



Speaking Session 3

Task 3 and Task 4



Group9120

Speaking Tasks

Task 1 - Independent

Task 2 - Integrated: Campus (Reading +Listening)

Task 3 - Integrated: Academic (Reading + Listening)

Task 4 - Integrated: Academic (Listening)



Group9120

The Suspension of Disbelief

TPO 36 Speaking

As members of an audience, we can best enjoy the performance of a play if we become emotionally involved with the events and characters on stage. But to do this, we need to forget that what we see on stage is only imaginary, and pretend instead—temporarily—that it is real. This ability to temporarily put aside, or suspend, our doubt and believe that the action of a play is real is called the suspension of disbelief. Suspending disbelief enables viewers to become more and more absorbed in the play as they watch the story develop, and to respond emotionally to the events and characters as if they were real.

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definition

function

process

notes from reading = map for listening

上义词

definition

function

process

下义词

definition

function

process

So for example, back when I was in college, one of my roommates, Richard, was in a play I went to see. And when he first went on stage, I have to admit I was a little distracted. Richard was dressed up like an old man. I could tell that his hair was colored grey and he was pretending, you know, to be older. So he walked more slowly, the way in older person would. But at first, I only saw him as my roommate dressed up to look like an older man. But then as the play went on, I began to think of him less as the guy I live with, and more as this older man who was a father, one who had to work very hard for his family, the family in the play. And in the play, the father gets sick and so he's out of work. Would you know, caused me to become a little sad. And because of the father's lung illness, the family was worried that they wouldn't have enough money to pay the bills. And this made me feel worried too. Well, in the end, what happened was, the family all came together and everyone found job and started working. They all pinch in and help in the time of crisis. So the family gets by and pays the bills. And soon after the father recovered from his illness, And this made me feel relieved. And even rather happy.

TPO 36 Speaking

Sample Answer

Suspension of disbelief is ...

Practice TPO 22

Speaking Task 3

Irrational Commitment

TPO 22 Speaking

When people have devoted time or resources to a certain project, they generally want to see it succeed. However, they may grow so attached to the idea of a successful outcome that even if it starts to look like the project will fail, and the disadvantages are outweighing the benefits, they will nevertheless increase their commitment to the project rather than give up. This is known as irrational commitment. This tendency to continue with a project when it would make better sense to quit can be especially strong when people feel they may be judged by others for their eventual success or failure with the project.

So, I have a personal example. Some years back, my wife and I were looking for a house to buy. We found this great old house out in the country. But my wife had her doubts about it. She noticed the house wasn't in very good condition. It was a little run down and probably needed some repairs. But, I really fell in love with the architecture of the house, the unusual way it was designed and built, so I convinced my wife that we could hire people to fix it up and, you know, make the house nice. We decided to buy it and live there after the repairs were finished. Well, the workers we hired to repair the house soon discovered things were worse than I thought. It turned out that the roof was damaged and needed expensive repairs. After the roof was repaired, the workers discovered the house had electrical problems. Most of the wiring was bad and would have to be replaced, at a huge cost. Well, at this point, my wife reminded me of her earlier doubts about the house and wondered if we could ever get it in good shape. But I just became more determined than ever. I paid for all the wiring to be replaced by an electrician. But it gets worse. The electrician noticed that insects had eaten some of the walls and they would also have to be torn out and replaced. This was going to be more expensive than all the other repairs. But by this point, I felt determined to keep going. I kept thinking, "I have to do it. If I stopped now, my wife will think I was wrong for not following her advice."

Sample Answer

Irrational commitment is ...

Speaking Tasks

Task 1 - Independent

Task 2 - Integrated: Campus (Reading + Listening)

Task 3 - Integrated: Academic (Reading + Listening)

Task 4 - Integrated: Academic (Listening)



Group9120

Many animals live underground, in the soil. Not just little animals like worms but also bigger animals like mammals. Living underground has its advantages. It protects animals from above ground predators. However, the underground environment also presents challenges. And animals that live underground have developed physical adaptations to deal with them. One challenge is, well, simply how to move underground through the dirt. Another challenge for the animal is to protect vulnerable parts of its body from the environment that it's moving through. Now, moving through soil is not like moving through air or water, because soil, earth, is thick and dense, so animals that live underground have evolved physical features that help them move through dirt efficiently. For example, the mole, a small, furry mammal, has really wide, super strong front feet with big claws. The mole's feet act like, uh, like shuffles, so it can dig through dirt. The claws cut into the dirt, loosen it up, and once the dirt is loosened up, the broad feet throw the dirt behind the mole as it moves forward. These shuffle-like front feet allow a mole to dig its way through the dirt astonishingly quickly. But even for an animal that can move efficiently through the dirt, living underground can still be problematic, because it's easy for particles to get caught in sensitive parts of the animal's body, like for mammals, in their eyes, so underground animals have developed adaptations to prevent this. Again, let's take the example of the mole. To begin with, moles have tiny eyes and these eyes are covered with a thin skin, a protective membrane that's actually got hair on it. These hairs protect the mole's eyes from dirt particles. So as the mole goes digging through the dirt with its head push forward, the dirt particles come into contact with the hairy membrane covering the mole's tiny eyes. And the particles just slide by. Don't get caught in the mole's eyes. So the eyes, the mole's sensitive parts, are protected.

TPO22

Using the example of the mole, explain two types of underground adaptation.

Practice TPO 35

Speaking Task 4

Ok, so as we know archaeologists discover objects from past civilizations. Stuff like old pottery, old tools, even sometimes old bits of fabric. And they examine these artifacts to learn about past civilizations. But why are some artifacts preserve well enough to last for thousands of years? While others just wear away and disappear? Well a lot of it has to do with the environmental conditions in the area where the artifacts are found. Artifacts are preserved better in an environment where the bacteria that cause decay are less likely to grow. So let's look at two environmental conditions that discourage bacteria growth and thus help preserve archaeological artifacts.

One environmental condition that inhibits bacterial growth and helps preserve artifacts is aridity, lack of moisture. Bacteria that cause decay can't survive well in dry environments and artifacts don't decay as fast in arid climate without much moisture. So many of the best preserved archaeological artifacts have been found in such climates. For example in the deserts of Egypt, archaeologists have found tombs more than two thousand years old with brightly-colored wall paintings in them. And those wall paintings, well, their colors were still as clear and bright as a painting made today.

Another environmental condition is lack of oxygen. Bacteria, like all living things, depend on oxygen to grow. So when there is no oxygen present, they can't grow and cause decay. So artifacts are usually well preserved when they end up in environments that contain little or no oxygen, like for example, the bottom of the ocean, which is where archaeologists found an ancient ship that has sunk, and settled into the mud at the bottom of the Mediterranean Sea. The ship was carrying vases, and the vases are still intact and remarkably well preserved

TPO35

Using points and examples from the lectures, explain two environmental conditions that help preserve archaeological artifacts.