

Researcher: When you are struggling what steps are you taking to help yourself?
9J30: I'll ask someone to help me, and if they can't help me, then basically I'll just leave it out.
Researcher: Allright, and who is this someone who you will ask?
9J30: A friend that stays close to me... (unclear)
Researcher: Is there anything else that you would like to say about Mathematics?
9J30: No.
Researcher: There is just a last few questions. Are you planning on taking Mathematics until Grade 12?
9J30: If I stay in this school yes.
Researcher: Why would you like to take Mathematics until Grade 12?
9J30: Well I have to take Mathematics, because of the career choice that I have made.
Researcher: Okay. Do you feel you were prepared well in Primary School for Mathematics in High School?
9J30: In Primary School yes, but in Grade 7 I went to a different school, and that's when I tried to impress all the kids so that I could be accepted. And that's when I started to do bad in Mathematics.
Researcher: Thank you very much.

Comment [E68]: Give up easily

Comment [E69]: Dont ask for educator assistance [Theme 4]

Comment [E70]: Learner left school at end of Gr. 10 to pursue other subjects (dropped out of Math)

Comment [E71]: Feels math is important for future career

Comment [E72]: Poor performance because of negative behaviour to get acceptance to new school and friends

Average Performing Learners' Interviews

1.

Interview Transcript: 8H15

Researcher: 8H15, how do you feel about Mathematics?
8H15: Umm, ok, both primary school because primary school I was I was like top of the class in mathematics. So, last year when I came to Raucall it was like okay a bit of challenge for me because sometimes I would not understand any and I thought that if I just practice with myself I will eventually I will get it.
Researcher: So do you feel that maths in high school is more difficult than that in primary school?
8H15: No, I actually think it is actually more advanced than primary school Maths.
Researcher: What will you say about your preparation in primary school for high school maths, was it sufficient, what is your feelings about it?
8H15: Okay my maths teacher didn't prepare me that much for high school maths because I will say it was a lack of communication with us cause they just he will say, "Okay guys here is the work if you need some explanation I will explain it to you" But it wasn't more challenging.
Researcher: How do you feel about your ability to do maths?

Comment [E73]: Average Emotions [Theme 1]

Comment [E74]: Practice = understanding [Theme 2]

Comment [E75]: Educator explanation - lack of communication [6] [Theme 4]

11

8H15: In primary my ability to do maths is really like very high so in high school it started to decrease a bit because of the challenges I've faced during doing Maths in high school.
Researcher: So do you think that there is a big gap between primary and high school maths?
8H15: No ma'am I just think it is more advanced.
Researcher: Do you think your confidence has an influence on your performance in maths?
8H15: "sigh" ... ma'am can you repeat the question please?
Researcher: Do you think your confidence has an influence on your performance in maths?
8H15: Yes.
Researcher: Why do you think so?
8H15: Ahh, because I'm very much outspoken so I'm just, I'm, I'm too out there so really at first I was like "ag" that is easy stuff but the more I did get to know about maths the more my confidence in maths started to decrease cause I thought ammm, my goodness how am I supposed to do those, like, how can I change it to that if I not really good in maths. In primary school I didn't do this I did that and that is not what I'm doing right now.
Researcher: And then when you faced a difficult problem in mathematics, how does that makes you feel?
8H15: I feel frustrated but I'm like okay, breath, take one step at a time, do it over and over again. Until you find the right answer.
Researcher: Are you one of those people that will sit with a problem until you solved it?
8H15: Yes ma'am.
Researcher: And if you solved the problem, how does that make you feel?
8H15: I feel more confident of doing the next sum.
Researcher: Can you explain any mathematical problems to your friends when they ask you for help?
8H15: Mostly I can explain but others are okay, I'll say to them let's do them together and see if we can get through it because my knowledge and your knowledge combined we might find the solution to this problem.
Researcher: And if you cannot help them what would you do, would you tell them, or will you try to help?
8H15: I will tell them that okay, I can't do this so let's just ask someone else to help the both of us.
Researcher: Right, and who will you then ask?
8H15: I will ask Eldha or Nabilla or Simran.
Researcher: Right, so basically you will ask your friends?
8H15: Yes.
Researcher: Do you feel confident to go to your teacher or do you prefer not to go to a teacher to ask for help?
8H15: Okay I'm not so confident going to the teacher but when I'm really stuck that's when I will go to a teacher.

Comment [E76]: Feels Maths is Challenging [Theme 3]

Comment [E77]: Confidence influence performance [Theme 1]

Comment [E78]: Performance influence confidence (1) [Theme 2]

Comment [E79]: Lower confidence when feeling unsure about problem, feels that he/she is not really good in Math

Comment [E80]: Negative Emotions [Theme 1]

Comment [E81]: Keep trying/perseverance

Comment [E82]: Solving problems increase confidence [Theme 1]

Comment [E83]: Will explain even if she/he is not sure

Comment [E84]: Not to sure about him/her self

Comment [E85]: Ask friends to help

Comment [E86]: Prefer not to go to educator for help unless it is really necessary [Theme 4]

12

Researcher: Do you believe that you can do maths?
8H15: Yes ma'am.
Researcher: Why do you say so?
8H15: Because maths is not a difficult subject you just need to know all the rules of maths and you must like teach yourself to find other formulas and other solutions of solving the maths problem.
Researcher: Then in grade 8 you just your promotion mark was 56%, how do you feel about your performance in grade 8?
8H15: The performance in grade 8 was not that good it was not that bad it was in the middle. So I felt a bit disappointed in myself because I know I could do better, if only I've asked the teacher to help me and I attended the extra lessons.
Researcher: Right, how did you manage in last year's end years exam paper?
8H15: I feel bad about it. But, I wasn't that confident I didn't believe in myself that I've passed so.
Researcher: So were you surprised that you've passed?
8H15: Yes.
Researcher: How are you managing with maths this year?
8H15: This year is a bit better I not liking if I have a problem I try to ask the teacher. But if I see that I can do it I can don't ask the teacher, if my answer corresponds with the teachers answer then I see okay I can do maths on my own.
Researcher: Right, and are you planning to take mathematics up to grade 12?
8H15: Yes.
Researcher: Why?
8H15: I love maths from primary school so I thought that as maths is challenging in high school maybe I should give myself that challenge to do also or trying to do it.
Researcher: Is there anything you would, if if someone ask about mathematics, what will you tell them?
8H15: Mathematics is not a difficult subject it is a fun subject it is not like, how can I say it? You have to find different solutions to like, that's like, like real life. You lose people you add more people it's all fun and complicated but have to learn the basics of maths so to find your way out.
Researcher: Right, and tell me do you think you can study for maths?
8H15: Yes ma'am, you can study through practice.
Researcher: Thank you very much.
8H15: Pleasure ma'am.

