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Official TOEFL IBT® Tests Volume 1, 2nd Edition

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**Synopsis**

First of all, this book is one of very few available resources from ETS which offer authentic TOEFL iBT questions – you penny-pinching ETS. So, no doubt that if you want to access those authentic questions and exams, you have no other way but buying it. There are five “real” TOEFL iBT tests in the book; as you probably know the actual TOEFL iBT test contains some research/experimental sections on either the reading or the listening part “don’t expect to get those extra questions in this book/DVD. The book and specially the software on the accompanying
DVD seem to have been prepared inattentively; the reasons are to follow. 1. No scoring table is provided for any of the five tests. I mean there is no way you can at least estimate your final score. ETS has shown before, in their GRE books, if they want, they can share such tables with the reader. The software calculates the percentage of the correct answers, so shameful that it does so with a grain of miscalculation! I’ll get back to this point later. To be honest, lack of such tables is a minor issue and can be resolved by looking up some general scoring tables online. 2. A more serious problem with the book is regarding its answer key, especially for the writing tasks. There is literally no sample essay for the writing tasks like the ones you get from the official guide book. It is rather confounding that the answer key simply explains how you can write the essay or what points your essay should include for the given task. My experience tells me the current version of the answer key for the writing tasks is good for nothing! The same story holds for the speaking section, too. 3. The main problem (this is actually why I decided to write this review) is the interactive software on the DVD.

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