

Anna's story 2

I was over 30 minutes late for my exam, which meant I was not allowed to sit it. This will have repercussions on my degree mark, and on my holiday plans. This is the first time I have actually missed an exam, but not the first time I've actually been late to exams and important interviews. I have always seemed to get away with it before.

I have learned that:

- I need to improve my time-keeping for critical events
- The University has strict rules governing late arrivals at exams and arriving late can disrupt others in the exam room
- I need to be better prepared.

The reasons that I arrived late were:

- My alarm clock didn't ring because I forgot to reset its time to BST on Saturday night (although I had reset all the other clocks in the house).
- I totally rely on the alarm clock ringing – I have no back-up system.
- I rely on my bus – a break-down or it leaving early would also cause me to be late
- I did not know in which room the exam was; if I had, I would still have been a few minutes late, but at least I could have sat the exam,

In order to improve the situation for next year, I plan to:

- Have a process to check all the clocks in the house when the clocks are due to change
- Make sure I have a back-up alarm system (using my phone) for all days when it's important to get up early
- On exam day, aim to catch the earlier bus ... its only 20 minutes earlier
- Possibly consider missing breakfast and buying a sandwich on the way from the bus to the exam room, I do believe that a good breakfast is important though!
- Make sure I know the correct room well in advance of the exam, by checking each room number when I first get the timetable.

I suspect I need to reflect more on my priorities – this degree is really very important to me

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Adapted from an example by Dr. Steve Hand as shown in:

King, T. (2002?) *Development of student skills in reflective writing*. Available at:

http://www.tcd.ie/Nursing_Midwifery/assets/director-staff-edu-dev/pdf/Development-of-Student-Skills-in-Reflective-Writing-TerryKing.pdf (Accessed: 28 September

2013)