ID\_SS09\_M\_EU\_Cyprus

**STAGE 1**

**BACKGROUND: ATTITUDE (sense of frustration)**

**I** would you like to introduce yourself?

SS09 I’m 27 years old, a male from Cyprus. I have hearing disability. At the moment I’m here in order to study engineering. I’m doing a foundation year. Although, this is my second year in this university, this is my first attempt to enter exam because last year I had to defer my study because of some health reason. And then want to talk about my previous education in the past

I your previous education, yeah, okay

SS09 I started education in my village primary school in Cyprus. So, I completed my secondary school then my secondary school also in my hometown. Then, I was accepted in science high school, the students was selected by examination. So, I was one of the luckiest student who achieved the examination. After the high school my father passed away, so although I was interested in engineering I had to go to law faculty in Cyprus. So, I graduated from a university in Cyprus, so at the moment I hold a Bachelor Degree in Law. After the university I wanted to be an engineer, so I came to United Kingdom. At that time I was not accepted by the engineering department because my science background was not enough, so I had to spend four years in Newcastle College, so there I got Level Three qualification in order to come over to the Southampton University, engineering. At this moment I’m here

I so, how do you find yourself as an engineering foundation year student?

SS09 what do you mean how do you find yourself being an engineering foundation year student?

I you’ve been studying for about two years now?

SS09 yes, this is my second year

I what is your experience like?

SS09 at this moment foundation year I think sometimes it is easy, sometimes it is difficult because of my hearing difficulty some anxiety issues. So, generally I find myself alone in the education

I alone

SS09 because one, everyone learn everything in the classroom, however, I don’t have such an opportunity because I can’t hear in the class room, so, I have to study in my own phase

I yeah, so feel alone because you attend classes?

SS09 because most of the people can hear at the lectures at that moment, however I have to struggle much more than them. I have to study at mu won phase, so sometimes the problem build up, that increase my anxiety so…

I so you don’t join any classes?

SS09 sorry?

I you don’t join other classes, like Maths, Science, Engineering Principles

SS09 I have Maths classes, Engineering Principles, Mechanical Science, Computer Application, Routes to Success. I’m studying sixty percent of my subject. The most difficult part is Mechanical Science and Engineering Principles. I told you I can’t understand the subjects in the classroom at that time, so, sometimes problem build up. So, that increase my anxiety, my anxiety flares up. It gave me palpitation, burning, nausea. The most is it triggers insomnia, I can’t sleep for many days highly distracted so the next day, the accompanying day I can’t focus on my study so problem starts to build up and build up, so make me with draw from my study. Definitely anxiety insomnia all put together

I umm

SS09 this is my main problem. I can describe this as a perfect formula for failure. Definitely anxiety and insomnia all together

I how do you want help?

SS09 how do I want help?

I yeah

SS09 actually and generally I’m on medication. I often talk with my family

I yeah

SS09 I stick with my hobbies, I develop hobbies, I think this is not healthy. Every person have one or two hobbies, but I have a lot (laughs)

I No, the study. Engineering Principles and Mechanical Science you find them very difficult?

SS09 yes, very difficult

I so, how do you want help regarding these subjects? What would help you?

SS09 what will help?

I with your studies?

SS09 I wish the university has a video

I ah

SS09 like a title video, lecture video

I okay

SS09 I would really appreciate this one, because I really like watching something on a screen. It would really enjoying, because I can see my teacher trying to teach everyone something very funny, but I couldn’t understand, I feel myself inefficient. I wish I had the video, I may feel I was in class like other people (sighs)

I you want to be in the class but then you want a screen with subtitles

SS09 maybe I can watch on my laptop

I okay

SS09 I don’t know if you have heard about the MIT open courses? You may find some of them in utubes, sometimes I can’t access them because I’m not MIT student. I try to enjoy whatever I find on the internet. I find studying frustrating for me because I always try to learn from a zero, find my own sources, videos, books. Sometimes it’s difficult to discriminate which source is appropriate

I alright

SS09 at the moment I can find lot of course materials on-line on the Blackboard, but I find most of them boring

I why boring?

