HEMISPHERES LEVEL 2 UNIT 1 PART A

TOO MUCH NOISE!

INT: HEMISPHERES CAFE, CROWDED AND NOISY ON A BUSTLING MORNING. MARTINA IS BUSY AT THE REGISTER. PAUL, A MIDDLE AGED CUSTOMER, SITS AT A COMPUTER.

Chaz steps into frame above the action.

CHAZ
Hi. Let me introduce myself. My name is Chaz, and I'm your host for Hemispheres, Level Two. Welcome to Hemispheres, internet cafe. Let's get started.

Chaz walks off screen.

PAUL
(sharply, visibly irritated at the noise, to Martine across the room)
Excuse me, miss. Hello?! (she doesn't hear, he walks to counter, peeved)
It seems awfully loud in here.

MARTINA
Sorry. There are so many people on Monday mornings!

PAUL
(not amused)
Yeah, I can see that.

(CONTINUED)
MARTINA
(she looks up, smiles)
How can I help you?

PAUL
I need more coffee...and this noise is driving me nuts.

VOICE
(from across room, loud crash)
Oh no!!

MARTINA
(to Paul)
Please sit down. I'll be right with you. (he goes to table, Martina says to Jake) Jake, can you please clean up that spill at table six?

CUT TO:

PAUL'S TABLE.

PAUL
(louder, to be heard over hubbub)
Can't you do something? It's too noisy. I'm trying to work!

MARTINA
(walks to Paul's table with coffee)
Here's your coffee, sir. I apologize, but it's more hectic than usual today.

PAUL
Look, my office computer is down, I'm trying to write this important article, and I can't concentrate.

MARTINE
No offense, but some people presume an internet cafe is like a library. It's not.
(Martina presents a muffin)
Here. It's my grandmother's famous recipe - banana nut. It's on the house.

(CONTINUED)
PAUL
Oh, I don't like bananas. But thanks, really. (changing his tone) I appreciate it. So, it seems like your cafe is really doing well judging by all the in people here.

MARTINA
Yeah, business is pretty good. I'm sorry about the noise, though. It looks like it's quieting down.

Freeze. Chaz walks onto screen.

CHAZ
First, he seemed pretty rude to Martina - but she kept her cool. I'm curious. Do you think it's better to start a conversation with a complaint or with a smile? (Points to his smile) Take the smile.

HEMISPHERE'S LEVEL 2  UNIT 1  PART B

INT: HEMISPHERES CAFE, SCENE CONTINUES FROM PART A.

Martina walks over to Paul with another muffin.

MARTINA
Let me ask you a question. Do you like apples?

PAUL
Yes.

MARTINA
Try this. It's apple cinnamon. And here are some headphones. They cut down the noise so you can concentrate.

PAUL
You know, I really misjudged you. You're so thoughtful. And you're doing an incredible job here. I want to talk to the manager. Where is he?
CONTINUED:

MARTINA
(laughs)
She’s right here.

PAUL
You're the manager?

MARTINA
And the owner! We're short staffed today, so I'm pitching in.

PAUL
I'm really impressed. The owner is waiting on tables. Let me introduce myself. I'm Paul Douglas, editor of the Downtown Newspaper.

MARTINA
Oh, the newspaper. I'm Martina Hernandez. It's a pleasure.

PAUL
You know, I'm doing an article on small neighborhood businesses and I'd love to include your cafe in my story.

MARTINA
Great!

PAUL
So, tell me - when did you open the cafe?

MARTINA
It's been a year now.

PAUL
Wow...

Chaz Enters

CHAZ
Hmmm...Paul made an inference. He assumed Martina was not the owner? Let's take a look.

Repeat clip.
PAUL
I want to talk to the manager.
Where is he?

MARTINE
(laughs)
She's right here.

PAUL
You're the manager?

MARTINA
And the owner!

PAUL
I'm really impressed. The owner is waiting on tables.

Freeze. Back to Chaz.

CHAZ
See, Paul assumed the owner would be a man. He also had the misconception that somebody waiting tables couldn't be the owner. Both inferences were wrong. Right? It just goes to show you - you can't judge a book by its cover.