

Listening script

Unit 9

14

(T = tutor; M = Malcolm)

T: Hi Malcolm. How are you?

M: Fine, thanks. And you?

T: Yes, I'm OK, thank you. You left a message when you booked this tutorial to say that you wanted to talk about your film project. Am I right?

M: Yeah.

T: So, how can I help you?

M: Well, I'm having difficulty getting my project started. I should've been about halfway through by now, but I haven't done anything at all really. I think I'm feeling a bit overwhelmed by it all.

T: Overwhelmed? In what way?

M: Mmm ... I don't know. I may've chosen something that's too abstract.

T: Which is? Remind me what the focus of ... ?

M: The title's 'Perceptions of Beauty in India'.

T: Yeah. That's a good subject; it's probably quite challenging, but very appealing.

M: I wanted to put together a moving digital photo collage of my travels around India last summer showing the beauty of the place. I was completely overawed by the whole experience.

T: How many did you take in all?

M: At least 600.

T: That is a lot. I'm sure it's a wonderful photographic record, but I think your problem lies there. Can you tell me? What did you take photographs of?

M: Buildings like palaces and official places like the government buildings in New Delhi by Lutyens – I think they're really underrated. People just think of the Taj Mahal, but India's not all like that. It's huge: it's got tradition, colour and beauty at every corner. I've also got some dazzling images of places like the Ganges at Varanasi; the grandeur and splendour of the images simply take your breath away.

T: OK, I have a suggestion.

M: Yeah?

T: What about going through your digital stills on the computer and selecting the ten images which appeal to you the most? And ...

M: I don't know if I could narrow it down to that.

T: Well, you'll be surprised. Select the top hundred, and then narrow that down to 25. And then you could ...

M: I've just thought of an idea.

T: Yes?

M: I could mmm ... Yes that's it! I could select the top ten as you suggest, and then find various people's views on these ... and then do a video collage with the pictures swirling around like a pop video. Why didn't I think of that before! That's it!

T: Problem solved?

M: Yes, but now I have to do all the work!

T: Before you submit the project, there are a few things I'd like to say. The length ...

M: Can the film be longer than 15 minutes?

T: I wouldn't advise it. There might have been a few people on the course last year who made 20-minute, or even 25-minute films, but I have to say they were the least successful. I think you'll find that it's good discipline to try to work within a short time limit and overall concentrate on having an end product that is simple.

M: Mmm ...

T: And I'd say that ten minutes might be good ...

M: Ten minutes! That's almost nothing.

T: You'll be very surprised. One minute per place fading out and in. It could be very effective. Remember the work we did on adverts and the short attention span of people generally, especially these days.

M: Yeah, I suppose you're right. I'm just thinking of all the materials – 600 plus stills down to ten, and then reduced to a ten-minute film. What about the format? How do I need to submit it?

T: Mmm ... all the information is on the department website. You can access it as per usual.

M: What's it under?

T: Go to 'Digital Photography'. Then 'Year One', and then click on 'Film Project', and everything is there. And don't forget you have to fill in a submission form detailing the background of the project.

M: Yeah, I ... I know all that. But can't I just email it to you when it's done?

T: I'm afraid not, it has to go through the central process. We used to

ask for copies burned on DVD, ... four copies with the submission form, but we've been overtaken by technology, so you hand it in on a memory stick.

M: OK, I can do that.