

Listening Script for TPO Test 3 Speaking Task 4

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Narrator

Now listen to part of a lecture about this topic in a sociology class.

Professor

This is a true story, from my own life. In my first year in high school, I was addicted to video games. I played them all the time, and I wasn't studying enough. I was failing chemistry. That was my hardest class. So this was a conflict for me, because I wanted a good job when I grew up, and I believed, I knew, that if you want a good career, you got to do well in school. But I just couldn't give up video games. I was completely torn.

And my solution was to...to change my perspective. See, the only class I was doing really badly in was chemistry. In the others, I was...I was ok. So I asked myself, if I wanted to be a chemist when I grew up, and the fact is I didn't. I was pretty sure I wanted to be a sociologist, so I told myself my chemistry class didn't matter, because sociologists don't really need to know chemistry. In other words, I changed my understanding of what it meant to do well in school. I reinterpreted my situation. I used to think that doing well in school meant doing well in all my classes. But now I decided that succeeding in school meant only doing well in the classes that related directly to my future career. I eliminated the conflict, at least in my mind.