

Learners and their Courses – 4 Case Studies

Simon is 21 years old. He is doing a course at D.I.T, the Dublin Institute of Technology in Kevin Street. He is studying Computer Science. He finished secondary school in 2003 and worked in a sports centre for one year and then he went back to his studies. He says the course is quite hard but he likes it. When he is finished he hopes to get a job in a computer company like Hewlett Packard or Intel, or Dell in Limerick.

Katie is studying to be a nurse at UCD, University College Dublin. She is in her fourth and final year. She attends lectures in the college and also does her training in Beaumont Hospital. After her final exams she hopes to do a special course so that she can be an intensive care nurse in ICU (Intensive Care Unit). She is very suited to her job because she is very caring and sympathetic.

Seamas is training to be a motor mechanic. He attends classes in a FÁS Training centre but he has to get practical training as well. He works in a large garage in Clanbrassil Street with a team of ten qualified mechanics. The garage sells and services Toyota cars and trucks. He loves his job. He was always interested in cars and engines. Sometime in the future he would like to own his own business.

Maria is studying at Coláiste Íde in Finglas, a VEC college where she is doing a PLC (Post Leaving Certificate) course in Computer Applications and Office Skills. This is a two year course and when she gets her FETAC certificate she will be qualified to work in an office as an administrator or secretary. She is going to apply for a job in a bank or in the Civil Service. She can type 40 words per minute.

Answer the following questions about the four learners.

1. What is DIT and where is it located?

2. What type of courses do you think students do in DIT?

3. Where does Simon hope to work when he is finished his studies?

4. Where does Katie do her practical training?

5. Why is Katie suited to nursing?

6. What type of nursing is she interested in?

7. Why does Seamas love his job so much?

8. Who trains him in the garage?

9. What is the VEC?

10. What is FETAC?

11. What type of job will Maria be qualified to do when she gets her certificate?

12. Explain these words:

lectures _____

intensive care _____

office skills _____

service (cars) _____

administrator _____

civil service _____

13. Write out the following abbreviations in full

DIT _____

UCD _____

VEC _____

PLC _____

FETAC _____