

# TOEFL



# SPEAKING

## 1. Personal Choice

### Choice Questions

#### 1. Introduction

- I agree/disagree with the idea of (doing)...

#### 2. Transition

- I feel this way for two reasons.

#### 3. Reason 1

- First,...
- For example,...

#### 4. Reason 2

- Second,...
- For instance,...

### Example

Children should have smartphones. Do you agree or disagree?

I agree with the idea of children having smartphones. I feel this way for two reasons. First, nowadays people normally communicate via social media and it is beneficial for children to learn how to communicate in this way from an early age. For example, messaging apps like WhatsApp have become part of daily communication for most people. It is important for children to learn how to write short and concise messages using a mobile device. Second, there are many apps available that offer educational content which children can use for studying and for improving their grades. For instance, apps that offer flashcards for studying can help children memorize everything they need for their exams.

## **Advantage/Disadvantage**

### **1. Introduction**

- There are obviously advantages and disadvantages of...

### **2. Advantage**

- First, one evident advantage of... is that...
- For example,...

### **3. Disadvantage**

- However, a main disadvantage of... is that...
- For instance,...

### **4. Opinion**

- Yet, overall, I think the advantage of... outweighs the disadvantage of...
- Therefore,... is better.

## **Example**

What are the advantages or disadvantages of children having smartphones?

There are obviously advantages and disadvantages of children having smartphones. First, one evident advantage of having a smartphone is that there are many apps available that offer educational content which children can use for studying. For example, apps that offer flashcards for studying can help children memorize everything they need for their exams. However, a main disadvantage of children having smartphones is that they can be distracted from schoolwork. For instance, social media apps constantly send push messages when somebody posts a photo or a comment and it can be very difficult for children to resist the temptation to have a look at their phone and

see what's going on. Yet, overall, I think the advantage of having access to educational apps outweighs the disadvantage of distraction. Therefore, children should have smartphones.

## 2. Campus Announcement

### 1. Change

- The announcement states that...

### 2. Two Reasons

- The notice gives two reasons for this.
- First,...
- Second,...

### 3. Transition

- The woman/man had a negative/positive attitude about the notice...
- He/she supports/opposes it for two reasons.

### 4. Two Reasons

- First, she stated that... + reason
- Second, she pointed out that... + reason

### Example

The announcement states that due to the current pandemic all exams will be held online. The notice gives two reasons for this. First, doing exams in-person would mean that a lot of people gather in a room which may facilitate the spread of the virus. Second, even if people maintained a distance of two meters between them the situation remains dangerous because people would touch door-handles and other things.

The woman had a positive attitude about the notice. She supports it for two reasons. First, she stated that this is a reasonable measure to prevent the virus from spreading which may save many lives. Second, she pointed out that this decision promotes responsibility in society by making students aware of the danger and emphasizing that everyone should behave reasonably.

## 3. General to Specific

### 1. Topic of the Article + Definition

- The article/reading discusses... and defines it as...

## 2. Detail

- The writer states that ...

## 3. Speaker's Topic

- The lecturer discusses the role of... in ... and provides an example/two examples.

## 4. Examples

- For example,...
- For instance,...
- He/she provides an example of...

## 5. Conclusion

- Consequently, based on the information in both passages, ...

### Example

The reading discusses empathy and defines it as the capacity to understand or feel what another person is experiencing. The writer states that empathy is very important when you want to get along well with people. Further, he adds that empathy is the basis for long-lasting relationships.

The lecturer discusses the role of empathy in business and provides an example where empathy is crucial for a business person. For example, when business people need to work in a team it is indispensable that they understand what their colleagues feel and think in order to develop good relationships and work productively.

Consequently, based on the information in both passages, a business person should be empathic in order to cope well with working in a team.

## 4. Academic Lecture

### 1. Lecture Subject + Details

- The lecture is about... which is defined as...

### 2. Example 1

- First, the lecturer states that...

- For instance,...

### 3. Example 2

- Second, the speaker mentions that...
- For example,...

#### Example

The lecture is about democracy which is defined as a form of government based on the will of the people. First, the lecturer states that in a democratic society people are allowed to vote for whoever they like. For instance, people should not be put under pressure and to vote for a specific party or person. Second, the speaker mentions that democracy also means that the elected government has to fulfill the promises they made during the election. For example, if the politicians promised to make education accessible to everyone, they have the responsibility to put measures in place to realize this.