

Lexia SOS – Adult testimonial

"My first experience with the "Lexia Programme" was sheer terror. I had faced my biggest fear - my illiteracy, and then the tutor announces to us that we will be using computers in the course. Computers were the other thing I had been able to avoid so far. Just great!!

However, in reality Lexia is a very user-friendly programme. I had great trouble getting the mouse to work. It was like playing cat and mouse, pardon the pun, however Lexia was amazing, and I found that it reinforced the classroom work.

The mystery of spelling started to disappear for the first time in 35 years. I had had a brick wall in front of me. Then, working with a very good teacher plus Lexia to help practise what I learned in class, I could work at my own speed and I could repeat the exercise again if I wanted to, or go on to the next set of exercises.

The programme was great because it allows you to repeat a sound again and again if it was a new sound. I sometimes had trouble with new sounds because learning sounds was a new way of learning and it sometimes took time for the sounds to sink in and be able to say them correctly.

The way Lexia is designed allows you to repeat a sound as many times as you need to. Once I got over the idea of saying the sounds I heard in the headphone and see on the screen I was climbing the brick wall or tearing it down with a speed that is amazing, and I was spelling and reading words I never in a million years though were possible ever to do.

Another thing is that I would get up from being on Lexia and I would think "I never knew those letters together made that sound, "and "I can spell that word!". A whole new world opened up for me, because I could go and work on Lexia any time of the day.

Lexia is like a treasure chest to me. These ideas come to me a 6 o'clock in the morning!!

All of those things, "sounds and words" that I had never been able to understand for 35 years were suddenly open to me. It was one of the "bold of lighting" moments in life where you finally get a breakthrough.

For me, Lexia is like a treasure chest at the end of a very long dark tunnel of despair and frustration of trying very hard to understand and learn to spell!!! It was like I was missing something everyone else already know but I could not understand. I was a foreigner in an unattainable world and it just didn't matter how hard I tried, the door remained firmly closed to me "

Nicky, Otago Polytechnic.