

HW Assignment #9 - Task 5 Practice

This is an example of a Task 5 Question, and it should take you less than 4 minutes to complete. Keep in mind, during the exam you will listen to a short passage (**take notes as you listen**), then you will receive the question. After that you will have 20 seconds to prepare your response, and 60 seconds to deliver it.

[Begin audio at 0:24 -- [TOEFL Speaking, Task 5 Samples](#)]

Q: "The two students talk about the man's problem. Describe the problem, and state which of the two solutions you prefer and why."

Key Points:

- Describe the man's problem, here is a summary of his problem:
 - He has a report due tomorrow, but his computer broke down, and he didn't save any of the files. Even if he stays up all night, he doesn't think he will be able to finish it by tomorrow.
 - Give reasons for your preferred solution, like this:
 - He should go to the help desk tonight, even though he will have to pay extra for after-hours service, because they might be able to help him recover the files. If this works, then it will spare him an enormous amount of energy and stress, and he will have plenty of time to finish up his report -- after all, he was almost finished when his computer crashed. He might consider going to the help desk tomorrow morning (to avoid the after-hours fee), but that's not a good idea. He needs to find out whether or not they're going to be able to recover his files as soon as possible because if they can't, then [he's going to have a long night of work ahead of him // he's going to be at the mercy of his professor].
 - He should speak with his professor about getting an extension, even though she has a reputation for denying them, because...
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As ever, pay special attention to the following when critiquing your student's responses:

1. **Delivery:** How clear is your speech? Good responses are those in which the speech is fluid and clear, with good pronunciation, natural pacing, and natural-sounding intonation patterns.
2. **Language Use:** How effectively do you use grammar and vocabulary to convey your ideas? How well can you control both basic and more complex language structures? Did you use appropriate vocabulary?
3. **Topic Development:** How fully did you answer the question, and how coherently did you present your ideas? Good responses generally use all or most of the time allotted, and the relationship between ideas and the progression from one idea to the next is clear and easy to follow.