

Teaching English Made Easy

Even though 24-year-old Shaheen Savarnejad had reservations about getting back into learning, he soon found it was as easy as ABC.

Shaheen, from Glasgow, works as a business support adviser. Although he finds his day job rewarding, he was keen to learn something new.

He explained: "I'd heard about ILA Scotland so I knew that I could get funding for courses a while ago. But I couldn't decide what to use it for. Then my mum mentioned language, which is one of my specialties, and said that I should try that."



Shaheen's only reservation was that he did not want to feel like he was going back to school. He said: "I went to a school where you sat down and did what the teacher said, no arguments. This was not an enjoyable experience! So I certainly didn't want to find myself in that kind of learning environment again."

In the end, Shaheen took an introductory course in Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) at Strathclyde University. And he was reassured to find that the course was nothing like being back at school.

He said: "I was happy to find that it was an entirely different style of teaching; it was much more interactive, less strict and quite laid back."

The course lasted for eight weeks, with a three-hour session taking place every Wednesday evening. And he enjoyed it so much that he is now planning on going on to do a course in English for Speakers of Other Languages.

Shaheen added: "I would definitely advise people to use their ILA Scotland funding and learn something new. It is a great opportunity, the tutors and teachers are very friendly and encouraging. You'll have a great time."