

TOEFL Writing Sample Paper 02

Task 1: Integrated Writing Task

Time: 20 Minutes — Recommended Length: at least 150-225 words

Task Instructions:

- Read the passage below and take notes on the main points.
- Listen (or read the summary) of the lecture provided in the box.
- Write a response explaining how the lecture's points specifically challenge the arguments made in the reading passage.
- *Note:* Do not just summarize; compare and contrast the two sources.

Reading Passage: (Read for 3 minutes)

The Risks of Rhino Re-migration

Conservationists have proposed moving rhinoceros populations from high-risk areas to safer, remote locations. However, this "re-migration" strategy is flawed for several reasons.

First, the physical process of transporting such massive animals is incredibly difficult and dangerous. The stress and potential injuries during the journey can result in significant losses, which directly undermines the goal of increasing the rhino population.

Furthermore, the selection process disrupts the social and reproductive structure of the herd. If older males are removed, it can lower the fertility rate of the remaining group. Similarly, separating female rhinos from their calves during the move can have long-lasting negative impacts on the calves' survival.

Finally, moving rhinos does not address the root cause of their decline: poaching. Because rhino horns are extremely precious on the black market, poachers will simply follow the animals to their new location. No matter where they are moved, they will remain targets.

Listening Lecture: (Read for 2 minutes)

Lecture Highlights (Audio Summary)

The professor argues that re-migration is a highly effective and necessary strategy:

- **Comparative Safety:** While transportation has risks, the death rate is actually quite low. In contrast, staying in current habitats like South Africa is far more dangerous due to the staggering daily rate of poaching.
- **Careful Selection:** Experts in charge of the plan do not select rhinos randomly. They are extremely careful to keep mothers and calves together and ensure that the removal of specific males does not harm the group's overall fertility.
- **Enhanced Protection:** The new locations are not just "remote"—they are often protected by the army. These areas are so vast and well-guarded that it is nearly impossible for poachers to find or access the animals.

Question:

Summarize the points made in the lecture, being sure to explain how they cast doubt on the specific points made in the reading passage.

Task 2: Academic Discussion Task

Time: 10 Minutes — Recommended Length: at least 100 words

Task Instructions:

- Read the prompt provided by the professor and the responses from your classmates.
- Write a response that contributes to the discussion.
- State your opinion clearly and provide supporting reasons or examples.
- Engage with the existing discussion by referencing or building upon what Alice or Mark said.

Professor Miller: "Today we're discussing university resource allocation. Due to budget constraints, our administration is deciding whether to prioritize funding for new athletic facilities or to renovate the campus library system. Some argue sports are vital for student life, while others believe academic resources should come first. What is your perspective? Should the university spend more on sports or on libraries?"

Alice: "I believe we should prioritize athletic facilities. Modern gymnasiums and sports fields promote physical health and help students manage stress. Moreover, a strong sports program builds a sense of community and school spirit, which can even lead to more donations from successful alumni in the future."

Mark: "I disagree with Alice. A university's primary mission is education, not athletics. Our library is currently outdated, with insufficient quiet study spaces and old computer hardware. If we want to maintain our academic reputation and support students in their research, the library must be the priority for any available funding."

Question:

Write a response to the professor's question. In your response, you should:

- Express and support your personal opinion.
- Contribute to the discussion in your own words.

Solutions-

Task 1: Integrated Writing

The reading passage suggests that re-migrating rhinos to new locations is a dangerous and ineffective conservation strategy. However, the professor in the lecture refutes these claims, arguing that the benefits of moving the animals far outweigh the potential drawbacks mentioned in the text.

First, while the reading emphasizes the dangers and stress of transporting rhinos, the professor points out that the mortality rate during these moves is actually very low. More importantly, she argues that the danger of staying in high-poaching areas, such as parts of South Africa, is a much greater threat to the species' survival than the short-term risks of travel.

Second, the passage claims that relocation disrupts the social and reproductive health of the herd. The professor challenges this by explaining that the relocation plans are executed with extreme care. Specialists ensure that social bonds, particularly between mothers and calves, are maintained and that the selection of males is done scientifically to avoid any negative impact on the group's fertility.

Finally, the reading argues that poachers will simply follow rhinos to their new homes. The professor counters this by noting that the new habitats are often guarded by military forces. These locations are so expansive and the security is so tight that it is highly unlikely poachers will be able to locate or reach the rhinos, providing the animals with a level of safety they currently lack.

Task 2: Academic Discussion Task

In my opinion, the university should prioritize the renovation of the campus library. While I acknowledge Alice's point that athletic facilities contribute to physical health and school spirit, I believe that the core purpose of a higher education institution is to provide a superior academic environment.

As Mark mentioned, many students currently struggle with outdated resources. In the modern age, a library is not just a place for books; it is a hub for digital research, collaborative technology, and specialized software that many students cannot afford on their own. By investing in the library, the university supports the academic success of the entire student body, regardless of whether they participate in sports. Furthermore, while school spirit is important, a university's prestige is ultimately built on its research output and the quality of its graduates. If students lack the necessary tools and a quiet environment to study effectively, the institution's primary goal is compromised. Therefore, academic infrastructure should always take precedence over extracurricular facilities.