



N° 167126-LLP-1-2009-1-IT-KA1-KA1ECETB

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

ADULT LEARNERS' CASE STUDY

Adult Learner's Case Study N. 9:

Name, Subject Studied, Place: *Yasen Nichkov Nichev, Power Engineering and Electrical Equipment, Technical University of Gabrovo.*

Description of the Case Study

Reasons of the decision not to continue studying scientific subjects: *I have decided to not continue my studies after upper secondary school mainly due to financial reasons. I admit now that probably it was a mistake. As soon as I got a good job with an employer willful to let me continue my education, I have taken the opportunity*

Main difficulties in scientific subject learning at school: *Lack of laboratory facilities mainly had a strong impact on my theoretic and practical knowledge and understanding*

Self evaluation of knowledge of chemistry: *Simply fair*

Evaluation of the scientific information provided by the media: *Not at all. The mass media is mainly oriented to human problems and daily activities. The only channels that provide any scientific information are Discovery and National Geographic*

Perception of the word "Chemical": *Mainly with biochemistry (organic chemistry) because it is probably on a successful streak right now*

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. $100\text{ g} + 5\text{ g} = 105\text{ g}$ isn't it? 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 – we are breathing vapors. Can you think of an example of a pure substance in solid state? Carbon – never mind graphite or diamond. Can you think of an example of a pure substance in liquid state? Mercury. Can you think of an example of a pure substance in gaseous state? Hydrogen.*