

Audio Script

Words in italics and within [.....] are those spoken by the interviewer.

- 00:00 I think the most interesting job I've had or done so far is working as a teacher trainer. I think one of the things that makes it interesting for me is that I am now training people on the same course that I took and I was a trainee on over 10 years ago when I wanted to become a teacher. So, it's kind of strange being in that position.
- 00:30 But I think it's really interesting because I get to work with trainees who come from various different parts of the world. Some have absolutely no experience in teaching at all. And some actually do have quite a lot of classroom experience. And perhaps no experience in the particular methodology we use. And it's ultimately quite rewarding. You do see them change quite a lot from lesson to lesson from week to week.
- 00:59 It's quite intense. And part of my job is assessing their lessons, giving them feedback, and it can be quite stressful for them. [*Great. Okay. So, you mentioned there that you find the job quite rewarding. So, are there any other kind of characteristics or things that make a job attractive to you?*] To be honest, these days, more and more increasingly salary is actually becoming something else.
- 01:31 And I think this is kind of one of those things that in the education industry, if you're a teacher, you're not, it's almost like you shouldn't mention salary because, you know, there's almost this expectation that we should be working purely for the reward and, you know, and to help our students progress. But since entering middle age, I found that actually, you know, money is pretty important. So, I think, especially these days, I definitely want to be paid as well as I can be for what I do.

- 02:02 So, I know perhaps it's, you know, not the ethical teacher or trainer answer to talk about salary, but I do think it's really, really important. So, I would like to get paid well. I think the opportunity to do more face-to-face work, because I've been working online for over three years. And recently, I've been able to do a little bit of face-to-face work, and that's been really, really good.
- 02:30 It's been quite a strange actually going to a physical workplace as well, you know, where my studio in my home became my workplace. So, I think, yeah, having a mixture of perhaps online and face-to-face work was making it attractive as well. And decent salary and, you know, and a variety of tasks. I think I'm the kind of person who kind of doesn't like to do the same thing over and over again.
- 02:58 *[If you had the opportunity to turn back the clock, what career might you have followed and why?]* Well, if I could turn back the clock. *[I mean, you could go back to when you were 18, if you'd maybe...]* One thing, what I would have done in my studies is a degree in sound engineering. Because it's something I got into in my late teens, early 20s.
- 03:27 And it's been a, you know, from the point of view of doing a being a hobbyist, doing music production and audio engineering. It's been a passion of mine for 20 years. And I think it would have been nice if I could have done it professionally. And so I would change from an English literature degree, which I didn't even complete anyway, to be honest with you. To studying, you know, sound engineering or something like that.