides sample questions, information they need to know leading up to the test date, as well as some rules and regulations that they must follow on the test day. It is extremely important that your students read this hand-

book before taking the TOEIC Test.

Students now have to fill in a section on the answer sheet that confirms they have read the handbook. They must sign and date this section which makes the answer sheet a legal document.

The handbook comes in paper, and is available on-line. We would like you to encourage your students to

read the book on-line, however, if they prefer to read the hard copy, we encourage you to ask them to return the book when they are finished so the book can be passed on to another student for the next test session. www.pro-match.com/toeic/students.html

Recycling is important for the environment and this is one easy way to reduce the amount of paper used. We hope you agree.

PRICE LIST CHANGE - REMINDER

Remember, our discount structure for pricing has changed from 1 January 2007.

This change is a favourable change and is designed to encourage and reward higher test numbers. Below is a comparison of the old discount structure and the new discount structure which you will be receiving. As you can see, it provides a substantial saving, the more students you have in one test session.

2006 Discounts: New Discounts from 1 Jan 2007

| 1-5 Candidates | = | 10.00% | 1-5 Candidates | = | 10.00% |
|----------------------|----|--------|---------------------|---|--------|
| 6-25 Candidates | = | 20.00% | 6-25 Candidates | = | 20.00% |
| 26-50 Candidates | = | 27.50% | 26-50 Candidates | = | 30.00% |
| 51-100 Candidates | = | 32.50% | 51-100 Candidates | = | 40.00% |
| 101- 500 Candidates | = | 35.00% | 101-500 Candidates | = | 50.00% |
| 501- 1000 Candidates | 3= | 37.50% | 501-1000 Candidates | = | 60.00% |
| 1001+ Candidates | = | 40.00% | 1001+ Candidates | = | 70.00% |

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TNT INCREASE FOR NZ TEST CENTRES

We have received notice from TNT that as of April 1, they will be increasing their international rates by 4.6%. As you would be aware, we charge at cost for courier and postage services.

New Zealand test centres receive a 50% discount on courier prices because we do not operate an office in New Zealand. This therefore increases the prices for international packages. To be fair to both our Australian and New Zealand clients, we provide this discount to ensure costs are similar for all test centres.

New Zealand test centres will notice an increase in the courier costs because of the 4.6% increase, however the discount will still apply to you, which ultimately means the price increase is only 2.3%

RANDOM AUDIT OF STUDENT BOOKS

Please note that we will be conducting random audits of students test books once they have been returned for scoring to ensure students are not writing in the test booklet

Just recently we had 9 students who had their tests cancelled and scores not reported because they wrote in the test booklet. They were advised of the rule at the beginning of the test session and the rule was also written on the board at the front of the room.

If a student is found to be writing in the test booklet, the proctor must advise them to stop. If they do stop we still need to know what has happened so please make a note of this on the incident report.

If a student blatantly ignores the Proctor and continues to write in the book please advise us of this situation. Any incidence of this is treated individually, and depending on the circumstances, we have the right to cancel the students test and they will not be given a refund.

During the Audit process, if we find students have written in the book and there is no explanation about this, we will be questioning the Proctor and appropriate action will be taken with the Proctor and the students test may not be scored.

Please note that the school will still be invoiced for a full test if a student's test is cancelled. This needs to be advised to your students that they will need to pay again if they want to re-sit the test and they must wait 28 days to do so.

MORE TEST CENTRES REACH 5 YEARS AS ATTC

Over the last 12 months we have been acknowledging our Authorised TOEIC Test Centres who have been regular TOEIC users for the last 5 years. In this edition of ETS TOEIC News we have many more Institutes to congratulate.

Australian College of English, Bondi

Career English College, Sydney

Christchurch Polytechnic, Christchurch

Embassy CES, Perth

ELSIS College, Sydney

Holmes College, Gold Coast

Holmes College, Sydney

International House Brisbane

International House Queensland, Cairns

Queensland International Business Academy, Coolangatta

SA Adelaide Language Centre, Adelaide

SACE Tasmanian College of English, Hobart

Sydney English Language Centre, Sydney

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www.pro-match.com/toeic

Pro-Match Personal Profiles Ltd have been representing ETS (Educational Testing Services) in Australia and New Zealand for the last 6 years.

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IMPORTANT POINTS & INTERESTING FACTS

* You must now be using the *Green* & White Official TOEIC Test Adminstration Procedures, Supplement and Examinee Handbook. If you are still using the *Blue* & White books, they must be thrown out and replaced with the *Green* & White. If you require a copy of the books, please email *toeic@pro-match.com* or order them with your next test order.

Please do not use the **Blue** & White books any longer as they are out of date.

* Check out the Report on TOEIC Test Takers Worldwide for 2005. This report has just been made available and you can see it on our website - **www.pro-match.com/toeic** and click on the "Latest News" page.

TOEIC Statistics - 1st October - 31st March 2007

- * 4830 people took the TOEIC Test in Australia and New Zealand.
- * There were 299 Test Sessions held in that time
- * 84 Test sessions in NZ, and 215 Test sessions in Australia
- * Oct 46 Test Sessions, Nov 57 Test Sessions, Dec 51 Test Sessions Jan 48 Test Sessions, Feb 48 Test Sessions, Mar 49 Test Sessions
- * 27th October was the most popular test date over the last quarter of 2006 and 16th February was the most popular date for the first quarter of 2007
- * The highest number of people tested in one session was 305 for Australia & 150 for NZ.

Quote of the Quarter -

"Dreams come true; without that possibility, nature would not incite us to have them."

John Updike

Fact.

When Coca-Cola began to be sold in China, they used characters that would sound like "Coca-Cola" when spoken. Unfortunately, what they turned out to mean was "Bite the wax tadpole".

www.angelfire.com

This Months Funny English - From a Hotel in Tokyo:

On the box for a toothbrush: "Gives you strong mouth and refreshing wind!"

www.innocentenglish.com

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