

Appendix A In-depth Interview #2 with Katty

This is a summarized transcription of Katty's answers to the questions we asked her.

What has been your experience in primary and secondary school? Has it been positive or negative in general terms?

K: It has been positive in primary school. In secondary school it has been positive in general terms. I had to leave high school in second year because of the operations I underwent, and I didn't have enough time to study.

What are the major obstacles you have faced in your studies, and in particular in the study of English?

K: My experience has been good. I haven't had any obstacles in Fundatec.

Do you have any complaints about Fundatec's English program? Do you have any suggestions to improve the English studies in Fundatec for students with learning problems/disabilities?

K: I haven't had any difficulty so far. My professors evaluate me the same way they evaluate the other students.

The program is very good, congratulations. (However,) books could be improved, different. Better explained and not so complicated as they are. They have a lot of grammar and vocabulary...

Do you prefer courses to emphasize oral or written skills?

K: I like them oral better than written, I don't like grammar.

Which have been your main achievements in your studies of English?

K: I feel I have improved a lot. I have improved because I failed several courses (levels). I failed in the seventh and repeated it twice. I failed the third level and repeated it also. I organized myself and studied well (enough) until now. My parents and brothers have supported me a lot. I study with my family, mainly with my cousins. I usually don't study with my classmates.

Which are your main achievements in life so far?

K: The piano. I have achieved that (sic). I graduated with a lot of effort. Now I want to release my CD. Little by little (we progress)...

I play in the Catholic church in San Cayetano. I also get invitations to play in the Universidad Latina, Multiplaza, and some malls too.

How do you see yourself? Do you consider yourself different or to be in disadvantage compared to other people?

K: Not really. When I was in school maybe, but not anymore. Now I feel OK. Music has helped me a lot (in this sense.)

What has been the attitude of professors and classmates towards you?

K: They have been very nice and helped me a lot. G., E., and other professors (from Fundatec) have helped me. I don't have words to express it.

What are your main goals and dreams in life?

K: My goals... to finish my CD... To make my music bigger, to be known... To play in a band, that would be great.

Have you thought about playing abroad?

K: No, not yet. We'll have to see...

How do you see yourself in five years? What would you like to be doing then?

K: Music. I'm addicted to music...

And in ten years?

K: I will be an old lady by then! If I am 35, I would like to make music. I have thought about studying composition but I don't know where... We will have to see... Whatever God wants for me...

What would you advise people with learning problems?

K: If they really like something, (they should) keep working and not lose the opportunity (to study). It is truly worth it. It is very good for oneself, because one meets new people, teachers, and others. It is very good.

People help you a lot. If you don't understanding something, they help you out.

Thank you.