

### 2.3 Extra exam exercise

- Contractor: Thank you for coming, Fahid. As you know, the owners will visit the construction site in person this afternoon, so it's time to evaluate the project so far. Even though you joined our team only five weeks ago, you've worked in this field longer than the rest of the team put together, so your input is much appreciated.
- Builder: Anytime, Mitchell!
- Contractor: Let's discuss planning first. It's a real shame we're running a week behind schedule. What was the main reason for the delay, do you think?
- Builder: Well, construction on the outer walls started right after the shipment of timber had arrived, but the English climate has certainly not been on our side; because of unexpected heavy rainfall, all construction work had to be suspended for a week. I was worried that the project would suffer more delays when Javier and Ben both called in sick last week. Fortunately, some of the others very kindly offered to work the weekend, so that hasn't caused any extra delays.
- Contractor: The team's commitment to the project is quite remarkable! How are Javier and Ben doing now?
- Builder: They both had the flu but have fully recovered, fortunately.
- Contractor: I'm glad to hear that. So, the owners want to move in before the summer, which means we really need to get back on track. Usually I'd propose that the team works overtime for the next couple of weeks, but I can't ask you to put in even more hours. I'm afraid we'll have to postpone the construction of the garage and the carport. I'll discuss this with the owners this afternoon. It's either this or take on more people, but since we're on a tight budget that's not really an option.
- Builder: I understand. I'm confident we'll be back on schedule in no time.
- Contractor: Next, could you give me an update on the windows?
- Builder: So far, so good, I would say. The glass has been ordered and we're expecting that to arrive any day now.
- Contractor: Excellent. We've had some problems with this supplier in the past; they delivered glass that was too small for our window frames. Let's hope they won't make the same mistake again, or we'll have to find ourselves another supplier. And the doors?
- Builder: The doors arrived last week. They look great and fit perfectly. We've taken them out of the frames for the time being, so they can be painted. We'll put them back in as soon as they're done.
- Contractor: Fantastic; good work! The final thing I would like to evaluate today is the budget. As I mentioned before, our budget is tight so there's little room for error. How much have you spent on building materials so far?
- Builder: We've had to spend more on timber than we initially thought. This is not the carpenters' fault, though: their work has been very precise. Due to recent forest fires the price of wood has gone up. We expect, however, that this is only temporary and that the prices will come down again soon. All in all, we have still spent less on building materials than expected because we bought most of our materials in bulk from wholesalers.
- Contractor: Thanks for bringing me up to speed on the budget, Fahid. Please keep me informed. Did you have any questions for me?

Builder: Yes, I did have one question. Have you heard back from the bathroom retailer about the delivery of the bathroom tiles? We're finishing up the plumbing at the moment, so we would like to start tiling as soon as possible.

Contractor: Thanks for reminding me. They promised to send me the delivery details last week, but I still haven't heard from them. Their products are absolutely top-notch, but it's very difficult to get hold of them. Then again, maybe we shouldn't expect too much from a company that doesn't charge any shipping costs. I'll let you know as soon as I have more information.

Builder: Thanks.

Contractor: Let's evaluate again in a fortnight. Keep up the good work!

Builder: See you in a fortnight!