

Unit 5 Written quiz audio script

(Track 6)

Alan Debbie, do you think people should be punished for shoplifting? I mean, it just doesn't seem like a very serious crime to me. . . .

Debbie Well, I'm not sure I agree with you about that. I mean, it *is* pretty serious. First of all, it's just another kind of stealing – like burglary or bank robbery – only in a different place. You know, a bank robber steals cash from a bank, and a shoplifter steals something from a store.

Alan Well, yeah. I guess you've got a point there. But I don't think most shoplifters steal anything valuable. It's usually just, you know, a candy bar or a CD or something.

Debbie Oh, Alan. The only reason people don't take more valuable things is that they usually *can't* – because of the video cameras in the stores. And, you know, most of the valuable things, like jewelry and stuff, are locked away or have those security devices that set off an alarm if you try to steal them.

Alan Well, that's true, too, but then what are you saying . . . ? That even people who take little things should be fined or sent to prison?

Debbie Well, not sent to prison, no. But fined, yeah. Or *something*. Don't you think so?

Alan Not always. You know, it depends. I think some kids do it just for fun. Just to see if they can get away with it. I think if it's their first time, and they don't take anything valuable, . . .