

Conducting a semi-structured interview
Lesson 3 Cleaning up notes and on the spot auto-evaluation

Model Answer – Exercise: Taking notes with a tape recorder

REMINDER OF THE INSTRUCTIONS

Using a short video extract from an interview conducted in Larzac (sheep farming region, France) you will:

- a) Listen to a sound track and take notes. You can put the tape on pause.
- b) Time your note taking and compare how long it took you with your note taking in exercise 2 of this lesson. What do you notice?

MODEL ANSWER

Regarding constraints, I would like to know if you have problems related to forage and water?

Yes. I do not know if it is due to climate change, but for several years now there is a drought in the fall, in a normal year we have storms around August 15 but this year there were none. In autumn, the animals are on forage but this year we had to buy and so we might reduce the herd. Otherwise, another problem on the meadows are the wild boar, they destroy the seedlings, the meadows, etc. When we sow the seeds we put up wild boar fences. You have to watch them all the time and sometimes even with the fences they get inside and then get stuck in the middle; so wild boars also are a really serious problem. Before, we grew cereals and now we no longer grow any cereal so we only grow forage because ploughing the ground is expensive due to the equipment, seeds, etc and you don't get much of a harvest so we re-sow the meadows from time to time but not very often but we do it sometimes like they say extensively. As for fertilizer, we only put manure but we are running a little late on that because of equipment problems and the tractor that has the shaker has to work well and there are some leaks but we haven't put down any fertilizer for a number of years because it doesn't suit the climate and there is way too much land. When fertilizer salesmen come to see us we tell them: "Ok, but you guarantee us a yield otherwise we won't pay you." And they don't come back.