

# Complaining, Making Suggestions and Requests

## LANGUAGE IN ACTION

### Asking to Borrow a Truck

Read the situation below before watching the videotaped series of conversations, "Asking to Borrow a Truck." Then watch the tape and try to follow the intent of the exchange. Do not concern yourself with unfamiliar signs, but use context to help you figure out the meaning. After you can follow the conversation, fill in the information requested at the end of the exercise.

**Situation:** Anthony has just bought a dresser and needs to borrow a truck to take it home.

(Anthony goes to Joe's home and finds him washing the car.)

Anthony: greets Joe

Joe: greets Anthony, asks what's happening

Anthony: asks if he still has a truck

Joe: says yes, tells where it is, asks why

Anthony: tells about his purchase, **asks if he can borrow the truck, explains why** he needs it

Joe: **responds**

Anthony: accepts explanation, says he will ask around

Anthony: } leavetakings...

Joe: }

(Anthony goes to a playing field where his friend Shane is sitting on the bench, waiting for his turn at bat.)

Anthony: gets Shane's attention, **makes request**

Shane: **responds**, asks why

Anthony: explains why

Shane: asks if he knows Pat (name sign)

Anthony: spells out name to confirm

Shane: confirms, explains she has an old truck

Anthony: asks if Pat's truck is very old

Shane: gives opinion, suggests Anthony go see her and find out

Anthony: asks if Pat still lives near the park

Shane: replies affirmatively

Anthony: says he'll go see her (another ballplayer tells Shane he's up at bat)

Anthony: } leavetakings...

Shane: }

(Anthony approaches Pat, who is mowing the lawn.)

Anthony: } greetings

Pat: }

Anthony: asks why her husband is not mowing the lawn

Pat: complains about husband