

TCF Canada Writing Tasks 1, 2, 3: Full Guide + Templates & Sample Answers [2026]

All 3 TCF Canada writing tasks explained with corrected sample answers, ready-to-use templates, and scoring rubrics. Target CLB 7-8 for immigration with proven strategies.

TCF Canada Writing Section Explained: Scoring Criteria and Task Requirements (2026)

If you are preparing to immigrate to Canada, understanding exactly what the TCF Canada writing section tests and how it is scored is the starting point of your entire preparation. **TCF Canada** is an official French exam designed specifically for candidates planning to immigrate to Canada. Its writing section contains three tasks, each with a different objective and scoring focus. Understanding these requirements and the logic behind the scoring will help you avoid detours and better demonstrate your language skills in the exam.

With this goal in mind, we'll first get an overall view of the **writing tasks and requirements**, and then look at how examiners actually grade your performance.

Quick orientation

This guide covers all 3 tasks, score-level mapping, examiner criteria, and model answers with analysis so you can prepare in a structured way.

Writing Tasks and Score Distribution

Before getting into scoring details, it's important to understand how the whole writing section is "structured". This will make your time management and answering strategy much clearer.

Production écrite TCF Canada

• Les 3 tâches •



Task 1: Short text (60–120 words)

Suggested time: 15 minutes

Main focus: Whether you can clearly convey basic information (e.g. thanks, requests, describing small events) and whether your sentences are simple and clear.

Task 2: Medium-length text (120–150 words)

Suggested time: 20 minutes

Main focus: Whether your text has a complete structure, your ideas are clearly expressed, and your language is smooth and natural.

Task 3: Longer text (120–180 words)

Suggested time: 25 minutes

Main focus: Whether you can analyze and argue, whether your logic is clear, and whether your arguments are explicit and show a certain level of depth.

Tip: You need to allocate your time reasonably for all three tasks and read the instructions carefully to make sure each task hits the required points.

Simply put, the writing section is a balance between "endurance + technique": Task 1 warms you up, Task 2 gets you into rhythm, and Task 3 is the final **"deciding round"**.

Score Levels and Correspondence

Once you understand the basic purpose of each task, the next question most students care about is: **What level do these performances correspond to?**

When preparing, the key concern is always the relationship between scores and levels. Below we briefly compare the writing scoring systems of **TCF Canada** and **DELFL**.

TCF Canada

Total score: 20 points (writing section).

Conversion: Converted into **CLB (Canadian Language Benchmarks)** and aligned with CEFR.

Correspondence:

0–3 points → A1

4–6 points → A2

7–9 points → B1

10–12 points → B2

13–15 points → C1

16–20 points → C2

FREE TOOL

Convert your TCF Canada scores to CLB

Your level per skill, and what it is worth in Express Entry.

Official IRCC tables

TCF & TEF

Express Entry points

Open the converter →

TCF CANADA

● instant

● Listening	458	CLB 7
● Reading	499	CLB 8
● Writing	10	CLB 7
● Speaking	12	CLB 8

YOUR PROFILE

CLB 7

For immigration applications, the usual requirement is **CLB 7–9 (roughly B2 level)**.

From the conversion chart, we can clearly see that your writing score does not "exist in isolation" – it directly affects whether you meet the language requirement for your immigration application.

DELF

Total score: 100 points (writing: 25 points).

Pass mark: 50 points (with each section ≥ 5 points).

Features:

A1: 40–60 words

A2: 80–100 words

B1: at least 160 words

B2: at least 250 words

You only get the certificate of the level you register for (no crossing levels).

Score & Level Overview Table

System	Scoring Method	CEFR Level Mapping	Notes
TCF Canada	20 points in writing → CLB	0–3 = A1 4–6 = A2 7–9 = B1 10–12 = B2 13–15 = C1 16–20 = C2	One exam directly determines your level; often used for immigration.
DELFB	100 points total, pass at 50	Based on registered level (A1–B2); passing = certificate of that level	No cross-level: A2 exam only yields A2 certificate.

If you want to learn more about the differences between **TCF Canada** and **DELFB**, you can read our full comparison article: [TCF Canada vs DELFB: A Complete Comparison](#) for more detailed information!

