



Learning English helps Remzie to a career in Care

Remzie Memishi arrived in Scotland in 2001 as an asylum seeker from Kosovo. Remzie's first priority was to find security and safety for herself and her family. Her next challenge was communication and integration into life in Scotland. None of her family spoke English.

Opportunities to learn English

Remzie struggled to find a way to learn English. She kept trying and started attending a weekly class in her local church in Scotstoun, Glasgow. She then found twice weekly classes at a community centre taught by a tutor from Anniesland College in Glasgow. After 8 months she got a place at Anniesland College to study for an SQA ESOL qualification.

Remzie's SQA ESOL experience

She successfully studied SQA ESOL Units for 3 years. She started with Access 2 for complete beginners and worked her way up to Intermediate 2. She studied reading, writing, listening and speaking. Her greatest challenge was understanding the local accent. "Everyone spoke slowly in the class but outside in unfamiliar environments you really think 'I'm lost and I'll never make it.'" Remzie did make it.

What next?

Remzie was a fully qualified nurse in Kosovo. She wanted to gain a relevant Scottish qualification and work in care or nursing. Her ESOL Intermediate 2 qualification allowed entry to study an NC in Health and Social Care at Intermediate 2 at Anniesland College. Learning specialist English in an NC class alongside native speakers was a fresh challenge. Remzie excelled and became the Anniesland College Student of The Year in June 2006. She now wants to do an HNC in Health and Social Care followed by a Degree in nursing.

For further information on ESOL call SQA's Customer Contact Centre on
0845 279 1000 or visit www.sqa.org.uk/esol