Comment [E87]: Find Maths challenging

Comment [E88]: Average performance = average emotions [Theme 1]

Comment [E89]: Regret in not using extra opportunities and educator assistance [Theme 4]

Comment [E90]: Making use of educator assistance [Theme 4]

Comment [E91]: Positive emotion [theme 1]

Comment [E92]: Positive about maths as a subject [theme 1]

Comment [E93]: Practice = study in math

Comment [E94]: Positive emotion [Theme 2]

8H34: Yes ma'am, it helps you to work out problems in different ways so that you understand them better.
Researcher: And then will you say that it helps you work out problems do you think that it also enables you to work out everyday problems that you encounter in your life that it helps you with problem solving?
8H34: Yes ma'am it does.
Researcher: And why do you say so?
8H34: Ma'am the stages they you need to like see different sides to a story and in mathematics there is always a plus and a minus to the sum.
Researcher: And how do you feel about your abilities to do mathematics?
8H34: Ma'am I'm quite positive cause if you tend to love mathematics it gets easier to understand like I can do well.
Researcher: And do you think your confidence has an influence on your performance in mathematics?
8H34: Yes ma'am when I feel I can do something I do it most case.
Researcher: And when you encounter a very difficult problem that you struggling with how does that make you feel?
8H34: Ma'am I just go to a teacher and ask for help and then there on after I've learned the strategy I can do it as well.
Researcher: So you not afraid to go to a teacher?
8H34: No I'm not.
Researcher: And if, if you find something difficult where do you prefer to go to the teacher or friends and why?
8H34: Ma'am I ask my friends we usually work together but if ever my friends and I can't work it out I go to a teacher and then I'll get the easiest solution to the problem.
Researcher: And can you explain mathematical problems to your friends with confidence?
8H34: Yes ma'am.
Researcher: Okay and then do they come to you if they have problems?
8H34: Yes ma'am we do, we mostly do our work as a group so that we understand it better and share different ideas.
Researcher: Do you think mathematics works when you do it in group work?
8H34: Yes ma'am I does.
Researcher: Right, do you believe that you can do maths well and explain why you say so?
8H34: Yes ma'am, maths is a subject there, it needs practice and yes with more practice you will do way better. So that [unclear].
Researcher: Then let us see what you did whit last year in grade 8. You got 59% for promotion marks. How do you feel about your performance in grade 8?
8H34: Ma'am I not so glad about it but it was not that bad. I could have done at least 70% as that was what I was aiming for.
Researcher: Alright, how do feel about this year in mathematics?
8H34: This year ma'am I'm very confident, confident about it, it's really nice. It's almost stared, a studied subject.

Comment [E95]: Application enhance comprehension [theme 2]

Comment [E96]: Positive attitude improve understanding [theme 1 and 2]

Comment [E97]: Educator help [theme 4]

Comment [E98]: Turn to friends first, last option educators help [theme 4]

Comment [E99]: Cooperative learning

Comment [E100]: Practice makes perfect

Comment [E101]: Not satisfied

Comment [E102]: Positive [theme 1]

Researcher: Mmmm; and when you struggling what do you do?
 8H34: I, I usually use ummm the laws that ma'am has given us to work out a problem and if that not work I ask what is wrong from the teacher.
 Researcher: Do you feel that when you went to primary school that you were prepared well for high school maths?
 8H34: Yes ma'am, in high, in primary we did a lower level of the maths we doing now.
 Researcher: And do you planning to do maths up to grade 12?
 8H34: Yes ma'am.
 Researcher: Why?
 8H34: Ma'am, I want a career in engineering and it has to do with maths and I enjoy doing maths as well, and I enjoy Maths as well.
 Researcher: Why did you choose engineering?
 8H34: Oh ma'am a thing a lot of women don't love engineering and thing I'm interested in building things and working out problems and I decided to become an engineer, a mechanical engineer.
 Researcher: Right, then is there anything else that you would like to add to mathematics that you will tell people?
 8H34: Uhh, no I can't think about anything.
 Researcher: Thank you very much.

Comment [E103]: Educator assistance (theme 4)

Comment [E104]: See math as important subject to study for the career the learners would want to follow

3.
 Interview Transcript: 8N37

Researcher: Interview with 8N37, how do you feel about Mathematics?
 8N37: I actually do like maths. Its quite interesting, because every every exercise that we do to every equation every sum is challenging in itself, it's just that I have to sit down and actually look at it try them before coming to the right number.
 Researcher: I see that last year your promotion mark was 65% which is a good mark. How do you feel about that mark?
 8N37: I don't find it a good mark at all.
 Researcher: So you feel it was not good, why?
 8N37: I could have done better. It's just I found something... something was very hard because mainly the explanations we were given want, you don't follow through on them, and you, I found very, I found it very very hard actually.
 Researcher: Do you think that a teacher's ability to explain the maths has an influence on what you need?
 8N37: Yes, ma'am.
 Researcher: Do you have the same teacher this year than last year?
 8N37: No ma'am.
 Researcher: Do you feel that it making a difference?
 8N37: A huge difference, I'm actually enjoying maths, it's putting a smile on my face like when I look at an equation and you know that you have the answer because the teacher explained

Comment [E105]: Positive emotions (theme 1)

Comment [E106]: Practice enhance ability to solve (theme 3)

Comment [E107]: Not satisfied

Comment [E108]: Poor explanation = poor understanding and difficulty (theme 4)

Comment [E109]: Educator explanation (theme 4)

Comment [E110]: Educator influence attitude (theme 1 and 4)

something in the way that even a person who's academic challenged could find a answer to, so yes ma'am.
 Researcher: I also see that you also did better in your exam than in your CASS mark with your continuous assessment, did you study very hard for your exam last year?

Comment [E111]: Educator explanation (theme 4)

8N37: Yes ma'am.
 Researcher: And did you feel that it showed in your mark?
 8N37: Yes ma'am.
 Researcher: And how do you feel about your ability to do maths?
 8N37: It's questionable, can I say that?
 Researcher: Yes, why do you say that?
 8N37: Umm because at times I apply myself in the manner that its more than in my other test but I get..., how can I say it, marks that aren't to my satisfactory? And at times I find other test are much more simple than the other ones. So I think I can do better but at the same time I think it is out of my hands because I don't understand, I don't understand umm them umm find it challenging.

Comment [E112]: Practice and studing improve marks

Researcher: Do you think that you do not get, basically you don't get the marks according to the efforts that you put in to maths? Let me just put this way, do you think you put in more effort and that the amount of efforts that you do put in should produce a higher marks than you currently get?

