***Some students prefer classes with open discussions between the professor and students and almost no lectures. Other students prefer classes with lectures and almost no discussions. Which do you prefer? Use specific reasons and examples to support your answer. (question from the***[***Official Guide to the TOEFL***](http://amzn.to/1FJH2pJ)***)***

Classes where students engage in discussion and classes where the professor does most of the talking each have their own advantages and disadvantages.  In my opinion, classes with a lot of discussion are better than those without.  I feel this way for two reasons, which I will explore in the following essay.

To begin with, I feel that classes where I have the opportunity to speak help to **develop my intellectual abilities**.  Classes where the teacher does all of the talking are very passive, in my opinion.  They mostly  involve the memorization of facts and details which do not help students in the long run.  On the other hand, classes which involve a lot of debate and interaction create very intelligent students.  For example, I recently took a political science class that changed the way I think about the world.  The cut and thrust of debate in the class made me consider where my political beliefs came from and if they were actually correct.  I was required to listen to the opinions of others, so I was a more open-minded person after the class finished.  I believe that I would not have developed in such a way by just listening to lectures.  This example demonstrates how valuable discussion-based classes can be.

Secondly, classes that involve a lot of discussion can help students develop the skills necessary to work well in groups.  Many freshman students arrive at university very shy and unable to communicate well.  Discussions in class teach students how to communicate effectively, and they can use this skill to excel in their future careers.  My older brother’s experience demonstrates that this is true.  When he started university he was a very introverted person and did not enjoy either communicating or working with others.  *However, after four years of participating in debates, discussions and presentations in his classes he became a very confident communicator.* As a result, when he began his career after graduation, he excelled in group work and was seen by his co-workers and supervisors as a natural leader.  He was promoted quickly and advanced through the ranks of his company.  Without participating in discussions with his professors and classmates he would not have developed the skills necessary to succeed in this way. （本段过程细节不够具体）

In conclusion, I feel strongly that classes which are centered on discussions between professors and students are preferable to those in which the professor does all of the talking.  This is because such classes help students develop academically and because they teach students the skills that they need to find success in the future.