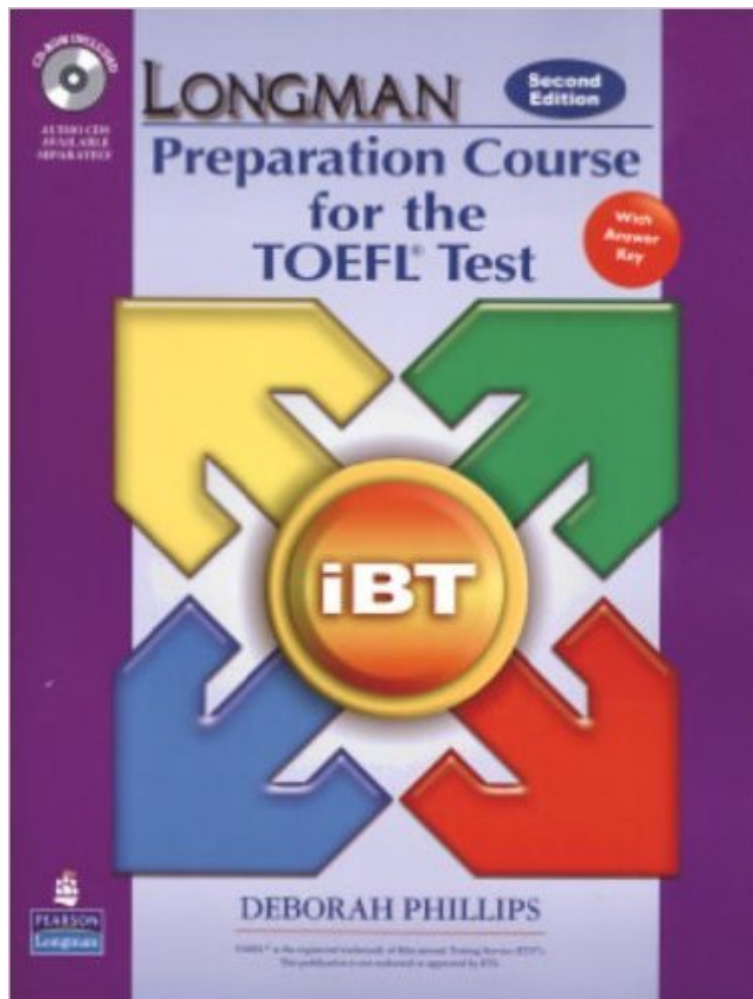


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Longman Preparation Course For The TOEFL Test: IBT Student Book With CD-ROM And Answer Key (Audio CDs Required) (2nd Edition)



Synopsis

The Longman Preparation Course for the TOEFL® Test: iBT, Second Edition, by Deborah Phillips, gives students all the tools they need to succeed on the new TOEFL® integrated-skills test. Providing both a comprehensive language skills course and a wealth of practice for all sections of the test, the Longman Preparation Course for the TOEFL® Test: iBT, Second Edition, is appropriate for courses in TOEFL test preparation or as a supplement to more general ESL courses. • Click on "Course-Specific" Resources• on the left of this page to order the Audio CDs. • New to the Second Edition • The New CD-ROM: New "Send" feature allows electronic submission of reading/listening results and writing and speaking responses. Completely different material from that in the book Pop-up explanations for all items on the CD-ROM Self-assessment and record-keeping tool A New Website: Track your students'™ progress quickly and easily. View your students'™ results electronically. Read and listen to your students'™ written and spoken work • then send feedback. Work from home • all you need is an Internet connection. The Student Book features:• Updated material for all the new types of passages and questions on the test Diagnostic pre-tests and post-tests that allow students to identify strengths and weaknesses and assess improvement in each section. Practice sections for the four skills: Reading provides practice exercises in the new test formats, including filling in a table or chart and paraphrasing Listening provides authentic conversations in an academic setting and academic lectures with new questions about a speakers'™ attitude or purpose Speaking includes personal and expository tasks and integrated tasks Writing consists of expository and integrated tasks: reading/listening/writing Eight Mini-Tests that preview the test's™ integrated four-skills format Two complete Practice Tests that familiarize students with the actual test formatting and timing • The CD-ROM features: Completely different material from that in the Student Book Practice sections for all parts of the test, including speaking Eight mini-tests and two complete tests Pop-up explanations for all items on the CD-ROM Easy-to-use scoring and record keeping to monitor progress New "Send" feature allows electronic submission of reading/listening results and writing and speaking responses Note: You must have the Audio CDs to use the listening material (the Skills Practice, the Mini-Tests, and the Computer Tests) in the textbook. The audio material on the CD-ROM is different from that on the Audio CDs. Click on "Course-Specific" Resources• on the left of this page to order the Audio CDs. • • System Requirements • Windows Windows 2000 or XP 500 MHz or higher processor 25 MB available on hard drive • Macintosh Mas OS X (10.1.3 and higher) Power PC processor (200 MHz or higher recommended) Power PC G3 (333 MHz or higher recommended) 20 MB available on hard drive • Both Systems 128 MB RAM minimum (192 MB

