

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

ADULT LEARNERS' CASE STUDY

Adult Learner's Case Study N.: 10

Name: *PH, Male, Age 58, Athens area, Military officer (retired)*

Description of the Case Study

Reasons of the decision not to continue studying scientific subjects: *Joining the army provided a secure future.*

Main difficulties in scientific subject learning at school: *Difficult to understand and it required a lot of studying.*

Self evaluation of knowledge of chemistry: *Poor.*

Evaluation of the scientific information provided by the media: *No difficulties in comprehending scientific information provided by the media, except if new scientific subjects are presented.*

Perception of the word "Chemical": *The word chemical is associated with molecules, atoms and elements (like hydrogen and oxygen) and their reactions.*

Result of the basic chemistry test: *The final solution weighs 105 grams. The result comes up if you sum the weight of the water (100 grams) and the salt (5 grams).*

The characteristic scent is made of material particles in gaseous state. He states that immaterial particles don't exist.

As an example of a pure substance in the solid state, he referred to salt (sodium chloride).

As an example of a pure substance in the liquid state, he referred to water.

As an example of a pure substance in the gaseous state, he referred to oxygen.