Comment [E113]: Poor comprehension makes subject a challenge (theme 2)

8N37: No ma'am.
 Researcher: Do you think that you reap what you sow?
 8N37: Yes ma'am.
 Researcher: Do you think that your confidence levels have an influence on your performance on mathematics?
 8N37: Yes ma'am.
 Researcher: Why do you say that?
 8N37: Because at times I get, I get a sum and I look at it and I think it is so difficult that I doubt myself if I can get the right answer or whether I'm actually going to do it, and I find it actually easier than putting some negative thoughts in my head and my confidence is deteriorating so I start to think it is actually harder than it actually is.

Comment [E114]: Performance influence confidence (2) (theme 1)

Researcher: Do you think that you think maths is harder than it is that it actually umm brings down your levels and your ability to actually get to the right answer?
 8N37: Yes ma'am.
 Researcher: So do you think that if you change your mindset that it would help you to arrive at the correct answer?
 8N37: Yes ma'am I do.
 Researcher: And when you face a difficult problem in maths, how does that makes you feel?
 8N37: I feel like I'm literally stuck I'm helpless, I wait for the teacher to actually catch up, so that she can explain it further to me I feel

Comment [E115]: Negative emotion (theme 3)

that if I don't do well that I can actually literally fall my grades, so yeah I think it is a difficult challenge seriously bring down everything in me, it brings down my mindset, it brings down my confidence in a manner that I that I cant do maths at all.

Researcher: And if you get stuck and you cant solve the problem. Do you wait for the teacher to pick up that you are stuck or are you actually willing to go to the table and ask for help?

8N37: I'm willing to ask for help.

Researcher: That's good. Can you explain any mathematical problems maybe difficult problems or easy problems to your peers?

8N37: I find to explain the most difficult ones a bit easiest where I find the easier ones challenging.

Researcher: Why?

8N37: I don't know why.

Researcher: Don't know why?

8N37: Yes ma'am.

Researcher: Do you believe that you can do maths?

8N37: Yes ma'am.

Researcher: Why?

8N37: How can I put it, umm yeah, I believe I can do maths. I do because I can and I apply like serious issues I sit myself down and I look at a test and I look at text book and everything and the tests come back with marks that I actually willing to say that I'm very very good in terms of, of of me of the amount of effort I put into it. That, yes I do believe if I do belief in terms of that.

Researcher: Right. How do you feel about your performances last year when you were in grade 8?

8N37: I felt that I seriously will do this; I thought I could do extraordinary, extraordinarily better than I did in Grade 8.

Researcher: Why did you feel you could have done better?

8N37: I would, I would, I, I will have to admit that I played a bit because in terms of, in terms of work that was given to us that also enquire an amount of portfolio I use to think Ugh come on nothing, nothing big if I can get this my, my exams my tests, my cycle tests can boost up my marks. But I actually didn't recognise that those portfolio work are actually the ones that boost your mark. So I'm thinking everything that was given to me in terms of activity in terms of homework in terms of portfolio marks seriously. I'm taking everything in a manner that can, in a manner that it can boost to my exams. I do believe I do need that because I do get stuck a lot when I need to do cycle tests and exams, my mind ought to think it is so much harder and I find it very find it very easy, a very very easy sum so complex and difficult compared to what it actually is. So I'm, I'm giving it my all I am sitting down and I am applying effort.

Researcher: Why do you think that learners when faced with an easy problem why do you think that they feel that it is very difficult?

Comment [E116]: Wait for teacher to realise he/she does not understand. Needs further explanations... (theme 4)

Comment [E117]: Difficulty in solving problems cause negative emotions (theme 1 and 3)

Comment [E118]: ???

Comment [E119]: Efforts = better marks?

Comment [E120]: Can do better – not satisfied

Comment [E121]: Did not work hard

17

8N37: We over analyze everything, we over analyze though the whole entire question we think you, um teachers would appreciate your answer that is so difficult compare to what it actually is, that like you give us more marks than an actual one so we over analyze everything as we think because it is an exam no questions can be easy. So every question has those trapdoors and those, ah, those traps that you are supposed to get stuck in or something like that so we don't look at it in a manner that is like, that your mind is clear when you look at it, look at it and finding an answer. You think there is spare rules or something like that so you over analyze it.

Researcher: So do you think that teachers only set trick questions?

8N37: No Ma'am. I think teachers set a question in a manner that if you think it is hard but it can like mix you up or something so that the easiest ones is actually the actual ones that you find challenging than what it is actually isn't. I think it's pretty easy to over think it.

Researcher: Then do you think or feel that you were prepared well for mathematics in primary school?

8N37: Yes Ma'am, yes I do.

Researcher: And do you think there is a gap between grade seven and eight or do you find it more or less the same?

8N37: In my mind I thought there was a big gap but if I was to review my principles in my grade eight book I will see that umm everything in grade seven has everything in grade eight, it's just a step more, a bit more challenging than it was in grade seven but everything goes hand in hand.

Researcher: And are you planning to take maths up to grade twelve?

8N37: Yes Ma'am, pure Maths not Maths Literacy.

Researcher: And how are you managing with your maths this year?

8N37: Managing pretty pretty well my teachers explain everything in a manner that you actually like maths so I'm handling everything seeing everything in fit, I'm looking at my portfolio, I'm looking at my portfolio very very [unclear] Yah I think I'm managing well.

Researcher: Thank you very much.

8N37: Pleasure Ma'am.

4.
Interview Transcript: 8R23

Researcher: Interview with 8R23. Good morning. Tell me how do you feel about Mathematics?

8R23: It's a challenging subject, uhhh, I enjoy it when I understand the solutions and of course tests, but it is quite challenging.

Researcher: Do you actually believe that you can do Maths?

8R23: Uhm, yes, but I can improve... (unclear)

Researcher: How do you feel about your ability to do Math?

Comment [E122]: Think the solutions should look complex

Comment [E123]: Think there are several "trick questions"

Comment [E124]: Big gap between primary and secondary school

Comment [E125]: Educator explanation (8) (theme 4)

Comment [E126]: See math as challenge

Comment [E127]: Positive emotions linked to comprehension (theme 1 and 2)

18

8R23: Right now, I think I am average in Maths, and I hope to improve on it.

Researcher: Do you think that your confidence has any influence on your performance when doing Maths?

8R23: Yes, definitely.

Researcher: Please tell me why.

8R23: A positive attitude will get you through, uhm, for example if you get a low mark in a test, uhm, if you have a positive attitude, uhh, hoping to get more and actually doing something to get more.

Researcher: When you are faced with a very difficult problem in Mathematics, how does that make you feel?

8R23: It fills my head, uhh, I don't know what to do.

Researcher: Is it. And how would you describe your confidence when faced with a difficult problem?

8R23: Uhm, it is a bit low, yes.

Researcher: And if you had the problem, and you sat with it and actually solved it, how does it make you feel?

