

Subjects of Specialization During 'A' Levels

English translation:

A: If you change your mind during 'A' level, is that, is it possible to change the focus from like Commercials to um, to the sciences?

B: To the sciences? That's interesting, because I think we are pruned, or we begin to narrow our focus earlier, actually, than 'A' levels because in high school, or in secondary education between form one and four. In form one and two we do different subjects, and to go on to form three, you are screened usually. So some people will get into the pure sciences class, and some people will get into a class that has a more focus on Commercials, or a more focus on the arts. And usually the arts is the open one, because everybody does History, everybody does Shona, and everybody does Geography, regardless of where they are. And in my case, I went into a pure sciences class, um, at form three, so when I wrote my 'O' Levels, I had science, I had Physics and Chemistry, but only two classes in my stream did that out of six classes. So already for other students they were limited to what they had, but then when I went on to 'A' Levels, I decided that I wanted to do Arts instead of Sciences. So I think I had, um, an option, but for other students if they don't do Physics and Chemistry and Biology at Ordinary Level, then they cannot, they don't even have the choice of doing either/or, but once you get to 'A' Level, I know people who changed subjects, not necessarily a focus. So it can be in the Commercials and you start doing Geography, Math and Management of Business, and then you change your mind, you do Economics, Management of Business and Geography. So that's how people change, not necessarily changing the focus.

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