

# Jobs-focused learning materials used in the Extending Repertoires Research Project

## Extract 1

### Unit 2

Hi. My name is James Choul. I came from Kenya with my wife and children two months ago. I was born in Sudan in 1970. My wife's name is Mary. We got married in 1994. She studies English at home with a tutor and she looks after our children. We have five children aged 9, 7, 6, 2 and the baby aged 4 months. We live in Dandenong at 23 Stirling Street. I want to learn English and find a job. I can do any job.

I study English at AMES. Sometimes I miss class because I am looking for a job. Yesterday I asked my teacher to give me more homework so I can learn English quickly. I said, 'I need a job to send money back to my family. I am worried about them.' My teacher said, 'Talk to the Learning Adviser. Her name is Christine.' I went to the Reception and made an appointment.

The appointment is next Tuesday at 11 o'clock. I must be **on time** because there will be an interpreter. I speak Swahili and Arabic.

## Extract 2

8. Look at the timetable for the trains from Dandenong to Caulfield.

James needs to get to the Hotel by 4.00. It is about 10 minutes from Caulfield Station.  
What train will he need to catch?

Dandenong	Dep	..	3.06	..	3.21	..	3.34
Yarraman		..	3.09	..	3.24	..	3.37
Noble Park		..	3.11	..	3.26	..	3.39
Sandown Park		..	3.13	..	3.28	..	3.41
Springvale		..	3.15	..	3.30	..	3.43
Westall		..	3.17	..	3.32	..	3.45
Clayton		..	3.20	..	3.35	..	3.48
Huntingdale		..	3.22	..	3.37	..	3.50
Oakleigh		..	3.25	..	3.40	..	3.53
Hughesdale		..	3.27	..	3.42	..	3.55
Murrumbeena		..	3.28	..	3.43	..	3.56
Carnegie		..	3.30	..	3.45	..	3.58
Caulfield		3.29	3.33	3.44	3.48	3.57	4.01
Malvern		3.31	3.35	3.46	3.50	3.59	4.03
Armadale		..	3.37	..	3.52	..	4.05
Toorak		..	3.39	..	3.54	..	4.07
Hawksburn		..	3.41	..	3.56	..	4.09
South Yarra		3.36	3.43	3.51	3.58	4.04	4.11
Richmond		3.38	3.45	3.53	4.00	4.06	4.13
Parliament		3.58	4.01	4.15	4.23	..	4.29
Melbourne Central		3.56	3.59	4.13	4.21	..	4.27
Flagstaff		3.54	3.57	4.11	4.19	..	4.25
Spencer Street		3.52	3.55	4.09	4.17	..	4.23
Flinders Street	Arr	3.42	3.49	3.57	4.04	4.10	4.17

9. How long will it take James to go from Dandenong to Caulfield? \_\_\_\_\_

10. Is it a good idea for him to get a job in Caulfield? \_\_\_\_\_

11. How much will it cost for a weekly ticket if he gets the job? \_\_\_\_\_

(A Metlink Fares and Travel Guide 2004 for Melbourne is also included in this unit, together with additional exercises explaining zoning and fare structures.)

### Extract 3

#### Royal Hotel

#### Application for Employment

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Given name/names: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Country of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Australian citizen: Yes  No

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Previous work experience		
Dates	Name of company	Position

Qualifications: \_\_\_\_\_

Current driver's licence: Yes  No

#### Referee 1

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

#### Referee 2

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

## Extract 4

### Unit 3

Who are they? What are they saying?



Yesterday I had an interview with the Learning Adviser. Her name is Christine. We talked about looking for work in Australia. Christine said that it is very difficult to get a job with only a little English. It is also difficult with no **qualifications** or **experience** in Australia. She asked me what work **experience** I had. I told her I had two jobs in the refugee camp. At first I was a cook for about two years until 1999. After that I helped in the office for four years from 1999 to 2003. My brother John is a lawyer. He helped me get that job. I also have a lot of experience doing jobs for my family.

I really liked working in the office and would like to work in an office here in Australia. Christine told me that I need better English to get office work in Australia.

She asked me what **skills** I had. I told her that I can fix furniture. I can do gardening. I can drive a car.

My wife Mary has a lot of **skills** too. She can cook. She can clean. She can look after children. She can sew. She is looking after our children and her friend's two children. Christine said that maybe she has the **experience** to get a job with the Council in Family Daycare.

#### Talking to the Learning Adviser

**Christine:** Hello, James. How are you?

**James:** OK thanks.

**Christine:** That's good. How can I help you?

**James:** Please tell me how I can look for work.

**Christine:** Well, first of all, what would you like to do?

**James:** I want any work, but I know my English isn't good enough for some jobs.

**Christine:** What work experience do you have?

**James:** Well, I was a cook in the refugee camp. After that I worked in the office at the refugee camp.

**Christine:** Tell me about what you can do.

**James:** I do lots of things at home. I can drive. I can do the garden. And I can fix things like furniture.

**Christine:** Yes, you have some good skills, James. You can use those skills to look for a job, but you need to keep learning English.

**James:** Can I do English classes and look for work?

**Christine:** Yes, you can do evening classes or Distance Learning - learn at home with books and cassettes.

**James:** My friend works at a bread shop making bread. Maybe he can help me get a job. Maybe when my English is better I can try to find work in an office, or with computers.

**Christine:** Yes, your experience can help you. Maybe you can do some study at TAFE as well. But for the moment, perhaps ask your friend and still study some English. More English will help later anyway.

**James:** Yes, thank you.

Materials developed by Carmel Everitt as part of the AMEP Research Centre 'Extending Repertoires' project with input from other team members.