Follow-Up Interview Script: Further exploration on Academic, Social, and Practical Needs of International Students

Opening Script

Thank you so much for agreeing to take part in our follow-up interview for the technology innovation project at the University of Melbourne. My name is Daniel Fahmi (or interviewer's name). Our goal today is to get a better understanding on practical and social challenges international students face, especially around study, accommodation, and adjustment to university life in Melbourne. This conversation will help us better understand your needs and preferences. We want to hear your stories, opinions, and suggestions to help us design better solutions for students in the future.

This interview should take about 8–10 minutes. Please remember, there are no right or wrong answers. We are interested in your genuine experiences and ideas. You can skip any question or stop at any time. Your responses will be confidential and used only for research purposes.

Do you have any questions before we start?

Warm-up / Background:

- Could you briefly introduce yourself? (For example: year of study, course, and country of origin.)
- Can you tell me a little about your current living situation in Melbourne?

Accommodation & Environment:

- Tell me about your experience finding a place to live when you arrived here. What was easy or difficult?
  - *Did you look at suburbs? Did you care about price, community, safety?*
- Would it have been helpful if you had access to information like suburb costs, distance to campus, and cultural fit? What else would you want to know?

Studying & Social Connections:

- When starting a new subject or semester, how do you usually find classmates to study with, if at all?
  - *Do you wish there were easier ways to meet or study with students who are taking the same subject?*
- Have you ever tried to find places on or near campus to study together with friends or peers? What kind of places do you prefer?

- e.g., quiet areas, libraries, cafes, shared rooms, etc.

- Do you feel it's easy or hard to build meaningful friendships or academic networks while studying here? What are the barriers, if any?

Academic Planning & Course Selection:

- How do you usually decide which subjects to enrol in?
    - *Do you get advice from seniors, look at subject reviews, or just go by course requirements?*
- Have you ever tried to plan your entire course or semester ahead especially with your career goals in mind?
    - *Is it difficult to know which subjects lead to which jobs?*
- What kind of information would help you make better decisions about your academic journey?
    - *Examples might be subject difficulty, workload, relevance to future careers, etc.*

General Design Preferences:

- When using apps or platforms made for students, what makes you trust or enjoy using them?
    - *Easy to use, verified info, safety, useful features?*
- If a digital platform tried to support international students like yourself, what should it include or avoid?

Closing Script

Thank you very much for sharing your experiences and thoughts today. Your input is extremely valuable and will help guide our research directions and will inform new ideas for support and solutions.

As mentioned, your responses will be kept confidential. If you have any other comments or suggestions after today, please feel free to contact us at [insert contact email].

Before we finish, do you have any questions or final comments for me?

Thank you again for your participation. We really appreciate your help in making a difference for other international students. Have a great day!