

Emina is studying *Certificate 3 in English* and Nick is studying *Preparation for Work*. They often run into each other on the way to the coffee shop, and are now good friends. Emina meets with the student counsellor, Marie, to discuss her future in fashion.



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- Narrator** Podcast 1, career planning.
Emina talks to the student counsellor about working in fashion.
- Nick** Hi Emina! Want to go for a coffee or something?
- Emina** Sorry Nick, I've got an appointment with Marie.
- Nick** Who's Marie?
- Emina** The student counsellor. She came to our class last week. I need some advice.
- Nick** Oh, you got a problem?
- Emina** No, I just need some information.
- Nick** OK, see ya!
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- Marie** Hi Emina. Come in, take a seat. How can I help you?
- Emina** Hi Marie. I'd like to talk about next year, after I've finished Certificate 3.
- Marie** OK. And what exactly would you like to do?
- Emina** I want to have my own business selling clothes. Can you help me? I love fashion, and I need to get money to help my mum.
- Marie** Mmm... It's great that you have such a clear idea of your long term goal, Emina. But you'll need to get some experience in retail first. Have you worked in a shop before?
- Emina** In Syria, I helped my mum in the market. They had a... like a ... little shop at the market? What do you call it?
- Marie** We call it a stall, a market stall.
- Emina** Oh, yes, they had a stall selling clothes and shoes. I helped my mum and aunty with sewing. I can use a sewing machine.
- Marie** So, you have experience, that's good. But it's probably a good idea if you could get a part time job in a big store that sells clothes, like Kmart or Target or even Safeway, so you get some experience in retail.
- Emina** But I don't want to work in a supermarket!
- Marie** It takes a lot of money to start your own business, and you need to know about how things work in Australia.
- Emina** What kind of things?
- Marie** Well, things like buying stock, dealing with suppliers and customers, marketing and the Australian tax system. Setting up a small business can be very challenging.
- Emina** But I can work very hard.
- Marie** I know you can, but it's not just about hard work Emina. There's a lot you need to know and learn. And you need more English....
- Emina** But... that'll take so long!

- Marie** But this is all good preparation. You can get a part time job in a store, as I said, and you'll learn a lot about how things work, and get a lot of useful English practice talking with customers. You'll kill two birds with one stone.
- Emina** Birds?
- Marie** It means you'll do two things at the same time! Earning and learning!
- Emina** Oh I see.
- Marie** Next year you could do a course in Retail or Fashion Design at TAFE. So come back in a month or so and we can go through all the options. You could also apply for a program that teaches you how to set up a small business. It's the government NEIS scheme.
- Emina** OK. Thanks for your help Marie.
- Nick** How did you go?
- Emina** It was OK. She said I should get a part time job in a store first.
- Nick** Mm, well, I got a mate who works in Coles. Maybe he could help you. I'll call him in the lunch break.
- Emina** Thanks Nick that'd be great.