

The problem with George

You are the supervisor of George, a full-time student who seems to find it difficult to grasp research techniques, and who, at most points of his schedule, has produced work the quality of which is lower than you would have expected.

His research is - in part - into the nature of the music profession and the life of free-lancers in particular. But gradually you are discovering that George is a dedicated minimalist as far as the research is concerned and is making significant sums of money as a freelance musician. You suspect that he has in fact been using his research studentship to supplement his overall income.

The two issues for you really are about where the line is to be drawn and what you do about it. How are you to monitor what is being done in his spare time, in a way that would allow you to know whether he is spending sufficient time on research? And then what sanctions can you apply?

Team task

One the acetate provided please list your main suggestions for

1. The supervisor
2. The department

to deal with the 'George problem'.