8R23: Ecstatic, (unclear).

Researcher: Right, then can you explain any Mathematical problems to your friends with confidence?

8R23: Yes.

Researcher: So would you say you believe that you can explain Math?

8R23: Yes.

Researcher: Do you think, if we give you a problem that you have never seen before or done before, with its solution, do you think that you can take a look at that problem with its solution and then solve a similar one without someone explaining the work to you?

8R23: Yes, definitely.

Researcher: How do you feel about your performance last year in Grade 8? I see you had 60% for your promotion mark. How do you feel about that?

8R23: There is definitely room for improvement, but it was satisfactory.

Researcher: And how did you feel about the exam in Grade 8?

8R23: It wasn't as challenging as the mid-year exam.

Researcher: Okay, and how are you managing with your Mathematics this year?

8R23: Uhm, I think I am managing quite well, uhm, I've been getting good marks so far in the beginning of the year.

Researcher: Good. Do you feel that you were prepared well for Grade 8 in Primary School in Mathematics?

8R23: Uhmhm?

Researcher: Or do you feel that there is a gap?

8R23: Yes mam.

Researcher: How do you think that can be improved?

8R23: Do self-study and get supplements and software that can help.

Comment [E128]: Want to do better

Comment [E129]: Confidence influence performance (2) (theme 1)

Comment [E130]: Difficult problems consume the learner

Comment [E131]: Difficulty in solving problems lowers confidence (theme 3)

Comment [E132]: Positive when solving difficult problems (theme 3)

Comment [E133]: Satisfied

Comment [E134]: Improve maths by practicing more

Researcher: Okay, so would you say that technology can improve one's Mathematical abilities?

8R23: Yes, if you use it the right way.

Researcher: Explain quickly to me, when doing Maths, how exactly does it make you feel?

8R23: Confused in the beginning, but when I go on and read the question, I feel much better.

Researcher: Do you think that a teacher has an influence on your confidence when doing Maths?

8R23: Definitely.

Researcher: Is there anything else that you would like to add about Mathematics that you think is important for people to know?

8R23: Oh, no not really.

Researcher: Okay. Thank you very much!

5. Interview Transcript: 9J27

Researcher: Interview with 9J27. Right, how do you feel about Mathematics?

9J27: Uhm, I feel like Maths is a...not very much difficult subject. It just need a lot of effort form a person, and a lot of determination and perseverance.

Researcher: How do you feel about your ability to do Maths?

9J27: My ability to do Maths, uhm, I can say average. I don't think that I am particularly good in Maths, but I think I can manage in Mathematics.

Researcher: And when you say that you can manage, do you feel that you are confident when doing Mathematics?

9J27: Not most of the time, I'm only confident when I am sure that I like studied for a particular test, like uhm I studied a lot, like, yeah.

Researcher: And do you think that your confidence has an influence on your ability to perform in Mathematics?

9J27: Uhm, yes I think it does, because the more confident you feel the better I think you do in Maths.

Researcher: Right, when you are faced with a very difficult problem that you are struggling to solve, how does that make you feel?

9J27: Uhm, it makes me feel mediocre in a way, because I that every problem that we get, I, I think that other people can do it, and that it is only me, that I can't. So I feel very small and mediocre that I can't solve a Maths problem.

Researcher: And if you had the same difficult problem, and you sat with it, and actually solved it, how does that make you feel?

9J27: It makes me feel clever in a way, you know, I feel good, and I feel like I accomplished something.

Researcher: Then can you explain Maths to your friends with confidence?

9J27: No, not really.

Comment [E135]: Feel better once the problem is understood (theme 2)

Comment [E136]: Educator influence

Comment [E137]: Average emotions (theme 1)

Comment [E138]: Feel that he has standard abilities.

Comment [E139]: Only confident when he is certain of his understandings (theme 2)

Comment [E140]: Confidence influence performance (3) (Theme 1)

Comment [E141]: Difficulty in solving problems cause negative emotions (theme 1 and 3)

Comment [E142]: Solving problems = positive emotions (theme 3)

Comment [E143]: Prefer not to explain to friends

Researcher: So you don't prefer to explain Maths?
9J27: No
Researcher: And if a friend comes to you asking about some Mathematical problem, what do you usually tell them?
9J27: If I know the problem, I will explain it, but if I don't know I'll refer them to someone else.
Researcher: Right, and by someone else, who do you mean, where do you refer them to?
9J27: To the teacher.
Researcher: Do you believe that you can do Mathematics?
9J27: Yes.
Researcher: Explain why you say yes.
9J27: Because I feel Maths is like a training field. All I have to do is persevere and be determined, and then I can do Maths.
Researcher: You talk a lot about perseverance; do you think this has a great influence on Maths?
9J27: Yes.
Researcher: Okay, how?
9J27: Uhm, mam, if like in Maths, if you get a particular problem and you give up, like, just like that, you don't even try to do the problem, then your marks are going to be like mediocre, but if you try and try and try again, you probably will get it.
Researcher: Last year in Grade 9 you got a promotion mark of 63%, how did you feel about your marks last year?
9J27: I didn't feel particularly good, because I was aiming for about 70.
Researcher: I see your exam mark was 55% did you find the exam easy or difficult or was it what you expected?
9J27: It was difficult, it wasn't easy at all.
Researcher: How did you feel while answering the question paper?
9J27: Not very confident, it felt like I did not study enough, and like I didn't get the Maths when I was writing.
Researcher: And if you say you felt like you didn't study enough, what kind of feelings came up that made you feel this way?
9J27: I felt like really stupid and that I could not get the answers right. And I felt like I was a failure.
Researcher: Okay. Then how are you managing with your Maths this year?
9J27: My Maths so far is good, and I had help at home and extra classes and so.
Researcher: And your help at home, who is that, is it a person who does well in Maths?
9J27: Yes
Researcher: When you are struggling where do you tend to turn to for help?
9J27: I mainly turn to the person who teaches me extra maths or my class teacher Ms. Levendis.
Researcher: Do you feel your where properly prepared in Primary School for High School Maths?
9J27: Yes, I think so.

Comment [E144]: Will explain if he understands (theme 2)

Comment [E145]: Refer to educators for assistance (theme 4)

Comment [E146]: Practice and perseverance = Improve math ability (theme 3)

Comment [E147]: Persevere and you will succeed

Comment [E148]: Not satisfied

Comment [E149]: Difficulty in solving problems = low confidence

Comment [E150]: Negative emotions (theme 1)

Comment [E151]: Additional support

Comment [E152]: Educator assistance (theme 4)

Researcher: And are you going to take Mathematics until Grade 12?
9J27: Yes
Researcher: Why?
9J27: Because it is a compulsory subject for the career, I want to pursue.
Researcher: Which is?
9J27: Mam, I want to be an Airline Pilot.
Researcher: That's interesting. Is there anything that you would like to add, that you think people need to know about Mathematics?
9J27: Uhm, all I can say is that Maths is not like particularly difficult or hard, it just needs you to be like focused and hard working.
Researcher: Okay. Thank you very much.
9J27: It's my pleasure mam.

