

One of the CAS coordinators, she cooperates closely with our IB Coordinator and therefore knows more than other teachers about all the procedures students are supposed to follow and deadlines they need to meet . It's high time to guess who our guest this time is. Probably, everybody already knows that this is... Mrs. Małgorzata Warot.

Let's see what she has told us:

K&N: First of all, we would like to talk a bit about IB. Have you noticed some tendency, differences in consecutive IB classes, year by year, are they better or worse?

p. Warot: Of course, there are some differences, although I'm not a teacher, thus I'm not able to compare completely objectively, but what I've noticed is the change in students' attitude towards learning and their behaviour. I have an impression that recently there has been a tendency towards bigger and bigger eagerness in learning. IB students have higher demands, they are more ambitious and simultaneously more self confident what is noticeable in their relations with teachers and peers.

K&N: If you had had a chance of choosing IB when you were at school, would you have chosen it?

p. Warot: Yes, I would have chosen it. However, I'm not sure if my English would allow me to do so. When I was at school, it was just the beginning of English being taught at schools from the 4th class of primary school, and I was in one of the last years that learned Russian. For me a person who passes their secondary school final exam in English is one that I respect since it's not easy to study in a foreign language.

K&N: If you didn't have to work and had much time for yourself, what would you do?

p. Warot: If I didn't work, I would definitely travel more. Of course if I could afford it. It is a big problem for me that I can take holidays only during summer and winter holidays. And

these are the toughest periods since the prices are the highest then, the weather is the hottest or there is raining season in places I'd like to visit. What's more, my friends don't explore the world during the summer holidays. Travelling is my passion and each year I try to go somewhere. I have a rule not to come back to the same place.

K&N: So, for you, the job of resident in a hotel would be interesting.

p. Warot: Theoretically yes, however in practice not necessarily, since during the season such a resident is restricted to being in one place only and has quite a lot of work with accommodation of various groups and taking care of them etc.

K&N: Is there any unique, untypical place you visited, which you remember most?

p. Warot: All countries I visited are in some way special when considering natural environment, culture or customs, especially Arab countries. A place that I expected much of and with which I was a bit disappointed was Cuba. I was there recently and had an impression that there is much less 'exoticism' than I expected. Well, not literally, the nature is beautiful, especially the Caribbean Sea, there are old colonial buildings, mainly in Havana and, of course, a variety of wonderful old American cars from 40's and 50's. Some people regard Cuba as the "Museum of old cars". But I thought that something more could be seen, one should get to know people better...

K&N: And was it caused by authorities using some restrictions?

p. Warot: It was because the people are very specific there. Until recently, only Cubans working in hotels and tourists' offices could enter Varadero Peninsula. Only a few months ago Cubans were allowed to get about the peninsula and make use of hotels. Unfortunately, it relates to the tiny group of people, since the average Cuban can't afford it. I was witness to

accosting on the street and begging for some cosmetics or pieces of clothes among staff. It is really sad that they are forced to do that...

Finishing the subject of travels, I think that it is important who you are traveling with. It may happen that the climate and weather may not be particularly the best, however the company of closest friends may make nicely spent time.

K&N: And the last one, relaxing question: who did you want to be as a child?

p. Warot: I think I won't be original when I say that like the majority of girls I wanted to be a princess in a colourful dress.

Interview With a Teacher