

TRANSCRIPT OF FIRST INTERVIEW WITH STUDENT

STUDENT INTERVIEWED ON

GOAL OF INTERVIEW

STUDENTS' PERCEPTION ON PHYSICAL AND LIFE SCIENCE

Grade=10<sup>th</sup> ; Age=15 years; Race= African American; Gender= Male.

O =Observer; P = Participant

1           you know exactly what to do.

2           Where to massage. You have to take a course in science that deals with the

3           body...

4    O:     Okay. You are talking about truck drivers, garbage man—what about other

5           successful people? Are you saying that anyone who wants to be successful needs

6           to do science?P: I didn't say you have to do science to be successful.

7    O:     Okay. Then, what about doing other subjects that are not science? Would that be

8           boring like to be a lawyer?

9    P:     I guess you have to be persuasive to know what you are talking about.

10   O:     Do you then need to do science?

11   P:     From what I know to be able to go to college you have to take science.

12   O:     So, if you want to go to college you have to take science?

13   P:     Ya.

14   O:     So every one in the high school takes science?

15   P:     Yes.

16   O:     So it is a mandatory course for everyone?

17   P:     Yes. Unless they have already taken physical and life science. Then after that,

18           it's up to you.

19   O:     Okay. So could you decide that you don't want to take science?

20   P:     Yes, but you would have trouble getting into college. If you didn't do the

21           required amount of science you won't be able to graduate.

22   O:     Okay. Do you have any idea like what you want to be in future?

23   P:     I like to be some kind of doctor like psychiatrist.

1 O: Do you know what a psychiatrist does?

2 P: It deals with the way people behave. You have to know all about, I guess you  
3 have to know all about peoples' brains and all that. The way people act.

4 O: Will you be able to know the way people act?

5 O: I guess if you study them you will know.

6 O: You want to be a doctor, a psychiatrist, you have any clue how much science,  
7 subjects, you need to take to be able to become a doctor?

8 P: I mean, I am not really big in history so I will take history classes during the  
9 summer school so that during the year I don't have to do it. That will open up a  
10 class then I could take two science classes instead of just one.

11 O: Why is history boring?

12 P : It is not interesting. I guess some of it is but ---

13 O: What?

14 P: I guess, like in elementary school when we studied Columbus they said he  
15 discovered American. We believed that but that is not true.

16 O: Why do you think he didn't?

17 P: Because we've been told that he didn't.

18 O: So later on they told you he didn't?

19 P: Yah.

20 O: Whom do you think discovered America?

21 P: I, I don't know.

22 O: Okay, let me ask you one more little question. I have asked you questions on

1           you know exactly what to do.

2           Where to massage. You have to take a course in science that deals with the

3           body...

4    O:     Okay. You are talking about truck drivers, garbage man—what about other

5           successful people? Are you saying that anyone who wants to be successful needs

6           to do science?P: I didn't say you have to do science to be successful.

7    O:     Okay. Then, what about doing other subjects that are not science? Would that be

8           boring like to be a lawyer?

9    P:     I guess you have to be persuasive to know what you are talking about.

10   O:     Do you then need to do science?

11   P:     From what I know to be able to go to college you have to take science.

12   O:     So, if you want to go to college you have to take science?

13   P:     Ya.

14   O:     So every one in the high school takes science?

15   P:     Yes.

16   O:     So it is a mandatory course for everyone?

17   P:     Yes. Unless they have already taken physical and life science. Then after that,

18           it's up to you.

19   O:     Okay. So could you decide that you don't want to take science?

20   P:     Yes, but you would have trouble getting into college. If you didn't do the

21           required amount of science you won't be able to graduate.

22   O:     Okay. Do you have any idea like what you want to be in future?

23   P:     I like to be some kind of doctor like psychiatrist.

1 physical sciences and life science. You've tried to give me some of the answers,  
2 you remember. Can you tell me how you, how you thought of the answers that  
3 you gave me?  
4 Like when I ask you a question, can you tell me how you go about to give me the  
5 answer?  
6 P: I just did what you told me. Answer as best as you can.  
7 O: In your mind, can you tell me what is going on before you give me the answer?  
8 P: I just remember. I try to remember what I remember about the earth.  
9 O: What are the things that come to your mind, like when you are talking about  
10 cells? What are the big things that came to your mind?  
11 P: The difference between the plant and animal cells, prokaryote, eukaryote, and all  
12 that.  
13 O: You remember which year you learned all that?  
14 P: Actually, we kind of went over it this year as we did things like photosynthesis,  
15 mitosis, the cell cycle.  
16 O: You studied photosynthesis?  
17 P: Yah.  
18 O: In plants or animals?  
19 P: Plants. I don't think animal have photosynthesis.  
20 O: Why not?  
21 P: They don't have the chloroplast. Chloroplast, to help carry photosynthesis.  
22 O: Tell me something about photosynthesis. That is interesting. I want to know  
23 more about it.