


# TOEFL Primary® Speaking Score Level Descriptors

Ribbons	Can Do	Next Steps
5	<p><b>Students speak in English to expand descriptions, communicate multistep directions and tell stories effectively. They successfully ask questions and make simple requests. They can:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use a wide range of vocabulary and grammatical structures effectively</li> <li>• Include relevant details to expand descriptions, give directions and tell stories</li> <li>• Include structures such as connecting words and phrases that make directions and stories easy to follow</li> <li>• Form questions and requests appropriately and use intonation to communicate meaning</li> <li>• Speak fluidly with few errors in pronunciation or intonation</li> </ul>	<p><b>To improve their speaking ability, students should:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Read and listen to age-appropriate academic content</li> <li>• Speak and write about age-appropriate academic content</li> <li>• Consider taking the <i>TOEFL Junior</i>® Speaking Test for more information about their speaking ability</li> </ul>
4	<p><b>Students speak in English to express and explain what they like and give directions. They begin to expand their descriptions of things and events. They can:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use appropriate word choices</li> <li>• Use complete statements to communicate ideas</li> <li>• Use appropriate grammatical structures</li> <li>• Begin to form questions and requests</li> <li>• Speak clearly with few errors in pronunciation or intonation</li> </ul>	<p><b>To improve their speaking ability, students should:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn less common words that describe familiar places, objects and people</li> <li>• Practice asking and answering questions about everyday topics</li> <li>• Practice giving details about places, people and events in the stories they read and programs they watch</li> </ul>
3	<p><b>Students speak in English to say what they like and give some descriptions. They begin to ask questions and tell stories. They can:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use words and phrases to communicate meaning</li> <li>• Use a limited number of grammatical structures to describe objects and actions</li> <li>• Begin to form questions and requests</li> <li>• Begin to communicate a sequence of events</li> <li>• Pronounce words and statements clearly most of the time</li> </ul>	<p><b>To improve their English speaking ability, students should:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn more words that describe familiar places, objects and people</li> <li>• Practice asking and answering questions about everyday topics</li> <li>• Practice describing in sentences what happens in stories they read and programs they watch</li> </ul>
2	<p><b>Students begin to speak in English by using words and simple statements. They begin to say what they like and give some descriptions. They can:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Say some common words in familiar categories such as home, school, family, colors, animals and actions</li> <li>• Communicate meaning in short, simple statements (examples: <i>The tiger is big. The zoo has two birds.</i>)</li> <li>• Pronounce words and phrases clearly but slowly some of the time</li> </ul>	<p><b>To improve their speaking ability, students should:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn more words that describe familiar places, objects and people</li> <li>• Practice asking and answering questions about everyday topics</li> <li>• Practice describing what happens in stories they read and programs they watch</li> </ul>
1	<p><b>Students attempt to speak in English using words and simple phrases. They may be able to:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Say some common words in familiar categories such as home, school, family, colors, animals and actions</li> <li>• Say simple phrases</li> </ul>	<p><b>To improve their speaking ability, students should:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learn and practice saying common words</li> <li>• Name what they see in pictures (example: <i>I see a house.</i>)</li> <li>• Practice speaking in sentences about objects and activities they like</li> </ul>
0	<p><b>The student did not respond to the test tasks or did not respond in English.</b></p>	



**About the TOEFL® Young Students Series**

Designed to set the foundation for the successful development of English-language skills, the *TOEFL*® Young Students Series features age-appropriate assessments, products and services — including the *TOEFL Junior*® and *TOEFL Primary*® tests — to help guide younger students to the next steps of learning.