SS09 why boring? Because I have to find out what is it? What is it? What is it? So, I don’t enjoy the course materials of Southampton University. Maybe, I can have subtitle videos in the future. You know the difficulty in studying? I’m very disorganised person, you see sometimes it’s very difficult to find whatever I look for, this slows me sometimes. It distracts me whenever I’m studying and this is my main problem in studying and I can say this problem start after the university depend on my anxiety issue, I more often depress

I depress?

**PRE-EXISTING KNOWLDEG ON CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS: + ATTITUDE (SU)**

I what is critical thinking skills for you?

SS09 Critical thinking for me is to find out the next stage of something or to find out what is the mistakes, what is the different things in a theory, to find out the mistake in a theory. I was reading a short, the question was which one suitable for the subject. Select the suitable reading passage for reading. In law faculties, we’re thinking about cases, which one is right, and which one is not right. So, I think all of these are critical thinking, but I’m not sure this is what you’re looking for?

I No, there’s no right or wrong answer. It’s just what you think for yourself as critical thinking

SS09 I think this is sort of critical thinking, finding the mistakes, logarithm, what is the next stage, if a passage is appropriate for the subject or not. Or, we are given a mechanical diagram, what was the mistake on the diagram, so mathematical, I will say in this way

**PREVIOUS LEARNING IN CT**

SS09 my education is mainly more theoretical than practice. When I was in Cyprus everything was taught from the books, not enough lab classes, no practice just reading. At this moment, we have little practice in the UK

I so, did study in private school?

SS09 no, public school

I is it English medium?

SS09 sorry?

I you were taught in what language?

SS09 in Turkish language

I did have any experience learning critical thinking skills in your schools? If yes, how? If no, why you haven’t had the chance to learn critical thinking skills?

SS09 I didn’t have time to critical thinking because I was very busy with law, crime subjects in the university. So, my background, I had Science background but I went to law faculty so I didn’t have the chance to critical thinking, but this time at this university I sometimes try to use critical thinking. For example in experiment I can say I can enjoy this one

I did you subjects in critical thinking?

SS09 no separate subject, but I think we were taught critical thinking in Maths in Science, in Chemistry, for example we're taught a chemical reaction at the end, ‘where was this reaction yield?’. At the same time I studied Geography well, so we were requested to find out weather

**ATTITUDE**

I how important are CTs for EFY?

SS09 I think it is not too important, but it will be important when I’m in the main department, engineering department, because I have to think about everything call failure of the system, so, I got to think about it will be beneficial next year not now

I why?

SS090 at this moment we have taught theoretical of something, they just try to give us the basic, so we are expected to find the mistakes, problems next, in the future

**PRACTICE**

**CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS FOR ENGINEERING**

I so, in which semester do you think you had more opportunity to learn and practice critical thinking skills? In semester one, semester two, both or none?

SS09 I think in Semester two because Semester two is more intensive than previous one. I had to use previous knowledge to understand the next topic, so, at the same time, I had to compare something

I in your opinion which module give you more practice on critical thinking skills?

SS09 Mechanical Science

I why?

SS09 because I’m more interested in mechanical system, so the Mechanical Science is based on the principle of mechanics, so when something failure, when something work and something doesn’t work, I think Mechanical Science is far more current

I how about workshops, do they give practice on critical thinking?

SS09 yes, I think so, yeah. They make understand the subject much better because I could find a chance to handle and to watch what’s happening so it is much better than a practical lecture

I PGTA support, do they encourage you to be critical?

SS09 I can’t benefit from them because I have communication disability with them, so I completed most of my lab sessions alone, so I have my work signed. So, about critical thinking I couldn’t benefit from them

I the PGTA if they use sign language do you think you would have benefitted?

SS09 sign language? I’m not sign language user, I know sign language Level one, but my main communication is based on writing or visual clues

I alright

SS09 because I’m a post-lingual deaf, so I’m not adult deaf people either or hearing person. I’m in between

I so, writing and some pictures will help you?

SS09 yeah, at the moment I’m looking at your lips. Lips reading, that is important for me

SS09 I think all

SS09 I think they expected us to complete all the workshops on time, complete all the course works on time. At the moment I’m expected to attend all the class, finfish all revision. I think this is what they’re trying to teach us

I time management?

SS09 yes, time management

I thank you very much, good