Comment [E153]: Important subject for career choice

Comment [E154]: Mathematics asks diligence and hard work! (1)

Good Performance Learners' Interviews

1.

Interview Transcript: 8N14

Researcher: 8N14, good morning, how do you feel about Mathematics?
8N14: Umm, I guess it is okay but, if you say it's difficult then I don't like it.
Researcher: All right so depending on the work that that sets your mood about how you feel about mathematics?
8N14: Yes ma'am.
Researcher: Right so if... or how do you feel about your ability to actually do mathematics?
8N14: Umm, I am satisfied.
Researcher: Are you satisfied?
8N14: Yes, I am coping.
Researcher: Coping well?
8N14: Yes.
Researcher: Do you think your confidence levels have any influence on your performance in maths?
8N14: Yes I do, if I don't believe I can do something I don't do well.
Researcher: And then when you be faced a difficult problem umm, how does it feel?
8N14: It doesn't feel good.
Researcher: Okay why do you say so?
8N14: Cause I know then I'm going to do bad and reflect badly on my marks.
Researcher: So is marks very important to you?
8N14: Yes ma'am.
Researcher: Okay, and do you feel when you work part of mathematics that you will reap you will sow?
8N14: Yes ma'am.

Comment [E155]: Not understanding/difficulty result in disliking Math, feeling less confident??? (theme 2)

Comment [E156]: Average emotion (theme 1)

Comment [E157]: Feels confidence influence performance. Not believing in oneself gives bad results.

Comment [E158]: Confidence influence performance (4) (theme 1)

Comment [E159]: Negative feelings about difficult problems (theme 1)

Comment [E160]: Very concerned about good performance

Researcher: Also still with a difficult problem if you faced with difficult problem and you sit and actually try, try and after a while you actually succeed in solving the problem how does that make you feel?

8N14: It make me feel good cause ma'am i realize that i can do it i don't have to like, depend on other people to help me with it, i can do it on my own.

Researcher: Tell me do you ever sits if you, if you have a difficult problem, do you sits until you solve it or do you give up easily?

8N14: No, i try to solve it.

Researcher: Right, so it's very important for you to solve it?

8N14: Yes ma'am.

Researcher: Okay and then do you actually feel that you can explain mathematics to your friends?

8N14: Yes i do help my friends with Maths.

Researcher: And do you think you explain it well?

8N14: Yes ma'am. Only if i understand the work.

Researcher: And then, do you believe that you can do maths?

8N14: Yes ma'am, i think so, i enjoy maths.

Researcher: OK, explain why do you feel this?

8N14: Umm? Can you repeat the question ma'am?

Researcher: I asked if you believe if you can do maths.

8N14: Yes.

Researcher: And explain why do you feel this??

8N14: Cause i'm been doing well since i understand when the educator explain, how to do the new work.

Researcher: Do you think that you can umm, if someone gives you a sum that you never seen before or a problem and a solution do you think that you can figure out how to do another similar problem without some have to explaining the work to you or do you think it is important that someone explain it to you first?

8N14: Yeah, i'll need someone to explain it to me first before i can do it.

Researcher: And how do you feel about your performance in grade 8 last year?

8N14: I was lucky umm-a at the end of the year cause because, the first two terms i did not do so well...(unclear).

Researcher: Right, and what was the difference between the first two terms and the last two terms? What made the difference?

8N14: Umm the first two difference umm umm the difference is that at first we had another teacher and i didn't like the way she explained and then when you came ma'am then i knew what you where teaching and i understood.

Researcher: How do you managing this year in grade 9?

8N14: Umm ah, i've been well.

Researcher: Do you think you will do well this year again?

8N14: Yea i think so, i think, i do think so.

Comment [E161]: Positive about solving difficult problems, feels "i can do it" - boost in confidence??? (theme 3)

Comment [E162]: Persevere in solving problems

Comment [E163]: Confident enough to explain Mathematical problems to others, if the work is understood. (theme 2)

Comment [E164]: Positive emotion (theme 1)

Comment [E165]: Performs better when understanding the work (theme 2)

Comment [E166]: Educator explain 1 (theme 4)

Comment [E167]: Not confident enough to attempt unseen problems without help

Comment [E168]: Educator explanation (2) (theme 4)

Comment [E169]: A bit unsure about performance this year...less confident?

23

Researcher: I see last year your promotion mark was 76% but you actually got a distinction in the exam, while answering the exam. Did you feel confident?

8N14: Yes i did ma'am because the exam was quite easy.

Researcher: So you found it easy?

8N14: Yes.

Researcher: Is there anything you would like to say about mathematics?

8N14: A like a if a anyone is doing well in mathematics we shouldn't depend on other people to help you we should do it um we should get someone to explain it to her and you eventually grasp that and then you can do it yourself.

Researcher: Right thank you very much.

2.

Interview Transcript: 8N31

Researcher: 8N31, how do you feel about Mathematics?

8N31: Uhh, i enjoy maths a lot but, i don't i like it a lot but if i don't understand it then i, then i just start to dislike it.

Researcher: Right so, how do you feel about your ability to actually do maths?

8N31: Uhh, i do have a struggle to do maths ma'am.

Researcher: So do you believe in yourself when doing maths?

8N31: Yes i do.

Researcher: Do you think that your confidence levels have any influence over your performance in maths?

8N31: Yes, because i realize if i'm confident about writing my paper with my answers i and then it does help in resolving them.

Researcher: When you are faced a difficult problem, how does that makes you feel?

8N31: Uhh it just kind of a like me feels that i am not able to do it, and then i just like leave it out.

Researcher: Won't you try some?

8N31: No i will attempt it, but uhh.

Researcher: Okay. And if you attempted and you actually solved a big problem, how does that make you feel?

8N31: It makes me feel i achieved it.

Researcher: OK and then can you actually explain mathematics to your friends?

8N31: Yes i can.

Researcher: And how does it feel when you explain the work?

8N31: Ahh really helpful because i really like helping people and yeah.

Researcher: Then do you believe that you can do maths?

8N31: Yes, i do.

Researcher: Explain why you think you can do maths?

8N31: Uhh, because i'm confident about doing maths and i feel very positive when i do and i enjoy doing maths.

Comment [E170]: Confident when feeling the work is easy (theme 2)

Comment [E171]: Comprehens on improve performance (theme 2)

Comment [E172]: Positive emotion (theme 1)

Comment [E173]: Comprehens on influence emotion (theme 1 and 2)

Comment [E174]: have to work hard to understand?

