

Netherlands – EC-VPL and IVC den Helder

Institution	EC-VPL and IVC den Helder
Interviewed Person	Walaa (35), from Egypt

I – Preparation

Walaa (35) is from Egypt. She has been living in the Netherlands for three years. Walaa has a husband and two children, 6 and 2, a boy and a girl.

“I went to university and study journalism in the Provence Elmonafiya. I have a degree, but I didn’t bring it with me. The next time I visit Egypt I will bring it with me.”

II – Awareness

“I followed the pre VPL training “Spreek je Uit!” at the IVC in the Netherlands. I found it an important training for living and making new contacts with others. It is also important in helping me find work that I would like to do. I can now speak with others because I dare to do more, I dare to speak.

I have become aware of my competences. I have discovered what I am good at; communication, having an open attitude, being friendly. I have also discovered my shortcomings; I cannot write for a newspaper because I haven’t passed my state exams yet. I would like to follow the competence awareness training (VPL).”

III – Starting up

“I choose journalism because I wanted to do something else than others. I wanted the adventure, as a female journalist in Egypt. But there isn’t much work in journalism. It will most likely be good for me to follow part of the university course in the Netherlands when I have finished the VPL training. During the VPL I will discover what is needed. I will most likely then be able to start at university. I am also considering a career switch. I may want to become a pharmaceutical or doctor assistant, or maybe even a doctor.”

IV – Documentation and support

“It is not yet clear what I will learn from the VPL training. It is important for me to follow the VPL training because I don’t know what I want to do or at which level I will be able to pick up my studies. After the VPL training I will start by taking the state exam Dutch and then I will start the course of my choosing at the correct entry level. I moved to the Netherlands because my husband already lived here. We met each other in Egypt.”

V – Assessment

“During the assessment of “Spreek je Ult!” I gave a presentation that was filmed. My theme was ‘the spider in the web’. I made an ecogram of all the people around me, my network. I didn’t have any problems speaking Dutch during the presentation, but I do want to learn to speak Dutch better.”

VI – Impact

“For my further development I will firstly follow the VPL training in March 2018. Then I will do the state exam Dutch and after that I can start the course that will be advised after the VPL training. With the VPL certificate I can go to school and prove at which level I can work. When I have my original degree I will get it valued at the IDW.’