RAM or higher recommended) Quad-speed CD-ROM drive Sound card, speakers, and computer microphone (or other recording device) Internet connection (for electronic submission) Â

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Customer Reviews

I am a teacher who has used the CD-ROM from this course as well as the CD-ROM for the Cambridge TOEFL course, and have used the ones for Barrons and Kaplan as well. I haven't used any of the books from these four, so this review is for the CD-ROM only. By the way, it is standard practice in English as a Second Language texts, including TOEFL texts, that the audio CDs for the book must be purchased separately, and for a high price, so this is not something unique to this set. Of the four CD-ROM TOEFL practice texts I've used (Longman, Cambridge, Barrons, and Kaplan), I like the Longman CD-ROM the best, with Cambridge as a close second. First of all, I like the CD-ROM as a TOEFL practice format to begin with because it most closely resembles the real test. So my reviewing of this comes from the assumption that this is the best way to practice. The Longman CD-ROM has two sections, a skills section and a practice test section. The skills section has all the parts of the test, but without timing, and with helpful hints you can view when needed. This is ideal for becoming familiar with the nature of the test--what it looks like, what the questions are like, and how to navigate through the test. After you are finished answering the questions, you can check your answers, and there are explanations to help you understand why the correct answer is correct. For the writing portion of the skills section, it takes more of an instructional nature than

writing practice. You are given sample essays and asked questions to identify the different parts of the essays as ways to help you understand what is required for the essays on the test. After you have gone through the skills section, there are practice tests you can try. They are set up as mini-tests so that you can work on them in pieces, as you have time. (The actual TOEFL lasts 4 to 4 1/2 hours, so being able to break it up for practicing is convenient.) The mini-tests, unlike the skills practice, are timed, just like the regular TOEFL, so you'll know how much time you have. There are 8 mini-tests for each of reading, listening, speaking, and writing. You can record your speaking and listen to the recording, and use a checklist to evaluate how you think you did. For the writing, you are given a screen to type on just like what's found on the actual test. Afterward, you use a checklist to review how you think you did on the writing. Finally, there are two complete, timed practice tests that you can practice with. Of the four companies' CD-ROMs (Longman, Cambridge, Barrons, and Kaplan), the Longman CD-ROM is the easiest to navigate through. I also think it has the most flexibility for practice and has the most helpful instruction. The material does seem to be a little easier than Cambridge, for example, but especially for someone new to the TOEFL iBT, Longman is a better place to start to become familiar with how the test works. For example, the Cambridge doesn't really have a skills practice section; it's all just timed practice tests, so it has less flexibility for learning, and it's not as easy to navigate for checking your answers. I have found the Barrons and Kaplan CD-ROMs to be totally unacceptable. So, for someone who has never taken the TOEFL iBT, I definitely recommend the Longman CD-ROM. For someone who has but wants more practice, I think the Longman and Cambridge are both good, but the Longman software is easier to get around in, and the instruction is more helpful.

When I first began teaching history and political science at Boston-area universities, I took a specific interest in helping students learn how to write better. My reason was that even though I was not grading my students' work based on their English ability, most badly needed sound advice and rules to write by. It was not enough to tell them simply to write better or pick up a copy of the Chicago Manual of Style or E.B. White's Elements of Style, both of which are fabulous guides to help improve writing. If I expected my students to write better I determined that I needed to show them directly what I meant and give them detailed feedback. Now that find myself teaching students how to pass the TOEFL iBT, I see the same problems cropping up with the materials available in preparation books. First, I must say that the Longman Preparation Course by Deborah Philips--and the CD-based computer program, specifically--does a great job at giving the students a chance to practice and hone skills needed to score high on the TOEFL. It is generally well-written, accessible,

