



TOEFL SPEAKING

English Teachers On Call

STUDENT MANUAL

LESSON 4

PART 1

Directions: For this task, you will be asked to speak about a topic that is familiar to you. You will hear a question. You will then have 15 seconds to prepare your response and 45 seconds to speak.

Question: Talk about a special present you received and why that present was important to you. Include details to support your response.

PART 2

Directions: In this question, you will be asked to give your opinion about a familiar topic. After you hear the question, you will have 15 seconds to prepare your response and 45 seconds to speak.

Question: Some people like to always have people around them. Others would rather spend time alone. Which way do you prefer to spend your free time and why? Use details and examples in your choice.

PART 3

Directions: In this question, you will read a short announcement and then listen to a dialogue on the same topic. You will then answer a question about them. After you hear the question, you will have 30 seconds to prepare your response and 60 seconds to speak.

New President Selected by Board

The Board is pleased to announce the selection of the 23rd president of State University. Matt Tallent has been a part of the State community for years as a business owner and contributor to the university. He will succeed Tom MacMaster who is stepping down as president this year. Tallent has recently given over his CEO title of his chain of Kwik Foodz restaurants to his son. The board cited Tallent's experience as the head of a multi-million dollar corporation as well as his experience with running several charities as the primary reason for selecting him as president.

Listen to a Dialogue

Question: The man expresses his opinion of a recent decision made by the university. State his opinion and explain the reasons he gives for holding that opinion.

PART 4

Directions: In this question, you will read a short passage and then listen to a talk on the same academic topic. You will then answer a question about them. After you hear the question, you will have 30 seconds to prepare your response and 60 seconds to speak. You have 45 seconds to read the passage.

The Corn Law

The Corn Law was first introduced in Britain in 1804, when the landowners, who dominated Parliament, sought to protect their profits by imposing a duty on imported corn. During the Napoleonic Wars, it was not possible to import corn from Europe. This led to an expansion of British wheat farming and to high bread prices. Farmers feared that when the war ended in 1815, the importation of foreign corn would lower prices. British landowners applied pressure on members of Parliament to take action to protect the profits of the farmers. Parliament responded by passing a law permitting the import of foreign wheat duty free only when the domestic price reached 80 shillings per 8 bushels of corn. The price of these goods remained high.

Listen to a Lecture

Question: The professor discusses the Corn Law. Using information from the lecture and the reading, explain why the Corn Law was enacted, and why some people opposed it.

PART 5

Directions: For this task, you will listen to a dialogue. You will hear a question about it. You will then have 20 seconds to prepare your response and 60 seconds to speak.

Listen to a Dialogue

Question: The woman tries to persuade the man to do something. Say what she tries to persuade him to do. Then state which of the solutions you prefer and why.

PART 6

Directions: For this task, you will hear a short academic talk. You will hear a question about it. You will then have 20 seconds to prepare your response and 60 seconds to speak.

Listen to a Talk

Question: The professor describes the law of diminishing returns. Explain this concept and how it works using examples from the lecture.