

TOEFL SPEAKING SAMPLE QUESTIONS

1. Some people prefer to shop in grocery stores now and then to gather everything they need, while others prefer to go to a supermarket. Which do you prefer and why?
2. More and more people tend to post their personal information online. Please discuss the advantages and disadvantages of it.
3. Which do you think is more important: having many friends or a few close friends? Explain your answer.
4. Read the question. Take notes on the main points of your response. Then, respond to the question.
What do you think your life will look like after retirement? Use reasons and details to support your response.

Preparation time: 15 seconds

Response time: 45 seconds

Listen to the audio (provided via audio)

5. Narrator: Read the question. Take notes on the main points of your response. Then, respond to the question. Would you prefer to study in a classroom or take an online course? Use reasons and details to support your response.

Preparation time: 15 seconds

Response time: 45 seconds

If I had the choice between an online course and a course at a college or university, I would choose the classroom setting. I believe it takes a lot of discipline to study at home, and I am a person who is easily distracted. While my roommate has no problem turning off her phone while she is studying, I'm the type of person who worries that I will miss an important call. Even when I'm studying for exams or writing essays, I have to do my work in the library where I can't be interrupted. In addition I learn better when I hear somebody presenting the information than I do just by reading it. While the convenience of an online course is attractive to me, I know my grade would suffer.

6. Read a passage about Obsessive Compulsive Disorder. Take notes on the main points of the reading passage. You have 45 seconds to read the passage. Begin reading now.

Reading time: 45 seconds

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder

OCD is an anxiety disorder that causes a person to experience obsessive thoughts and to react to these with compulsive behavior or rituals. The obsessions are typically described by OCD sufferers as persistent thoughts or

impulses that cause a great amount of stress. These differ from those stressors that the average person suffers from in daily life, such as work or financial problems, in that they are a product of the imagination. While most OCD sufferers admit to knowing that their concerns are not real, they cannot control the thoughts from recurring, and they compensate by performing certain repetitive actions. In addition to these symptoms and responses, a true OCD sufferer spends a large part of the day battling this disease. The debate continues over whether the disease should be classified as a psychological or biological disorder.

Now listen to a talk on the same academic subject. (via audio)

Explain how the professor's description of OCD expands upon the reading.

Preparation time: 30 seconds

Response time: 60 seconds

7. Do you think people should read the news to keep up with what is happening around the world, even if it may have nothing to do with their personal lives? Use details and examples to explain your opinion.
8. Some people believe old people should not take risks or participate in adventurous/challenging events as young people do. Do you agree or disagree, and why? Use details and examples to explain your opinion.
9. Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Some schools are considering eliminating computer labs on campus because all students nowadays have their laptops.
10. Your university requires that you take a history course, and you have two options that fit your schedule. The first course is taught by a well-known professor who is a good lecturer and includes little to no class discussion. The second course is led by a professor who rarely lectures and encourages students to participate in class discussions. Which method would you choose to fulfill your history requirement and why?