



4. Please listen carefully.

Read the passage about symbiotic relationships. You have 45 seconds to read the passage. Begin reading now.

**PAUSE II** (for 45 seconds)

**TOEFL Speaking** Question 4 of 6

*Reading Time: 45 seconds*

### Symbiotic Relationships

Symbiosis refers to an intimate relationship between two organisms. This term does not indicate whether the relationship is beneficial or harmful to the organisms involved. Mutual symbiosis, or mutualism, occurs when both species gain some benefit from the relationship, whereas parasitism consists of a relationship in which one of the organisms benefits, while the other one is harmed. A third symbiotic relationship is that of commensalism. In commensalism, the relationship is beneficial to one of the organisms while the other neither benefits nor is harmed. A commensal organism can be either obligate or facultative. The obligate commensal cannot survive without its symbiotic partner. The facultative commensal can be found either living with its symbiotic partner or on its own.

Now listen to part of a lecture on this topic in a biology class.

**TOEFL Speaking** Question 4 of 6

A black and white video frame showing a man in a suit and tie speaking in a classroom setting. A window is visible in the background.

Now get ready to answer the question.

## TOEFL Speaking

Question 4 of 6

The professor gives two examples of symbiotic relationships that change. Explain both examples in terms of what the original symbiotic relationship was and what symbiotic relationship it became.

Preparation time: 30 seconds

Response time: 60 seconds

You may begin to prepare your response after the beep.

Please begin speaking after the beep.