



TOEFL SPEAKING TASK 5:

SAMPLE TRANSCRIPT

Below is a transcript of a TOEFL Speaking Task 5 conversation track. To hear the full track and practice hundreds of other TOEFL questions, get a Magoosh TOEFL Subscription at toefl.magoosh.com.

(Question type: Task 5)

You will now listen to a conversation. You will then be asked a question about it. After you hear the question, you will have 20 seconds to prepare your response and 60 seconds to speak.

The students are discussing the woman's problem with her summer plans. Describe the problem, then state which of the two solutions you prefer and why.

Preparation time: 20 seconds

Response time: 60 seconds

Script

Narrator

Now listen to a conversation between two students.

Male Student

Hey, Michaela. Have you figured out your summer plans yet?

Female Student

Hi, Ferdinand. No, I'm really struggling to decide what to do. I'm at my wits' end.

Male Student

What do you mean?

Female Student

You know my boyfriend Mateo, right? He's Brazilian. He'll be studying for law school entrance exams in Rio de Janeiro this summer. Part of me really wants to join him there. After all, my thesis is about how the Brazilian government is fighting poverty in Rio... and like, this trip could be a great opportunity to do some more research. Also, I would get a chance to spend time with Mateo and his family, which would definitely be a plus.

Male Student

All of that sounds great. What's the issue, then?

Female Student

The problem is I don't actually have anything official to DO in Rio. I haven't been offered any kind of job or internship opportunities or ANYTHING there. I wouldn't be making any money, and I'd essentially be doing all of my research informally.

Male Student

I see. That IS a problem.

Female Student

That's why I'm thinking about staying here in New York this summer. There's a job offering as a research assistant for Professor Miranda. At least I'll have something concrete on my résumé.

Male Student

But Professor Miranda is notorious for asking so much from her research assistants... and, uhh... the university doesn't pay too much to its research assistants, anyway.

Female Student

Tell me about it. Also, I'd hate to waste time helping Professor Miranda research HER projects when my own thesis needs so much work.

Male Student

Do you think you might be able to find a formal job offering for the summer in Rio?

Female Student

At this point, it looks pretty difficult. Mateo says that I could always stay with his parents there because they have a big house, but I'd hate to impose on them all summer long...