



1. Susan has been with her employer for two days. She is not happy. The other people she works with do not talk to her and she feels she has been given all the jobs that no one else wants to do. For example: cleaning, making the tea and so on. She is thinking of leaving. What should she do?
2. The boss is going on holiday for two weeks and asks Darren if he would work his days off while he is away. He tells Darren that he will pay him 'cash in hand'. What do you think Darren's reply should be?
3. Steven is 17 and has been on an Apprenticeship for about a year. He is doing well and is liked by his placement provider and the other workers. However he has always wanted to be a Police Officer. He realises he is too young to join the Police Force yet, but thinks he would be better doing some other kind of work. What do you think Steven should do?
4. The boss has just returned from holiday. Sandra is short of money and considers asking her boss for a small loan until she gets paid. Should Sandra ask for a loan?

Dilemmas at work

1. *Susan has been with her employer for two days. She is not happy. The other people she works with do not talk to her and she feels she has been given all the jobs that no one else wants to do. For example: cleaning, making the tea and so on. She is thinking of leaving. What should she do?*

It is not unusual for young people to experience some difficulty in settling down in a job. It takes more than two days for people to get to know one another. Most young people starting a new job or going on work experience are given simple, easy tasks to do which is done so the young person has time to settle. After a while Susan will probably find that she is given more rewarding work to do. Susan should try and stick it out at least for a couple of weeks. By this time, she will probably find that other people speak to her and she will be given more interesting work to do. If she is still not happy she should talk to her supervisor or manager. If Susan is on work experience she should inform her school of any problems.

2. *The boss is going on holiday for two weeks and asks Darren if he would work his days off while he is away. He tells Darren that he will pay him 'cash in hand'. What do you think Darren's reply should be?*

Darren should find out exactly what work he will be doing and how much the boss is going to pay him. He could ask for time-and-a-half and let his boss know that he would sooner it be paid as part of his wages.

3. *Steven is 17 and has been on an Apprenticeship for about a year. He is doing well and is liked by his placement provider and the other workers. However he has always wanted to be a Police Officer. He realises he is too young to join the Police Force yet, but thinks he would be better doing some other kind of work. What do you think Steven should do?*

Steven should find out as much information as he can about being a Police Officer and also other jobs. He should not just leave his present job without considering all the options he has open to him. It would be better for him to complete his training as he would then have an NVQ qualification to take to future employers. He can discuss his ideas with a Personal Adviser. Once he has discussed his ideas in more detail and gathered further information, he will then be able to make an informed decision.

4. *The boss has just returned from holiday. Sandra is short of money and considers asking her boss for a small loan until she gets paid. Should Sandra ask for a loan?*

It is probably not a good time to approach the boss. He/She will be busy getting into a work routine after being away. Sandra would be better leaving it for at least a few days and then approaching the boss when she is more amenable. Another way would be to leave a note or maybe negotiate by offering something in return.