Once you understand the relationship between **score – level – purpose**, the next key question is: **What exactly are examiners looking at?** That brings us to the next part: the scoring criteria.

Overview of TCF Canada Writing Scoring Criteria

Knowing how the score is converted is only the first step – it just helps you "read the report card". What actually helps you improve your score is understanding what the examiner is specifically looking for behind each task.

In this section, we present the key elements of **TCF Canada** writing evaluation to help you understand how to target the criteria and earn higher scores.

Content relevance: Does the text respond to the task? Does it stay focused on the requirements? Does it answer the questions asked in the prompt?

Language accuracy: Are your grammar structures correct? Are your spellings accurate? Is punctuation used appropriately?

Clarity of expression: Is your language clear and concise, avoiding unnecessarily long or overly complex sentences? Are you avoiding redundant words and vague phrasing?

Structure and logic: Does your text have a clear introduction, body, and conclusion? Are the transitions between paragraphs natural? Is the overall line of thought easy to follow?

Lexical variety: Do you use a range of vocabulary and sentence structures? Do you avoid repeating the same words over and over? This variety makes your writing read as more sophisticated.

High-score formula in one line: On-topic + Accurate grammar + Varied vocabulary + Clear logic. If you can do these four things, you're already in a strong position to score well.

• Construire une réponse claire •



As you can see, the scoring criteria are not some mysterious "black box". They are concrete skills that can be trained. Next, we'll use **realistic prompts and model answers** to show how

these criteria are applied in practice.

TCF Canada Writing Task Examples – Full Breakdown

Once you understand the overall requirements and scoring logic, the most effective way to learn is to work through **concrete examples** and see how to approach each task.

In the following sections, we'll analyze Task 1, Task 2, and Task 3 one by one, moving through four dimensions: **task instructions** → **sample answer** → **detailed analysis** → **useful expressions**, so you can build a clear, reusable framework for writing.

Use each section as a reusable pattern: read instruction, identify required points, then replicate the structure in your own writing.

Task 1: Short Email Writing Example (60–120 words)

Task 1 is essentially the "warm-up round" of the writing section. It mainly tests whether you can express yourself clearly and politely in a simple, everyday situation. For more examples and templates, see our complete Task 1 guide.

Task 1 focus: accuracy and clarity in short practical messages.

Task Requirements

Format: Text message, note, or short email in everyday contexts.

Content: Usually about one specific event, such as expressing thanks, making a request, or making a recommendation.

Word count: 60–120 words.

Suggested time: 15 minutes (Planning 3' + Writing 8' + Checking 4').

Time management tips:

3 minutes planning: quickly decide on the travel destination, dates, 2–3 activities, and your recommendation.

8 minutes writing: write in a logical order; don't get stuck on small details.

4 minutes checking: focus on verb conjugations and spelling.

If you keep this basic structure in mind, you won't be thrown off by a "small email" during the exam.

Task Instructions

En français Vous écrivez à un(e) ami(e) pour lui raconter votre dernier voyage. Indiquez le lieu et la date du voyage, quelques activités ou expériences vécues, la partie que vous avez préférée et terminez par une recommandation pour votre ami(e).

Explanation in English You need to write an email to a friend to tell him or her about a recent trip you took. You should mention the destination and dates of the trip, some activities or experiences you had, the part you liked the most, and finish with a recommendation for your friend.

Sample Answer

Réponse modèle - Tâche 1 · 95 words

Objet : Mon voyage à Paris

Salut Marie,

Je voulais te parler de mon dernier voyage à Paris ! Je suis parti avec ma famille la semaine dernière, et c'était incroyable ! Nous avons visité des sites comme la Tour Eiffel et le Louvre.

Ce que j'ai préféré, c'est de flâner dans les rues et de goûter la nourriture locale. Les croissants étaient délicieux ! Je te recommande vivement Paris, surtout si tu aimes l'art et la culture.

J'espère qu'on pourra y aller ensemble un jour !

À bientôt,

[Ton prénom]

Exam tip: keep the sequence stable and make sure every required point appears explicitly.