Comment [E175]: Confident

Comment [E176]: Confidence influence performance (5). Learner feels that it helps to find answers (theme 1)

Comment [E177]: Difficult problems- cause negative feelings (theme 3)

Comment [E178]: Persevere in solving problems (theme 3)

Comment [E179]: Positive feelings, PROUD, Confident? (theme 1)

Comment [E180]: Positive about helping peers

Comment [E181]: Believe in oneself_POSITIVE

Comment [E182]: Positive emotion (theme 1)

24

Researcher: I see your promotion mark last year was 80%, how do you feel about your performance in grade 8?

8N31: Great about what I've achieved but it takes a lot of hard work.

Researcher: Right, so, so would you say that umm, when you studied well, study and practice hard for mathematics that it pays off?

8N31: It does pay off.

Researcher: And do you think when you study for maths that it raises your confidence levels in your abilities?

8N31: Yes it does, because it helps you to become better at maths and boost your confidence in it.

Researcher: How are you managing this year with maths?

8N31: This year it is not so easy but it is getting better as long as I understand the work it's fine.

Researcher: Right, and tell me do you think you are prepared well for mathematics in primary school?

8N31: Yes I was.

Researcher: OK and um, how do you feel about teachers influences on your ability to do maths?

8N31: Teachers have a big influence because they practically, if they don't explain it properly then we will have difficulties, so... it does, it's very, it's very vital that they do explain properly and they do have a big influence.

Researcher: Do you think that when you explain the work to your friend that you learn something from it?

8N31: Yes I do.

Researcher: OK, why do you say that?

8N31: Because if I help someone and I solve the problem then I will learn something when they tell me something that I might have missed.

Researcher: What is your general feelings towards maths?

8N31: Uuuu?

Researcher: When someone says the word mathematics what's the first thing that pops up?

8N31: It's a bit of both I like it and then I get it, somehow get scared umm.

Researcher: and when you get scared why, why do you get feelings of being scared?

8N31: Because I'm afraid if, that I won't be able to solve the problem.

Researcher: Do you think that, that stops you from solving any problems?

8N31: No

Researcher: So do you think that you're, you're scared feelings is grounded?

8N31: I don't think...

Researcher: or do have, or rather say do you think that, that you have to feel scared?

8N31: No I don't?

Researcher: so it is unnecessary?

8N31: Yes it's unnecessary.

Comment [E183]: Not only confidence, but hard work boost performance (2)

Comment [E184]: Performance boost confidence (3) (theme 1)

Comment [E185]: Comprehension needed to feel confident (theme 2)

Comment [E186]: Educator explanation (3) (theme 4)

Comment [E187]: Cooperative learning

Comment [E188]: Negative feelings towards struggling with Maths (theme 1 and 2)

25

Researcher: All right thank you very much.

3.

Interview Transcript: 8R05

Researcher: Interview with 8R05. Right. Morning. I see that your promotion mark last year was 75%, which is a very good mark. How do you feel about Mathematics?

8R05: I really like Mathematics. It is not one of my favourite subjects but I do find it interesting. The reason being I find it easy to understand and easy to do. I do well in the subject and that makes it a nice subject for me. And, um, last year's promotion mark was 75% although I thought I would do better.

Researcher: Did you expect to get a distinction?

8R05: I did. Because in the first few terms I did get distinctions, and then in the fourth term I expected better than in the first three terms.

Researcher: Was the exam worse than what you expected?

8R05: Not really, um, it was challenging, but, um, it was nice.

Researcher: I wanted to know, do you think that your self-confidence has any influence on your ability to do Maths?

8R05: Yes, um, I think if you know you are able to do something and you understand it you do better in that subject, coz I feel good about Mathematics, because I know I am able to do it, and that's why I do so good, and yeah.

Researcher: And if you struggle with a problem, what is the feeling that you get? Do you get frustrated, what do you feel like when you struggle with something?

8R05: I think I panic a lot and when I get panicked, I am unable to think, and that's why I try not to panic, but if I struggle with a problem I do get frustrated and panicked stricken and I feel like 'oh no I can't do this'.

Researcher: How do you overcome the panic?

8R05: Usually I have to stop thinking and stop writing and breathe in and out and go through my paper again and go back to that question.

Researcher: I see that your CASS mark was 76% so you did well throughout the year. And then your exam mark was 71%, was there any stage throughout the exam any problem that you felt you could not solve?

8R05: Yes, there was quite a few and the exam was quite challenging and like I said, I panic easily and then when there was challenging questions I panicked easily and then sometimes I use to know what I was doing.

Researcher: And when you get to one of those problems where you start to panic and you go back to it and you actually get it right. How did it make you feel?

Comment [E189]: Positive emotions (theme 1)

Comment [E190]: Understands enjoy = better performance = higher confidence (theme 1 and 2)

Comment [E191]: Positive emotions (theme 1)

Comment [E192]: Understands = confidence (theme 2)

Comment [E193]: Negative feeling towards struggling with problem (theme 3)

Comment [E194]: Math Anxiety?

Comment [E195]: Coping skills with anxiety

Comment [E196]: Difficult problems cause negative feelings (theme 3)

26

8R05: It's like **yes I accomplished it** and usually somewhere along the paper as I go through I realize okay I done this, but this is a much more harder problem than I did earlier, then I'm so silly but I get it right.

Comment [E197]: Positive and confident when solving problems (theme 2)

Researcher: Do you think it is important to go over the paper after you have written the paper?

8R05: Yes, because **sometimes I make silly errors**, just like I needed to add a 0 or a 1 or something, so yes it's important to go through it.

Comment [E198]: Going over work helps to pick up on unnecessary mistakes

Researcher: What is your general feeling about Mathematics?

8R05: I think it is an interesting subject **and I do like it**, it's a challenging subject, and yeah.

Comment [E199]: Positive emotions (theme 1)

Researcher: Do you feel comfortable enough with Maths to actually explain to your friends how to do certain things or do you prefer not to help someone else with their Mathematical problems?

8R05: Okay, **if I understand a problem very well I can explain it to anybody**. But sometimes if I am not sure about myself I would like to explain but then I doubt myself.

Comment [E200]: Confident enough to explain when work is understood (theme 2)

Researcher: Right, if you are in doubt with yourself, do you think it is advisable to explain the work to someone else?

8R05: I don't think so, **I think you should make sure first before you explain to somebody else**.

Comment [E201]: DON'T try and explain when she is not sure

Researcher: So do you have to be **confident in your abilities**?

8R05: Yes, definitely.

Comment [E202]: Confidence is key

Researcher: Okay, I think that is it. Thank you very much.

