

TOEFL iBT

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Speaking

Useful Links

Structure of the TOEFL iBT: www.ets.org/toefl/institutions/about/content/content_structure/

www.prepscholar.com/toefl/blog/toefl-exam-pattern/

Interpret TOEFL® Scores: <https://www.ets.org/toefl/institutions/scores/interpret/>

Speaking rubrics: www.ets.org/s/toefl/pdf/toefl_speaking_rubrics.pdf

Writing rubrics: www.ets.org/s/toefl/pdf/toefl_writing_rubrics.pdf

Note taking tips: www.prepscholar.com/toefl/blog/toefl-note-taking-tips/

How to read faster: <https://youtu.be/Q6aZn8viRcs>

Sample Speaking Answers: <https://toefl.magoosh.com/youtube-speaking-answers>

TOEFL TV: <https://www.youtube.com/user/TOEFLtv>

https://vk.com/wall-131911154_41

http://alleng.org/d/engl_en/eng018.htm

SPEAKING

6 tasks

- 2 independent tasks: opinion
- 4 integrated tasks: read & listen

Duration: **20 min** approx.

Preparation time:

Response time: 45-60 sec.



SPEAKING

- Familiarise yourself with the scoring rubric.
 - **Delivery:** How clear was the speech? Good responses are fluid and clear, with good **pronunciation**, natural **pacing** and natural-sounding **intonation** patterns.
 - **Language use:** How effectively does the test taker use **grammar** and **vocabulary** to convey ideas? Raters determine the test taker's ability to control both basic and more complex language structures, and use appropriate vocabulary.
 - **Topic development:** How **fully** do test takers answer the question and how **coherently** do they present their ideas? How well did the test taker **synthesize and summarize** the information in the integrated tasks? Good responses generally use all or most of the time allotted, and the relationship between ideas and the progression from one idea to the next are **clear and easy to follow**.

Independent Questions

Question 1:

- Speak about a person, place, object or event that is familiar to you.
- Topics will vary, but you will be asked to base your response on **personal experience or familiar topic**. (E.g.: *a place you like to visit, an important event in your life, a person who influenced you, an activity you enjoy...*)
- You'll have to **describe** and **give reasons**. (include specific details/examples to make your description informative and your reasons comprehensible)
- The question will be read by a narrator and will remain on the screen throughout the time you're giving your response.

Independent Questions

Question 2:

- two possible actions, situations, or opinions: which you think is preferable/justified explaining your choice (**reasons, explanations, details and examples**).
- Topics include everyday issues of general interest to a student. (E.g. *whether you think it's better to study at home or at the library; whether you think students should take courses from a variety of fields or focus on one subject area; whether first-year college students should be required to live in the dormitory or off campus...*)
- You'll have to **describe** and **give reasons**. (include specific details/examples to make your description informative and your reasons comprehensible)
- The question will be read by a narrator and will remain on the screen throughout the time you're giving your response.

Independent Questions: Examples

1. Choose a teacher you admire and explain why you admire him or her. Please include specific examples and details in your explanation.



Preparation Time: 15 Seconds

Response Time: 45 Seconds

Notes:

- identify teacher (subject, how old were you when you had him/her?)
- What made you admire him/her → provide details to illustrate

2. Some students study for classes individually. Others study in groups. Which method of studying do you think is better for students and why?



Preparation Time: 15 Seconds

Response Time: 45 Seconds

Notes:

- start: opinion (group))
- support opinion (experience and observation)
- groups → stronger help weaker, share notes - less work,

Practice

Question 1

1. You will now be asked a question about a familiar topic. After you hear the question, you will have 15 seconds to prepare your response and 45 seconds to speak.

Choose a place you go to often that is important to you and explain why it is important. Please include specific details in your explanation.

Preparation Time: 15 Seconds

Response Time: 45 Seconds

Practice

Question 2

2. You will be asked to state and support your opinion on a certain topic. After you hear the question, you will have 15 seconds to prepare your response and 45 seconds to speak.

In many countries, the government practices censorship of television programmes. Do you support this practice or not? Give specific reasons and examples to support your answer

Preparation time: 15 seconds

Speaking time: 45 seconds

Integrated Questions

Question 3: passage + discussion

- You'll will read a **short passage** on the screen about a campus-related topic.
- You'll listen to two people discussing that topic and expressing an opinion about the topic from the reading.
- You'll be asked a question related to what you've read and heard.
- Common topics: university policies, rules or procedures, university plans, campus facilities and quality of life on campus.
- The reading passage could be: a bulletin from the admin, or a letter to the editor of the campus newspaper, an article from the campus newspaper...
- In the listening, one of the speakers will have a strong opinion (for or against).
- This part tests your ability to **integrate info** from two sources and to summarize some aspect of it.
- **45-50 sec to read + listening + 30 sec preparation time + 60 sec response time**

Practice

Question 3

3. You will now read a short passage and then listen to a conversation on the same topic. You will then be asked a question about them. After you hear the question, you will have 30 seconds to prepare your response and 60 seconds to speak.



Reading Time: 45 Seconds

Hot Breakfasts Eliminated

Beginning next month, Dining Services will no longer serve hot breakfast foods at university dining halls. Instead, students will be offered a wide assortment of cold breakfast items in the morning. These cold breakfast foods, such as breads, fruit, and yogurt, are healthier than many of the hot breakfast items that we will stop serving, so health-conscious students should welcome this change. Students will benefit in another way as well, because limiting the breakfast selection to cold food items will save money and allow us to keep our meal plans affordable.

Integrated Questions

Question 4: passage + lecture

- You'll will read a **short passage** about an academic subject and listen to a brief excerpt of a professor's **lecture** on that subject..
- You'll be asked a question related to what you've read and heard.
- Common topics:life science, social science, physical science and the humanities.
- This part tests your ability to **integrate and convey info** from two sources.
- **45-50 sec to read + listening + 30 sec preparation time + 60 sec response time**

Integrated Questions

Question 5: (no reading) short conversation about campus-related situation

- Two people will discuss a problem and two possible solutions.
- You'll be asked to describe the situation briefly and give your own opinion about solutions to the problem.
- Topics: common, everyday situations or problems that might arise at college or uni - (schedule conflicts, unavoidable absences, unavailable resources, student elections, financial difficulties...)
- The question you're asked has several parts:
 - you are asked to describe the problem they are discussing
 - state which ONE of the solutions you prefer (no need to talk about both solutions)
 - explain why you prefer that solution (you may draw on personal experience)
- **60-90 sec listening + 30 sec preparation time + 60 sec response time**

Integrated Questions

Question 5: sample

5. The students discuss two possible solutions to the woman's problem. Describe the problem. Then state which of the two solutions you prefer and explain why.
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Preparation Time: 20 Seconds

Response Time: 60 Seconds

- briefly describe the woman's problem (relevant info)
- state which solution you prefer and why
- You could also speak about the disadvantages of the other solution

Integrated Questions

Question 6: based on academic content

- **listen to a lecture on an academic subject (60-90 sec) + Q about what you've heard.**
- **usually: professor defines concept by highlighting issue or introducing phenomenon > important aspects of it or perspectives relating to it.**
- **The question will typically ask you to explain the main concept/issue using points and examples given in the lecture.**

Integrated Questions

Question 6: sample

6. Using points and examples from the talk, explain how the automobile and the radio contributed to a common culture in the United States.

Preparation Time: 20 Seconds

Response Time: 60 Seconds

- little background and mention that the US did not have common culture
- Automobile + radio changed the situation > summarise the info from lecture that explains how they caused this change (cars>inexpensive>travel easily; radio>speak alike>similar ideas)