Detailed Analysis

Opening greeting *Salut Marie...* sounds natural and friendly. Suggestion: you can also add *J'espère que tu vas bien* to make it sound even more considerate.

Time and place *Je suis parti la semaine dernière à Paris...* clearly sets the context. Tip: use **passé composé** here, such as *J'ai visité...*, to make your writing more standard and accurate.

Activity description Mention a few typical activities, such as *la Tour Eiffel, le Louvre*. Suggestion: use *comme* or *par exemple* to make sentences flow better.

Expressing feelings *Ce que j'ai préféré, c'est...* is a very useful structure. Suggestion: you can also use *J'ai particulièrement aimé...* for more lexical variety.

Recommendation and closing *Je te recommande vivement Paris...* is simple and strong. Tip: add a reason, e.g. *Je te recommande Paris parce que c'est magnifique*.

By breaking it down layer by layer, you can see that Task 1 is really not that difficult. The key is: **cover all the required information and keep the structure smooth.**

Useful Expressions to Memorize

J'espère que tu vas bien.

Je suis parti(e) ... la semaine dernière.

Ce que j'ai préféré, c'est ...

J'ai particulièrement aimé ...

Je te recommande vivement ...

If you get familiar with and memorize a few such "reliable sentence patterns", you'll be able to write quickly in the exam without getting stuck at the opening or the conclusion.

Task 2: Event Description and Opinion (120–150 words)

After mastering Task 1 (information-focused writing), Task 2 starts asking you to add **opinions and evaluation** on top of your **narration**. For high-scoring templates and phrases, check out our detailed Task 2 guide.

Task 2 focus: clear structure + personal reaction + smoother transitions.

Task Requirements

Format: Letter, short article, or mini-essay.

Content: Describe an event and add your feelings or opinion about it.

Word count: 120–150 words.

Suggested time: 20 minutes (Planning 4' + Writing 12' + Checking 4').

Time management tips:

4 minutes planning: think about the event name, time, 1–2 highlights, and your personal feelings.

12 minutes writing: organize with "Tout d'abord, Ensuite, Enfin".

4 minutes checking: check sentence completeness and logical coherence.

As you can see, Task 2 builds on "complete information" and puts more emphasis on **structure** and **personal viewpoint**. It's also an important bridge toward Task 3.

Task Instructions

En français Pour le journal de votre école, vous racontez votre participation à une course de vélo. Vous indiquez la date et le lieu de l'événement, décrivez l'ambiance et vos impressions, puis vous terminez par une recommandation à vos camarades.

Explanation in English You need to write a short article for your school newspaper describing your experience taking part in a cycling race. You should state the time and place of the event, describe the atmosphere and your feelings, and finish with a recommendation to your classmates.

Sample Answer

Réponse modèle - Tâche 2 · 130 words

Titre : Ma participation à la course de vélo

La semaine dernière, j'ai participé à une course de vélo organisée dans ma ville. Cet événement a eu lieu le dimanche matin et a attiré de nombreuses personnes de tous âges. La course a parcouru un circuit de 15 kilomètres, et c'était très amusant.

J'ai adoré l'ambiance de l'événement. Tout le monde était enthousiaste et se soutenait mutuellement. C'était également une excellente occasion pour moi de faire de l'exercice tout en m'amusant.

Si tu aimes le sport et la convivialité, je te recommande vivement de participer à cet événement l'année prochaine. C'est une expérience à ne pas manquer !

Exam tip: Task 2 should sound more personal than Task 1 while staying coherent and concise.

Detailed Analysis

Introducing the event *La semaine dernière, j'ai participé à...* is simple and direct. Suggestion: you can add a quick evaluation such as *C'était une expérience inoubliable* to make the opening more engaging.

Event details Describe 1–2 highlights such as the number of participants and the atmosphere. Tip: the background and atmosphere can use **imparfait** (e.g. *Il faisait beau, tout le monde souriait*).

Expressing feelings *J'ai adoré l'ambiance...* sounds natural. Suggestion: try other emotional verbs like *apprécier* or *profiter de* to avoid using *adorer* all the time.

Recommendation and closing *Je te recommande vivement...* is clear and strong. Suggestion: add a reason with *parce que...* to sound more sincere.

