

Time to Think

Open University Journeys in British and Irish prisons during the years of conflict, 1972-2000

Oral History interview clip transcript

Name of Interviewee: **Student E**

Interviewed by: **Jenny Meegan**

Date of interview: **19/09/2011**

Important

Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of this transcript, however no transcript is an exact translation of the spoken word, and this document is intended to be a guide to the original recording, not replace it.

In some cases, interviewees may have made changes to the transcript.

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Student E Clip

Clip title: A Supportive Technology Tutor

Duration: 00:02:08

Clip start point in full interview: 00:19:17

Clip end point in full interview: 00:21:20

Interview identifier: 017_S_01

Description:

Student E describes how the support of his tutor made all the difference when studying a Technology course during a difficult period in prison before his release, and the relevance of the course content to daily life in his own home.

Transcript:

I did, technology, micro-processed based computers and, I did a foundation course, Living with Technology [T102], in fact, I think that was the course I finished with on my degree, I had to switch, I had chosen a harder course but for different reasons at the time I actually dropped out of a course, that was that Complexity, Management and Change and I did the technology course, with Heather and I must admit I probably wouldn't have my degree only for that lady because she sort of nurse-maided me through it and coaxed me and encourage me and cajoled me, it was just at a period in prison where you were very unsettled with the likes of paroles and reviews expecting to get release dates and things like that, so it was a very unsettling period, it was easier to study when you didn't know when you were getting out and you have no paroles, you know, but thanks to Heather, I managed to get through it, again totally enjoyed it. All the, when I look back and you think of them and probably with the interviews you are trying to think more of that time, there was always something fascinating about it all, I remember in the technology one where you had to design a cavity wall installation and things like that and you got a mathematical model and there was a coefficient of thermal conductivity or something but now when I am in my own home and it is cold and I say we have no cavity wall insulation and how thick is that insulation in the roof space. I always remember back to T102 and say "Well I did do that" and you understand it a bit more.