Simon 1: Hello, what are your thoughts on the new Grand Theft Auto game?

Simon 2: I'm going to watch Youtube gameplay of it soon…

Simon 1: Would you play the game if someone gave it to you for free?

Simon 2: I just think there are better ways to spend your time.

Simon 1: What do you mean?

Simon 2: When I was in primary school I used to day dream of playing computer games all the time when I should have been listening to what the people giving talks in assembly said. My thinking was that it didn't really matter as they weren't true lessons, on reflection I ended up being that little bit less wise.

Simon 1: What games did you think about?

Simon 2: I really liked Robo Pit. In it you merely build robots and fight other robots and I got more and more into my fantasies over time. Fighting robots would be so cool! Nowadays I worry that I'll be so absorbed in GTA without any time to self reflect, I'd end up thinking 'God, I want to mug people and shoot the police…' It's a slippery slope.

Simon 1: That's quite a claim, do you have any proof?

Simon 2: Yes, I hate to say I watch Youtube videos of once-convicted felons, but I saw such a person play an earlier version of the game and you could clearly see it was making him feel very uncomfortable.

Simon 1: So you're saying you self reflect?

Simon 2: Yes, I wonder who I can blame all my problems on.

Simon 1: I see.

Simon 2: I briefly watched a Youtube video called 'GTA 6 is broken garbage'. Oh wow, a game that took 13 years to make was broken? I had to watch that.

Simon 1: What did the Youtuber say?

Simon 2: He complained of the 30 frame per second frame rate (modern games often are 60 frames per second) but I don't really notice any difference between the two speeds, so calling the game 'garbage' in that respect seems a bit perfectionist to me. It's like someone getting asked their favourite colour is and what shade their walls should be painted. He goes 'I really like medium sea green with just a hint of blue. Forget the blue and I'm not paying you a penny.' I would refuse to work for such a person.

Simon 1: Did the tuber have any other complaints?

Simon 2: Probably, but I only watched it for a few seconds.

Simon 1: It's just that earlier you said you'd watch the gameplay soon, and I thought it was because you'd be excited about it…

Simon 2: No, I will be watching the gameplay soon. The video I watched just now wasn't gameplay, it was more of a complaint.

Simon 1: Ah.

Simon 2: Anyway, as the complaining Youtuber sounded excited during his video, I didn't really believe he thought the game was broken garbage and was just looking for attention. I get the feeling that's what those in the comments section were hoping for, too.

Simon 1: And you did give the Youtuber attention…

Simon 2: Well, there you go. At least he was getting paid for his comments though, those in the comment section get nothing.

Simon 1: Other than the sweet feeling of getting noticed…

Simon 2: Yeah, but I only really skimmed the comments.

Simon 1: The sweet feeling of getting skimmed…

Simon 2: Yeah, if that really makes you happy you seem to have some kind of mental disorder I'm not in a position to diagnose.

Simon 1: What do you THINK the problem could be?

Simon 2: Seems like an idiot, to me.

Simon 1: Have you watched the gameplay footage now?

Simon 2: Yep, looks pretty good to me. I certainly wouldn't call the frame rate 'choppy'.

Simon 1: I was hoping your main comment would be about how awful the game's plot was…

Simon 2: Ha, no.

Simon 1: Would you like to redeem yourself by saying something wise?

Simon 2: Yes, you know when I said I dreamt of Robopit when I should have been listening to my lectures?

Simon 1: Yes?

Simon 2: Maybe subconsciously I did actually take the information in, but I associated it with robots at the same time…

Simon 1: What do you mean?

Simon 2: Maybe I subconsciously associate fighting robots with various moral truths to ponder over!

Simon 1: Do you?

Simon 2: I guess no.

Simon 1: Would you like to try again?

Simon 2: Recently on TV, I heard someone say 'trust is about presence.' At least I thought I did, he could have actually said 'trust is about presents', especially at this festive time of year…

Simon 1: It sounds insightful, but overly materialistic at the same time…

Simon 2: Yes, that's why I thought the first phrase was correct.

Simon 1: But you're not sure?

Simon 2: Again, it's a festive time of year.

Simon 1: So it could be at least partially wise?

Simon 2: Maybe, you just have to be wary of Greek people baring gifts, that's all.

Simon 1: That's really racist…

Simon 2: It is, isn't it? It's actually overtly racist making me wonder why it's ok for people to say it.

Simon 1: Hm.

Simon 2: To be fair, if someone does give you a present, usually you can indeed trust the person, making the phrase 'trust is about presents' more insightful than I first assumed. Unless your enemy gives you a bomb to unwrap or whatever. Now that I think of it, why would anyone say 'trust is about presence'? Why can you trust people simply if they're near to you?

Simon 1: Yes, that would suggest you can trust muggers if they get close enough…

Simon 2: And if it's a Greek mugger? That's 10 times worse.

Simon 1: Why not go the whole way and make a new saying, that being 'Greek people are scum'?

Simon 2: You could do, but it doesn't sound quite so insightful. Actually, it's certainly powerful and in that respect, you could almost call it poetic.

Simon 1: Wow. I think I see apology 68 coming on…

Simon 2: I do need to apologise to Greek people but the thing is, I need to apologise to Joe Satriani for saying he throws people in rivers…

Simon 1: What IS your problem, Simon?

Simon 2: I really don't know. On a lighter note, my spell checker recognises the name 'Satriani' now…

Simon 1: Why do you think that is?

Simon 2: Maybe Joe complained?? I don't know do I?

Simon 1: You're routinely making him sound like a horrible and narcissistic person, Simon.

Simon 2: I'm so sorry.

Simon 1: Would you like to wrap things up before you say anything else offensive?

Simon 2: Great idea, bye!