With this step-by-step analysis, you can see that Task 2 is essentially "Task 1 plus one step further" — you add **what you think** about the event.

Useful Expressions to Memorize

La semaine dernière, j'ai participé à ...

Il y avait beaucoup de monde ...

J'ai adoré / J'ai apprécié ...

C'était une excellente occasion de ...

Je te recommande vivement de ...

If you prepare these expressions in advance, writing in the exam is more like "building with ready-made blocks" than struggling to build sentences from scratch.

Task 3: Summary and Opinion (120–180 words)

Once you're comfortable with Task 1 and Task 2, Task 3 becomes the real "difficulty peak" and the main source of score differentiation. It tests your combined skills in **reading comprehension + information synthesis + opinion + argumentation**. For advanced strategies, see our detailed Task 3 guide.

Task 3 focus: concise synthesis first, then justified opinion with balanced logic.

Task Requirements

Format: Write an argumentative text based on two short texts.

Content: First summarize the main ideas of the two texts, then express your own opinion and justify it.

Word count: 120–180 words.

Suggested time: 25 minutes (Summary 7' + Opinion & Argument 13' + Checking 5').

Time management tips:

7 minutes planning: summarize the core ideas of the two texts and decide your stance.

13 minutes writing: follow a four-paragraph structure: "Summary → Opinion → Argumentation → Conclusion".

5 minutes checking: check logical flow and word count.

As long as you firmly remember this **4-paragraph structure**, Task 3 won't turn into a chaotic block of text in the exam.

Task Instructions

En français

Voici deux textes à lire :

Texte 1 : La vie en ville, un choix moderne

De nos jours, la question de savoir s'il vaut mieux vivre en ville ou à la campagne est très discutée. La ville est souvent critiquée pour son bruit et son stress, mais selon moi, ses avantages l'emportent largement.

Tout d'abord, la ville offre une commodité inégalée. Les transports publics sont fréquents, les magasins et les services sont accessibles à tout moment. Par exemple, il est possible de faire ses courses ou de consulter un médecin rapidement, ce qui facilite beaucoup la vie quotidienne.

Ensuite, la diversité culturelle est un atout majeur. On y trouve des musées, des théâtres, des concerts et une grande variété de restaurants. Cela permet de s'enrichir personnellement et de découvrir de nouvelles perspectives.

En conclusion, même si la campagne apporte tranquillité et air pur, je pense que la vie en ville est plus adaptée au monde moderne. Son dynamisme et ses opportunités en font un choix idéal pour les jeunes générations.

Texte 2 : La vie à la campagne, un choix durable

Aujourd'hui, de nombreuses personnes hésitent entre vivre en ville ou à la campagne. Si la ville attire par ses commodités, je suis convaincu que la campagne représente un mode de vie plus équilibré et plus sain.

Premièrement, la campagne garantit une tranquillité rare. L'absence de bruit et la proximité avec la nature favorisent le bien-être. Respirer un air pur et profiter des espaces verts permet de réduire le stress, ce qui est essentiel pour la santé.

Deuxièmement, la vie rurale favorise des relations humaines plus authentiques. Les gens se connaissent mieux, l'entraide est plus présente, et cela renforce les liens sociaux. Par exemple, il est courant de partager des produits locaux ou de s'entraider entre voisins.

En conclusion, même si la ville propose plus de services et d'activités, je pense que les avantages de la campagne sont plus précieux. Elle offre un mode de vie durable, respectueux de la nature et propice à un véritable équilibre personnel.

Consigne

Après avoir lu deux textes :

Le premier texte présente les avantages de la vie en ville (commodité, diversité culturelle, transports).

Le deuxième texte présente les avantages de la vie à la campagne (tranquillité, nature, air pur).

Écrivez un texte dans lequel vous résumez les deux points de vue, puis exprimez votre propre opinion en la justifiant.

Explanation in English First, summarize the viewpoints of the two texts (city life: convenient and diverse; countryside life: quiet and natural). Then state your own preference and give your reasons.

Sample Answer

Réponse modèle - Tâche 3 · 175 words

Titre : Vie en ville ou à la campagne ?

