TOEFL Listening Lesson 22

Setting: Inside the registrar's office. The student walks up to the front desk.

Questions

1. What is the main purpose of the student's visit to the registrar's office?

- A. To request a tuition refund for a dropped class
- B. To find out if dropping a class will affect financial aid
- C. To change her major and course schedule
- D. To file a complaint about a course instructor

2. What does the registrar say about the student's current credit load?

- A. She is under the full-time threshold
- B. She has already fallen below the required number of credits
- C. She will remain full-time even after dropping one class
- D. She needs to enroll in more courses to graduate

3. What does the registrar suggest the student do before dropping the class?

- A. Speak with her academic advisor about changing her major
- B. Submit a formal appeal to keep her scholarship
- C. Visit both the financial aid and bursar's offices
- D. Request permission from the course instructor

4. Why does the registrar mention the "second-half semester" courses?

- A. To explain how students can recover a low GPA
- B. To offer an option for maintaining credit hours
- C. To help the student meet her general education requirements
- D. To recommend classes that are easier than statistics

5. Why is the student concerned about dropping her statistics class?

- A. She is unsure whether it's part of her major requirements
- B. She fears it will permanently appear on her transcript
- C. She doesn't want to lose her scholarship or delay graduation
- D. She hasn't spoken with her instructor yet

Script

Student:

Hi, um, I was hoping to get some help with my schedule. I'm thinking of dropping one of my classes, but I'm not sure how it'll affect my financial aid.

Registrar:

Sure, we can definitely talk about that. Are you thinking about dropping the class entirely or switching to a different one?

Student:

Dropping it completely. It's my statistics course. I've been struggling since the start, and I just bombed the first exam.

Registrar:

Sorry to hear that. Do you know how many credit hours you're currently taking?

Student:

I'm taking 15 right now. If I drop stats, I'll be down to 12.

Registrar:

Okay, 12 is still considered full-time, so in most cases, your financial aid shouldn't be affected. But there are a few things to double-check. Are you receiving a federal grant or scholarship that has specific course or GPA requirements?

Student:

Um... yeah, I'm on a merit scholarship, and I think I have to maintain a

3.0 GPA. I don't remember if there's anything about credit hours, though.

Registrar:

Got it. For most merit-based scholarships, as long as you're full-time and keeping up your GPA, you should be fine. But it wouldn't hurt to confirm with the financial aid office just in case there's a clause about attempted credits or completion rate.

Student:

Right. So, if I drop the class now, will it show up on my transcript?

Registrar:

That depends on when you drop it. We're still within the add/drop period, which means if you submit the request this week, it won't show on your transcript at all.

Student:

Oh, that's good. I was worried it would show up as a W or something.

Registrar:

Nope, not if you act quickly. After this Friday, though, we enter the withdrawal period. Then it would show as a W, which doesn't affect your GPA, but some programs do take note if there are too many.

Student:

Makes sense. What about tuition? Like, if I drop the class, do I get some money back?

Registrar:

That depends on whether it's a refund-eligible course. Right now,

dropping a class during the add/drop period means you're eligible for a partial tuition refund—but you'd need to check with the bursar's office to find out exactly how much.

Student:

Okay. So it's kind of a chain reaction—drop the class, then check with financial aid and bursar to see how everything else is affected?

Registrar:

Exactly. You're doing the right thing by asking now. Some students wait too long and get caught off guard by financial or academic consequences.

Student:

I just want to make sure I'm not hurting my chances of keeping the scholarship. And I don't want to end up short credits when it's time to graduate.

Registrar:

Understandable. By the way, if you're concerned about staying on track for graduation, you might want to consider adding a second-half semester course to make up the credits. Some departments offer 7-week classes that start mid-semester.

Student:

Oh! I didn't even think of that. Are those listed on the registration site?

Registrar:

Yes, you can filter the course listings by "Second Half Semester" or "7-

week sessions." It's a good way to stay full-time without overloading yourself right now.

Student:

That might actually work. I'll look into that before I drop stats. Just to be safe.

Registrar:

Smart plan. If you decide to drop, just make sure to do it online or submit the form before Friday. And check in with financial aid and the bursar, like we discussed.

Student:

Thanks so much. This really helped clear things up.

Registrar:

No problem at all. That's what we're here for. Good luck with everything—and let us know if you need anything else!

Answers

1. What is the main purpose of the student's visit to the registrar's office?

Correct Answer: B. To find out if dropping a class will affect financial aid

2. What does the registrar say about the student's current credit load?

Correct Answer: C. She will remain full-time even after dropping one class

3. What does the registrar suggest the student do before dropping the class?

Correct Answer: C. Visit both the financial aid and bursar's offices

4. Why does the registrar mention the "second-half semester" courses?

Correct Answer: B. To offer an option for maintaining credit hours

5. Why is the student concerned about dropping her statistics class?

Correct Answer: C. She doesn't want to lose her scholarship or delay graduation