and clear in its format and layout, though, this reviewer finds it unfortunate that the answer key is a separate book. While the questions mirror those on the actual TOEFL written by ETS, the test writers have made some changes that negate some of the materials in this product. A few questions have changed slightly but after I teach my students the skills they need to master each question type using my own methods, I give them the Longman materials. Untimed skills sections, two complete tests, and eight mini-tests allow students the chance to practice, which is also something that certain other books do well, such as the Barron's TOEFL iBT by Pamela Sharpe. Nevertheless, practice will not make perfect if the authors do not sufficiently explain the needed skills to the student, especially those who might not be fully aware of the TOEFL format. Another feature that I like about Philips's book is that she has highlighted sections that give the summary of what you think about or do regarding specific questions. These charts outline so-called "key information." An example is for the reading section, on the negative fact question (page 58): How to identify the question: It is NOT stated / It is NOT mentioned / It is NOT discussed / It is NOT true / It is NOT indicated / All of the following are true EXCEPT / Where to find the answer: These answers are generally found in order in the passage, and the paragraph where the answer is found is generally indicated in the question. How to answer the question: 1. Choose a key word in the question. 2. Scan the appropriate place in the passage for the key word (or related idea). 3. Read the sentence that contains the key word carefully. 4. Look for the answers that are definitely true according to the passage. Eliminate those answers. 5. Choose the answer that is not true or not discussed in the passage. This information is helpful and is generally correct. But how do you choose the key word? How do you know which word is important? If you choose the incorrect key word, you will undoubtedly choose the wrong answer. Instead, the directions should explain to students that there are a series of steps to follow in order to answer these questions with accuracy. One needs to recognize the question type, understand what the question is asking, identify the key word, find the key word in the passage, read only the sentence with that key word and, if necessary, the sentence before or sentence after (but no more), and then employ a specific process of elimination. An example question looks like this: According to the passage, the Democrats were supported by all of the following groups EXCEPT. a. workers unhappy with the new industrial system b. planters involved in international trade c. rising entrepreneurs d. individuals seeking to open the economy to newcomers You would see an arrow in the passage that would point you to the paragraph in question and then see the words "Democrats" and "supported" as your keys. Your job is to go to that part of the passage marked by an arrow and match up the groups who supported Democrats. Eliminate those answers that do not fit. The above example is just what I teach in my TOEFL iBT

course, and I use the Longman book for good examples to help students reinforce these skills and then move on. As simple as that explanation is though, the Longman book does not outline the process like that and would leave a TOEFL newcomer in the dark. Let me reiterate and say that this is a good tool to help isolate a specific skill and allow students to master it before taking on further tasks. But, the Longman does not, in my opinion, serve to teach students as thoroughly as needed. To succeed, test-takers would need to couple the Longman book and software with a preparation course to fill in the gaps and explain things more thoroughly and to block out poor guidance, such as "Skim each passage," "Do not spend too much time reading the passages," and "Guess to complete the section before time is up" (page 8). The first instruction that I give to students is to skip the reading passage altogether and go directly to the question because it is unnecessary to read the passage at all and merely takes time away from answering the questions. Overall, this book is a great companion to a TOEFL course but does not really stand alone on its own. Simply put, the TOEFL is not a normal test. It has rules and procedures that govern it and while the author does have a great understanding of the material, she does not differentiate to people why traditional studying methods will not work here. I like that she tells readers to "Dismiss the directions as soon as they come up," (page 8) as a time-saving method because if you prepare for the TOEFL you already know what to expect. But, it is not just to save some seconds so you can "Skim each passage." As I mentioned, reading the passages in the Reading Section at all will virtually destroy a student's chances at finishing within the time allotted. To reinforce this paradox, another example is how Philips correctly tells students that they need no background knowledge to score well yet takes this good advice no further. In fact, if students try to use information from their regular studies they will likely choose the wrong answer. So, while she has many good pieces of advice, great and numerous practice questions and tests, she fails to explain why this is unique and what a student should specifically do to succeed. Good luck with your TOEFL practice and be sure to search all available resources to you, including those online.

i got this book in time. but there were not CDs with the book while the item was described as audio CDs required.

I ordered 2013 edition of Longman preparation course for the TOEFL test as you advertised. But I received 2007 edition which is very surprised and upsetting. You should tell me that if you carry 2007 edition only, you ought to tell me so, then i should not purchase it. The book you sent me can be returned, if you allow me. Robert

You need this CDs for study with the book. I first bought the book because I was attending classes that wanted it and I didn't know about the CDs. I think that there are better options for prepare yourself for the TOEFL exam. This one is kind of expensive. Overall I wouldn't recommended but I giving 3 stars because they give you some useful tips.They could give you a better price for book+cds, they are making money (I know thats the goal but..anyways) selling the book with a cd Plus Other CDs that you need for really complete all the material. Then you need to be well self motivated because it is boring for doing by your own. The cd that come with the book is only some exercises.

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