4. Interview Transcript: 9B30

Researcher: Interview with 9B30. How do you feel about Mathematics?

9B30: I think that Maths, Maths is really **fun**, and especially **when you get something right in Maths, you feel confident**, and that makes you wanna go on doing Maths. **Uhm, I think the teachers also play a big part in how you feel about Maths**, because if they're enthusiastic about the subject and if they are positive and sure about what they do, **it also makes you feel like you can do Maths**.

Comment [E203]: Positive emotions (theme 1)

Comment [E204]: Understand/doing the work correctly boost confidence (theme 2)

Researcher: So do you feel like the teacher's confidence when teaching, has an influence on you performances and your confidence when doing Mathematics?

Comment [E205]: Educator influence on emotion (theme 1 and 4)

9B30: Yes, I do, because, uhm, **if the teacher knows what they are doing, it obviously makes you feel secure** and you feel that okay your on the right path and that there is someone that you can rely on when you need help.

Comment [E206]: Teachers confidence - influence own confidence (theme 4)

Researcher: Do you feel that confidence influences your performances?

9B30: Uhm, at times it does, **because if you feel okay you know what I have got a good background on this, whatever this... uhm... this... let's say this topic is, and like you feel like you**

know what is going on and that you feel more confident and you tend to like that part or section of Maths more or like I said if you get something right you feel good about yourself, **but the minute you start doing bad in it, it makes you dislike it**.

Comment [E207]: Confident when doing well (theme 1)

Researcher: How do you feel about your ability to do Mathematics?

9B30: As far as I came in life so far, I think I am quite **capable of doing** it, if I put my mind strongly to it, but I do like rely on other sources to help me with my Math marks.

Comment [E208]: Negative feelings when learner don't understand/ "do bad" (theme 2)

Comment [E209]: Confidence influence performance (6) (theme 1)

Researcher: What sources is this?

Comment [E210]: Positive/confident emotions (theme 1)

9B30: It may be my **teachers, and then I don't really rely on friends because I don't think that is a good thing**, uhm, and then my sister.

Comment [E211]: Educator assistance (theme 4)

Researcher: Right, so why don't you think friends are a good thing?

Comment [E212]: Don't think that asking friends for help is the best thing.

9B30: Sometimes they are also unsure themselves, and if they are uncertain, **it makes you feel uncertain**.

Researcher: And your sister is she older than you?

Comment [E213]: Surround with people that comprehend maths rather than relying on people that might not know. Uncertain = not confident

9B30: Yes she is in Grade 11

Researcher: And does she do well in Maths.

9B30: Yes she does exceptionally well.

Comment [E214]: THIS IS TRUE! The sister does extremely well in Maths and achieve averages above 95%

Researcher: So do you feel like she can explain work to you well?

9B30: Yes she can.

Researcher: Okay, do you ever encounter problems that you feel like you can't solve?

9B30: Yeah, there are times that that does happen. **And that kind of breaks your confidence in Maths, and it feels like, this is a solid wall you came to and you can't go on, but I am sure that there is always a solution**.

Comment [E215]: Negative feelings, low confidence when doing difficult problems (Theme 3)

Researcher: So if you are faced with this difficult problem, and you get to solve it, how does that make you feel?

9B30: You feel, I think that boosts your self-esteem or your aspects of Maths, **because you feel like if I can do this I can surely find a solution to all the problems and I can cope with them**.

Comment [E216]: Positive/confident feelings (theme 1)

Researcher: Do you feel confident in explaining Mathematical problems to your friends.

9B30: If it is something that I am **100% sure about I don't mind and I can explain it well**, but if it is something that I myself am not too sure about, then I'd rather not do it, because then I won't give them something that I am certain of.

Comment [E217]: Will explain if work is understood (theme 2)

Researcher: This is a question similar to one I already asked. Do you believe that you can do Mathematics? Also explain why you give that answer.

9B30: **I do believe that I can do it, I mean if so many people before me have done something like that, it is not impossible**.

Comment [E218]: Believe in herself, positive and confident (theme 1)

Researcher: Do you think you can do well in Maths without working? A lot of kids say that Maths is a subject that you can't study for, do you agree with that or do you disagree?

9B30: I disagree with that, because I mean you have to apply your mind to what you are doing and if your base is not strong enough, I mean your base comes from where you study and how hard you work. So if you don't study and work hard I don't think you can accomplish the best that you can.

Researcher: And how do you study for Maths?

9B30: Uhm, I mostly study by practicing. I first set out rules for myself and then I get sums and do them myself, and try it again and again until I get the right answer.

Researcher: And does that boost your confidence?

9B30: Yes, it does, because if you get to the right answer you feel that you can do this.

Researcher: Last year in grade 9 you got 86% for your promotion mark, how do you feel about your performances throughout grade 9?

9B30: Uhm, I feel like it could have been better than that, uhm, I do always hope for a 90% in Maths, but hopefully it will go better this year.

Researcher: Okay and I see your CASS mark was 87% and your Exam mark was 82%, did you find the exam easy or difficult compared to the continuous assessment done throughout the year?

9B30: I think the exam was a bit more challenging than the contentious assessment, because when we did the assessments it was smaller portions of work to focus on, compared to like everything.

Researcher: And then how do you feel you are managing with your Mathematics this year?

9B30: So far I think it is going well, because of the extra maths classes and the, uhm, well what we do in extra math classes sometimes we do... like AP Maths... we do that work before we do it in Maths, so you feel more certain and more sure and you feel like okay this is the way to go and you feel good about yourself and that you get it.

Researcher: Okay AP Maths is an extra Maths subject, do you think that that also helps your problem solving skills in general?

9B30: Uhhh, yes I do.

Researcher: Are you planning on taking Maths until matric?

9B30: Yes, I am.

Researcher: Why?

9B30: I think it is essential to have, I mean the careers that I have considered, they do require Mathematics not Math Literacy. So yes I do plan taking it.

Researcher: And do you feel confident in your ability to do Maths until matric?

9B30: Yes I do, to a certain extent. There are times that you feel it is the end of the road for you, but there is always something that keeps you going, and there is always some sort of inspiration behind you.

Comment [E219]: Math performance = HARD WORK (3)

Comment [E220]: Practice = Study

Comment [E221]: Getting work right = boost confidence (theme 1)

Comment [E222]: Performance Influence confidence (4) (theme 1)

Comment [E223]: Slightly disappointed?

Comment [E224]: Exam more difficult because of quantity of work that needs to be studied

Comment [E225]: Confident because work is done before hand

Comment [E226]: Maths is important for career choice

29

Researcher: Do you feel like you were prepared well for Maths in Primary School for High School Maths, like algebra and geometry?

9B30: I would say we were sufficiently prepared. I think we could have been prepared, uhm, we could definitely be prepared better, so that we could cope better with High School level of Maths.

