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Barriers to the Study of Scientific Subjects and Level of Knowledge of Basic Chemistry

ADULT LEARNERS' CASE STUDY

Adult Learner's Case Study N. 3:

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Description of the Case Study

Reasons of the decision not to continue studying scientific subjects: *I had to work in order to support myself and pay for my university tuition*

Main difficulties in scientific subject learning at school: *No available lab facilities hence not enough laboratory exercises*

Self evaluation of knowledge of chemistry: *Satisfactory concerning my university, unsatisfactory concerning my secondary school*

Evaluation of the scientific information provided by the media: *To a certain extent it is possible to learn something from the media but , generally, it is not enough to meet the demand of average knowledge ability*

Perception of the word "Chemical": *"Chemical" is something that is obtained by chemical means*

Result of the basic chemistry test: *If you melt 5 grams of salt in 100 grams of water, the solution obtained will weigh: 105 grams. We sometimes perceive the presence of some substances through the sense of smell, as they give off a characteristic scent. Do you think it is made of material or immaterial particles? (Please justify your answer). Material particles. Can you think of an example of a pure substance in solid state? No. Can you think of an example of a pure substance in liquid state? No. Can you think of an example of a pure substance in gaseous state? Oxygen*