# Chapter 5
# Conclusions and recommendations

**Summary**

A prototype was developed to fulfil the need for a database of questions that must be accessible through the Internet. The usability of the product was ensured by reducing the design criteria to the following key criteria:

- Presentation
- Interaction/Efficiency
- Information.

Vista lecturers used the product to compile an examination paper and it was found that it had the following advantages:

- It eliminated the frustration of contributions not being received by the deadline.
- It eliminated the need to motivate why certain contributions could not be used.
- It was already in the prescribed format.
- It took only a fraction of the time it usually takes to compile a paper.

The feedback from the users was that the time it took to download the questions did not pose a problem and that the product was fun to use. Their immediate need was for solutions to the questions to be available.

The major disadvantage of the product is its dependence on the Web server, but fortunately the chance that the server will be down is sufficiently small.

## Recommendations

The following recommendations are made for the improvement of the SSS prototype:

- The number of choices can be extended to include, for example, the level of difficulty of the questions.
- Choices should be included that cater for specific statistics, e.g. biometry or econometry.
- The questions in the prototype focused on first-year students. The product can be extended to include questions for second- and third-year students.
- Answers to the questions should be made available.
- An "SSS committee" should be appointed which would supervise the standard of the questions that will be allowed in the database.
- An "SSS master", similar to a Web master, should be appointed who would be responsible for updating the database.

## Conclusion

Usability testing proved that the SSS prototype is intuitively easy to use, appropriate to the task and meets the needs of Vista University lecturers.