Researcher: Do you feel like there is a big gap between Primary School and High School?

9B30: There is, because the revision we started with in Grade 8, uhm, in Grade 7 we didn't do such difficult sums, and then in Grade 8 there were even more difficult sums, based on the same topic just more difficult, and I think, uhhh, that makes you feel that the year before High School was just not the best year, because if the teachers could have explained at a more advanced level it would have helped us.

Researcher: You talk a lot about advanced level, do you feel that advanced problems is very important in Mathematics?

9B30: Yes I do, because, uhm, in Maths if you just do the simple problems, then you are not challenging your ability. And if you do more challenging sums or whatever, you find more answers to challenging sum. So yeah I think it is good for you, because then you are actually testing your abilities.

Researcher: Right. Is there anything else that you would like to say about Mathematics in general?

9B30: I think that Maths can be accomplished no matter who you are and what you do, because there is always teachers there to help you, and uhm, there is always someone that's gonna push you up, and say you can do it, carry on going.

Researcher: Thank you very much!

5.

Interview Transcript: 9S29

Researcher: Interview with 9S29. How do you feel about Mathematics?

9S29: Uhh, I actually enjoy Mathematics, I find that I am coping with the work and I enjoy it.

Researcher: Do you think because you are coping with the work, is that the reason why you enjoy Maths?

9S29: Yes, but I, uhm, I enjoy doing Maths, I have always enjoyed doing Maths.

Researcher: How do you feel about your ability to do Maths?

9S29: I feel that my ability is above average, uhm I do struggle here and there with it.

Researcher: Right, and if you do struggle with Maths, how do you cope with that?

9S29: I'll come for extra classes or I'll ask my friends to explain the work.

Comment [E227]: Feels that preparation in primary school is not sufficient

Comment [E228]: Educator explanation (4) (theme 4)

Comment [E229]: Challenging problems = important in maths

Comment [E230]: Enjoy math since work is understood?

Comment [E231]: Positive emotions (theme 1)

Comment [E232]: Positive about the subject (theme 1)

Comment [E233]: Confident in ability to do math (theme 1)

Comment [E234]: Additional support

30

Researcher: So if your struggling do you prefer to rather ask your friends, or do you feel confident enough to ask the teacher to as well?

9S29: I, uhh, both I'd ask friends and then the teacher.

Researcher: Do you feel your confidence has an influence on your performance in Mathematics?

9S29: Yes

Researcher: Why do you say so?

9S29: Uhm, the more confident I am the better I do.

Researcher: Why do you think this is?

9S29: Well always when I go into a test with confidence, I would excel in the test, mostly because of the preparation I'd do.

Researcher: Would you then say that your preparation increase you confidence?

9S29: Yes.

Researcher: When you are faced with a difficult problem, how does that make you feel?

9S29: I'd actually see it as a challenge and I would not stop until I get the correct answer.

Researcher: And if you get the correct answer, what does that make you feel?

9S29: It makes me feel very good about myself.

Researcher: Can you explain mathematical problems to your friends?

9S29: Yes

Researcher: Do they come to you for help?

9S29: Some friends do, yes.

Researcher: Do you believe that you can do Maths well.

9S29: Yes, I believe if I put in the effort.

Researcher: Please explain why you think this.

9S29: Mam, because I achieve good grades and also I understand what is going on and if I do not understand I will find out.

Researcher: Last year in Gr. 9, you got 80% for your promotion mark, how do you feel about your performance in Gr. 9?

9S29: I feel that my performance was very well, because I actually got my distinction so I was satisfied with it.

Researcher: I also see that you actually did, uhm, you got 73% for your exam, how do you feel about your exam last year?

9S29: I felt, uhm, satisfied with my results, but I felt that I could do better, I think I missed my distinction just.

Researcher: Was it a difficult paper?

9S29: Yes, yes it was.

Researcher: How are you managing with your Maths this year?

9S29: This year I'm... assignments and that I am coping with, but test I uhh, the previous cycle test I did not perform that well.

Researcher: And how does that make you feel, when you are not performing as well as you would want to?

9S29: It's upsetting and lowers my self esteem, but it makes me work harder, it makes me push more to achieving better marks.

Comment [E235]: First turn to peers for support and then teacher (theme 4)

Comment [E236]: Confidence influence performance (7) (theme 1)

Comment [E237]: Believe confidence helps to do better/ perform (theme 1)

Comment [E238]: Feel confident because prepared well.

Comment [E239]: Positive outlook – confident in own abilities. Perseverance

Comment [E240]: Positive emotions (theme 1)

Comment [E241]: Doing well is hard work (4)

Comment [E242]: Doing well because understand the work

Comment [E243]: Comprehension is important (theme 2)

Comment [E244]: Satisfied

Comment [E245]: Slightly disappointed. Believe it was not the best?

Comment [E246]: Learner got 68% for the mentioned cycle test

Comment [E247]: Lower confidence when not performing (theme 1)

Comment [E248]: Encouraged to work harder (5)

31

Researcher: Do you feel that you were prepared well in Primary School for High School Maths?

9S29: Yes.

Researcher: And do you feel that there is a difference between the two?

9S29: Yes, there is a big difference.

Researcher: Explain, why?

9S29: Mam, the stuff, the concepts and that, we learn different concepts, but also, uhm, the work that we are doing is a lot different, uhm, because I don't recall doing Algebra in Primary school and so on.

Researcher: And are you planning to take Maths up to Grade 12?

9S29: Yes, mam.

Researcher: Why?

9S29: Uhhh, I, for the career also mam, it's... Maths, well Maths is compulsory as well as, mam, I enjoy the subject, I do enjoy Maths.

Researcher: All right. Is there anything you would tell someone who is coming to high school about Maths that you think they need to know?

9S29: Yes, mam, that uhm, firstly you need to do your homework, and uhm... it's, if you want to do well you need to do your homework and pay attention in class.

Researcher: All right. Thank you very much!

Comment [E249]: Important subject for career choice

Comment [E250]: Positive about the subject (theme 1)

Comment [E251]: Maths=Hard work

32

ADDENDUM L

Proof of Language Editing



2 April 2013

I, **Ms Cecilia van der Walt**, hereby confirm that I took care of the editing of the dissertation of **Ms Erika Schafer van der Bergh** titled *The Influence of Academic Self-Confidence on Mathematics Achievements*.

MS CECILIA VAN DER WALT

BA (*Cum Laude*)

HOD (*Cum Laude*),

Plus Language editing and translation at Honours level (*Cum Laude*),

Plus Accreditation with SATI for Afrikaans and translation

Registration number with SATI: 1000228

Email address: ceciliavdw@lantic.net

Cell phone number: 072 616 4943

Fax number: 086 578 1425