

## **LEONARDO SCENARIO SUGGESTIONS**

### **1. Booking a place on a summer camp/school**

*Language teaching points: Exchanging basic information, selling*

*Subject relevance: Catering and Tourism*

A student phones the summer camp administrator. The administrator explains:

- what activities are available - language classes, music classes, outdoor activities
- what the accommodation range is - hotels, B&B, hostels, camping etc
- what the price is and what it includes

The administrator is good at selling and the student is impressed, so the administrator asks for the student's details to send him the brochure. The student gives his name and address, and it emerges he's calling from USA. The administrator has to explain that fees for non-EU students are higher, BUT that non-EU students also get a free pencil with an EU flag on it. The administrator asks for the student's telephone number, and the student says "Thank you, don't call me. I'll call you."

### **2. Installing broadband network**

*Language teaching points: Explaining things, making lists*

*Subject relevance: Electronics*

The engineer from the local authority educational technology department drives up to a small rural school in her van and starts unloading boxes, cables, computer screens, keyboards etc. The school janitor pokes his head out of the door and asks her what she's doing. The engineer explains she's come to install the new broadband computer network to connect the school to the national grid for learning, and shows him all the equipment she's got, telling him what it does. The janitor looks thoughtful for a while, and finally says that that will be very helpful - especially after the electricity board have finally connected the school up for electricity - due to happen next year. He blows out his candle, locks the door, and shuffles off.

### **3. Constructing a bilingual website**

*Language teaching points: Translation between languages*

*Subject relevance: Media Studies, possibly Electronics*

Keen young students in a college media studies department are gathered round a computer. One is typing in text. They discuss how to translate "homepage", "internet", "e-mail", "website" etc into their home language. They are pleased with their work and how good their language skills are. The typist says his granny would be proud of him. He

returns home to find his granny at work on his computer at home, full of enthusiasm for it, and producing a punchline using all the loanwords from English that the students have just been painstakingly translating or creating neologisms for in the home language. Granny/grandad finishes off with something like "Carson nach tuirt rium thu gun robh *computers* ceart cho *cool*?" (Why didn't you tell me that computers were so cool?)

#### **4. Work placement with a Tourist Information Office**

*Language teaching points: Negotiating a service*

*Subject relevance: Catering and Tourism*

Lots of visitors stop at the office to ask where they can find local music. The trainee fixes up with a local bar/hotel for an informal music session, and she negotiates for the musicians to get free drinks. It is agreed that they should start playing after the European Cup final finishes on the TV in the bar. However, the match goes to extra time, and then penalties, so the musicians continue drinking. When the match is finally over, there is only time for one tune before the bar has to close, but the musicians are "too tired" to play anyway, slumping onto/under the table as they try to play.

#### **5. Work placement with daycare centre/old people's home**

*Language teaching points: Narrative, conversation strategies*

*Subject relevance: Healthcare*

Earnest young student on placement is asked to encourage patients to reminisce. He is very anxious to help "the poor old folk" - very attentive, very encouraging when they speak, possibly to the point of being painfully patronising. This could be played straight with plenty of repetition of conversation elicitation strategies from the student, plus narrative language from the patient. Alternatively, it could be played for laughs with the patient relating a story that has a crude or shocking punchline that startles the student.

#### **6. Television company**

*Language teaching points: Giving suggestions, swapping opinions, agreeing/disagreeing*

*Subject relevance: Media Studies*

A small team of three enthusiastic new recruits is required to dream up a visual title sequence for a new children's cartoon. They are working over a large sketchpad that the camera can't see. They discuss the requirements - arresting/attractive, funny, easy to understand, colourful etc - and are very busy scribbling on the pad with their felt tip pens. After several disagreements and additions/deletions they finally agree and place the pad on the table so the camera sees the final result - an ugly mess.