

HW Assignment #18 - Task 6 Practice

This is an example of a Task 6 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 6:27 -- [TOEFL Speaking, Task 6 Samples](#)]

Q: "Using points and examples from the lecture, explain how flying squirrels are affected by the biological clock."

Key Points:

- Here is a summary of the experiment described in the lecture.
 - The question:
 - Are organisms controlled by a biological clock or by other external factors?
 - The experiment:
 - Researchers conducted an experiment with flying squirrels that normally operate on 24 hour cycles.
 - They were placed in dark surroundings (simulating night) for seven days to see if they would stick with their 24 hour cycles regardless of the environment.
 - Observations:
 - Although the squirrels were very active in the dark, their cycles changed to 23.5 hours -- 30 minutes faster than usual.
 - After being reintroduced to a more natural environment, with sunlight, they quickly reverted to their original cycles.
 - Conclusion:
 - Because of this experiment, we can confidently say that, in some cases, organisms are controlled by external factors rather than a biological clock.

[Bonus Task 6 Sample Question -- Exam English](#)

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.