

TOEFL Prep 29

Speaking Practice:

Educational Testing Service (ETS) who makes the TOEFL and the GRE, likes to ask questions about education. So, to prepare for your TOEFL, it's a good idea to practice speaking about your preferences in education. Where do you like to study? What types of teachers do you like? Do you like to work alone or in groups? What subjects do you find most interesting?

Preparation Time: one minute (on the real test, you will have 15 seconds)

Speaking Time: 45 seconds

Remember: start with topic sentence that states your opinion (in my opinion, it's clear to me that, I believe that, I agree that) , then give three solid reasons with examples, then conclude.

Topic One- *Some teachers encourage competition among their students. Others help students learn how to collaborate and study in groups. Which approach do you think is better for learning and why do you think so? Be sure to use specific reasons and examples to support your opinion.*

Homework: Practice writing with clauses.

There are 3 kinds of clauses. In an **independent clause**, the clause is a complete sentence.

Examples:

The children do their homework, while I make dinner.

It turned cold on Saturday, but fortunately we had brought our jackets.

A **dependent clause** is not a complete sentence. It must be connected to another clause.

Examples:

Although he is smart and good-looking, he lacks social graces.

When we visited England, I explored several castles.

I hope to learn Spanish when we visit Mexico.

Note: When the dependent clause is at the end of the sentence instead of the beginning, you usually don't need a comma.

A relative clause is a dependent clause that tells something about a noun or pronoun in the sentence.

Examples:

My dad, who lives in Seattle, brought me some frozen salmon.

They live in Los Angeles, which is on the Pacific ocean.

She has the information that will clear my name.

Practice. Take these pairs of sentences and turn them into one sentence by using a clause.

1. These are the books you asked for. I will put them on your desk.

2. She plans to write an article about the fishermen. The fishermen are out of work.

3. He found a watch on the sidewalk. The watch is priceless.

4. The laptop is mine. She has the laptop.

5. The student is from South Korea. She sits next to me.

6. The boy is excited. He won first prize.

7. I smelled the cake. It was cooling on the window ledge.

8. We are studying sentences. They contain different clauses.

9. The orchard was planted by my grandfather. It was destroyed by insects.

10. We met a new couple at the party. They were nice.