Les deux textes présentent deux opinions opposées. Le premier met en avant les avantages de la vie en ville, comme la commodité, les services rapides et la diversité culturelle. En revanche, le second valorise la vie à la campagne, soulignant la tranquillité, la nature et un air plus pur, favorisant un mode de vie plus équilibré.

Pour ma part, je préfère la vie en ville, même si la campagne a ses avantages. En ville, tout est plus pratique : les transports sont fréquents, il y a des magasins, des restaurants et des activités culturelles à proximité. Par exemple, j'adore aller au théâtre ou au musée pendant le week-end. De plus, vivre en ville permet de rencontrer plus de gens, ce qui est idéal pour ceux qui aiment la diversité et l'animation.

Cependant, je reconnais que la vie à la campagne offre une tranquillité que l'on ne trouve pas en ville. La nature, l'air pur et l'absence de bruit sont des avantages non négligeables.

Mais pour moi, les avantages de la ville l'emportent. Le dynamisme, la culture et la facilité d'accès aux services sont les éléments qui rendent la vie urbaine plus attrayante.

Exam tip: prioritize clear synthesis before opinion; Task 3 is graded heavily on logic and argument flow.

Task Analysis

Summarizing the two texts

Le premier texte met en avant les avantages de la vie en ville... / le second valorise la vie à la campagne, soulignant...

This accurately summarizes the core ideas of the two texts without copying the original wording and uses verbs like *met en avant* / *valorise* / *soulignant*, which makes the language flexible and natural.

Suggestion: using synonyms like this shows your lexical flexibility.

Introducing your stance

Pour ma part, je préfère... creates a smooth transition into your own opinion.

Suggestion: you can also use Selon moi / Quant à moi / D'après moi for variety and a more dynamic reading experience.

Developing your argument

For example: *J'adore aller au théâtre ou au musée...* — this is concrete and relevant to city cultural life, effectively supporting your point.

Tip: add causal connectors such as car / parce que / ce qui permet de... to make your reasoning more complete.

Acknowledging the other side

Cependant, je reconnais que... shows you acknowledge the advantages of life in the countryside, which makes your argument more balanced and objective.

Suggestion: keep the structure "acknowledge the other side + return to your position" to strengthen your logic.

Wrapping up

Mais pour moi, les avantages de la ville l'emportent. Even without starting with *En conclusion*, this sentence clearly serves as a conclusion and reinforces your stance.

Suggestion: if you want to sound more formal, use En conclusion / Pour toutes ces raisons to give a stronger sense of completeness.

Through this example, you can clearly connect the evaluation criteria with concrete expressions and understand **why** this kind of answer earns a good score.

Useful Expressions to Memorize

Le premier texte présente ... / Le deuxième texte souligne que ...

Pour ma part / Selon moi ...

Par exemple ...

Cependant, je reconnais que ...

En conclusion / Pour toutes ces raisons ...

These expressions work for "city vs countryside" and transfer just as well to topics like "technology vs tradition", "online classes vs in-person classes", etc. They are highly reusable "universal sentences" worth memorizing.

Study Tips for Writing Preparation

To finish, here are some practical tips to help you score well on the **TCF Canada** writing section:



Practice writing regularly Use mock tests and past papers to get used to the different task types and requirements.

Manage your time Make sure you finish each task within the suggested time so you don't run over.

Keep a clear structure Whether it's a short or long text, always ensure there is a clear introduction, body, and conclusion.

Review grammar and spelling Regularly check your writing for common errors such as verb conjugations and tense usage.

Seek feedback and revise After finishing a piece of writing, check for spelling and grammar errors, and reflect on whether any parts are unclear. If possible, ask someone else to correct it or give you feedback.

With the above explanations, you should now have a solid understanding of the **TCF Canada** writing section and be better equipped to prepare for it.

Don't forget: if you master the techniques and practice in advance, you'll be able to achieve a great score much more easily!

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TCF Canada · Blank answer sheet

60 min

Task 1

60–120 words

Word count: _____ Time taken: _____

120–150 words

Word count: _____ Time taken: _____

120–180 words

Word count: _____ Time taken: _____

KEEP GOING

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