

Week 7 – Unit 8 – The secrets of successful education – Introductory video – Video script

Šárka: Hi Markéta. How are you?

Markéta: Hi, hi Šárka. How are you?

Šárka: Good, good. We're in the middle of the semester so how is your course going? Can your students speak English fluently?

Markéta: Yes, it's OK and of course, they can. And they can ... let me think ... yes, they can describe objects, they can speak about their free time, and what else, they can tell life stories.

Šárka: Wow, that's great. They're learning fast. And how about you do you have to prepare a lot for each lesson? I can see that you are working.

Markéta: Not so much any more, but there was a lot of work before the semester because I had to collect all the materials, prepare the exercises, or find the exercises in some books, and then I also had to, you know, upload it onto Moodle which actually was a bit of a problem for me because I didn't know how to do that, I couldn't do that, you know.

Šárka: Yeah, yeah, Moodle. I remember, I remember you asked me for... for help, but don't worry you'll be able to learn it.

Markéta: Yes, and it's better now. I can say.

Šárka: Great, great. Actually, can I ask you a favour?

Markéta: Sure. What is it?

Šárka: My friend wants to apply for an internship in London and she doesn't know how to fill out the form.

Markéta: Have you got the application? Have you got the form?

Šárka: Yes, it's here.

Markéta: OK, so let me see. May I? Yes, the requirements are a letter of motivation, so she can write it, right, a letter of recommendation.

Šárka: Yeah, yeah. Can you write it for her? It would be much better from you.

Markéta: I'm sorry. I think I can't because here it says it must be from the head of the department where she studies so I can't do that. She will have to ask at her department not in the language centre, unfortunately.

Šárka: Alright, alright.

Markéta: And what does she want to learn there?

Šárka: She wants to improve her language skills, her English skills, speaking especially. She says she can write very well because she practises it regularly, every day, she says but speaking...

Markéta: Yeah, practice makes perfect.

Šárka: Exactly.

Markéta: And what else do you think is good or important if you want to learn something?

Šárka: You know, I think it's necessary to have a positive attitude towards the thing you want to learn. Simply you have to like the subject. For example I know you like dancing and you don't mind learning new steps, do you? You actually enjoy it.

Markéta: Sure, yes, I love it. So it's not a problem to learn.

Šárka: Yeah, yeah. And also I think that you have to know what you want to learn and how you learn it or how you want to learn it. If it's from a book, from a video or from a teacher, for example.

Markéta: Hm, Hm. And...

Šárka: And also, also. Recently I've heard that it only takes 20 hours to become fairly good at something.

Markéta: Twenty hours? Really?

Šárka: Yeah, even if you start from scratch. So from nothing to be fairly good, somehow good...

Markéta: OK.

Šárka: ... it takes only twenty hours.

Markéta: OK. So you think that if I want to learn playing the piano, for example, and I start right now and I've never learned, and I give it, let's say, 45 minutes a day for a month that I will become a pianist.

Šárka: Well, let's try.

Markéta: OK, good. Good challenge. Yes, let's try.