

SECTION 3

MELANIE: Excuse me, Dr Johnson. May I speak to you for a minute?

DR JOHNSON: Sure. Come in.

MELANIE: I'm Melanie Griffin. I'm taking your course in Population Studies.

DR JOHNSON: Right. Well, Melanie, how can I help you?

MELANIE: I'm . . . having a bit of trouble with the second assignment, and it's due in twelve days.

DR JOHNSON: What sort of trouble are you having? Is the assignment question a problem?

- MELANIE: Well, that's part of the problem. I'm also having – been having – trouble getting hold of the books. I've been to the library several times, and all the books are out.
- DR JOHNSON: Sounds like you should have started borrowing books a bit earlier.
- MELANIE: Well, I had a really big assignment due in for another course, and I've been spending all my time on that, and I thought . . . Q21
- DR JOHNSON: . . . you might get an extension of time to finish your assignment for me?
- MELANIE: If that's possible, but I don't know . . .
- DR JOHNSON: Well, yes, it is possible, but extensions are normally given only for medical or compassionate reasons, otherwise it's really a question of organising your study, and we don't like giving extensions to students who simply didn't plan their work properly. What did you get for your first assignment? Q22
- MELANIE: I got eighty-seven per cent.
- DR JOHNSON: Mmm, yes, you did very well indeed, so obviously you can produce good work.
- MELANIE: I don't think I'll need too much extra time, as long as I can get hold of some of the important references.
- DR JOHNSON: Well, since you did so well in your first assignment, I'm prepared to give you an extra two weeks for this one, so that'll mean you'll need to submit it about a month from now.
- MELANIE: Thank you.
- DR JOHNSON: Now, what about the reading materials? Have you checked out the journal articles in the list?
- MELANIE: Umm, no, not yet, there were about twenty of them, and I wasn't sure which ones would be most useful or important.
- DR JOHNSON: Well, they're all useful, but I don't expect anyone to read them all, because a number of them deal with the same issues. Let me give you some suggestions. The article by Anderson and Hawker is really worth reading.
- MELANIE: Right, I'll read that one.
- DR JOHNSON: You should also read the article by Jackson, but just look at the part on the research methodology – how they did it. Q23
- MELANIE: OK . . . Jackson, got that . . .
- DR JOHNSON: And if you have time, the one by Roberts says very relevant things, although it's not essential.
- MELANIE: So, OK, if it's useful, I'll try and read that one . . . Q24
- DR JOHNSON: Now, the one by Morris. I wouldn't bother with that at this stage, if I were you.
- MELANIE: OK, I won't bother with Morris. Oh, now, someone told me the article by Cooper is important. Q25
- DR JOHNSON: Well, yes, in a way, but just look at the last part, where he discusses the research results. And lastly, there's Forster – I can't think why I included that one. It's not bad and could be of some help, but not that much. Q26
- DR JOHNSON: Now, let's deal with the assignment question. What's the problem there? Q27
- MELANIE: It's the graph on page two.

Tapescripts

- DR JOHNSON: What seems to be the problem? It's just the bar graph showing reasons why people change where they live.
- MELANIE: Well, I've got a photocopy but the reasons at the bottom are missing.
- DR JOHNSON: OK. Look at the first bar on the graph – now that indicates the number of people who move because they want more space.
- MELANIE: Oh I see . . . bar one. OK . . . Now what about the next bar?
- DR JOHNSON: Bar two is to do with the people living nearby disturbing them, so they chose Q28 to move away to somewhere quieter. Now let's look at bar number three . . . another reason people change their place of living is because they want to be closer to the city.
- MELANIE: OK. Proximity to the city is an issue . . .
- DR JOHNSON: Now . . . bar number four refers to problems when the owner of the property won't help fix things that go wrong. In other words, the owner is not helpful Q29 and so the tenants move out.
- MELANIE: OK . . . now what about bar five?
- DR JOHNSON: Bar five is about those people who move because they need a bus or train to get them into the city or to go to work.
- MELANIE: OK . . . and bar six?
- DR JOHNSON: Bar number six is interesting. That reason was given quite a lot – people moving because they wanted to be in a more attractive neighbourhood. Q30
- MELANIE: Oh, yes, thank you very much.