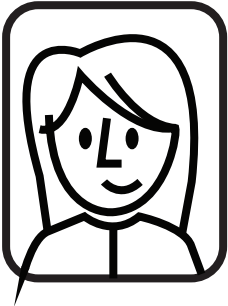


LESSON 12: HOMEWORK TASK

Sarah's and John's Case Studies



Hi, my name is Sarah.

I'm 19 and a first year in college. I'm doing a 3-year bakery course in DIT. As I'm from Kilkenny I live in a rented house in Dublin with four housemates. We share the rent but it's still quite expensive – we pay €300 each, every month.

When I started college I had to buy a lot of cooking and baking equipment. That cost €200. The same thing will probably happen at the start of next year. I have a few bills in the house as well. We share all the bills between us but even so, I spend €250 on bills and food every month.

I can claim a student grant of €500 per term but that doesn't go very far. There are three terms a year so I get €1,500 every college year. I'm very lucky, my uncle agreed to give me a loan of €3,900 to help while I'm in college. I divided the loan up between the three years so I get €1,300 per year. I don't have to pay him back until I finish college and I don't have to pay any interest!

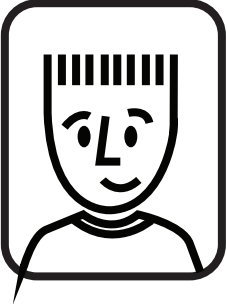
I have a part-time job. I work 20 hours a week in a kitchen for the minimum wage of €8.65 an hour, but I can only work when I don't have exams coming up. This means I work for seven months of the college year. When I'm finished with this year's exams my boss said she'll take me on for 35 hours a week at the minimum wage for the three summer months which is great.

I spend at least €50 going out during the week. I also have a car. This year, my insurance was €425 and the tax cost €310. Petrol usually costs me €20 a week. I only use it to drive to Kilkenny every second weekend to see my parents. One of my housemates is from Kilkenny as well and she travels home by coach. She says it's really cheap and that you can get a student return ticket for €10.80.

I think I'm pretty good at budgeting as I can make my money last until the end of term when I get my grant. When college is over, though, I'll have to repay my uncle so there is always room for improvement.

LESSON 12: HOMEWORK TASK

Sarah's and John's Case Studies



Hi, I'm John.

Hi, I'm John. I'm 15 and I am in third year in secondary school. Next year I want to do Transition Year. Transition Year students do some great projects and there is always the option of a trip to a European country. My parents said they will pay for the trip but I have to save my spending money. I reckon I'll need about €350.

I have a part time job, delivering the local newspaper, which pays €20 a week. I also get €10 pocket money every Saturday.

I usually spend about €10 a week on food and drink, and about another €10 on things like going to the cinema or on computer games. About once a month I buy clothes or shoes – usually about €30 worth. I'm not very good at saving, but I really want to go on the TY trip so I'm going to have to start trying to save soon.