

Voices of OCC: Jacob Pinto

Announcer: These are the voices of OCC with Professor Ameer Sohrawardy.

Ameer: Welcome again, everybody, to a brand-new episode of Voices of OCC. This is Ameer Sohrawardy. With me right now is Jacob Pinto. Jacob is taking English 151 with me right now. So Jacob, first of all, thank you for agreeing to sit down and do this. Let's begin with an introduction. Tell us your name, tell us what brought you to OCC, tell us what you're majoring in at OCC.

Jacob: My name's Jacob Pinto. I went to Toms River High School East. And OCC, I finally decided that for a while because I was gonna go to a big college, but I wasn't really sure what I wanted to do. And, yeah, so I just came here to get my, my two years done and then see what I want to do.

Ameer: Good, so it's really a place for you to discover like what your, where your interests are?

Jacob: Yeah.

Ameer: Good. So do you live close by? Are you close to OCC?

Jacob: Yeah, I'm right on Fisher, so about, yeah, like five minutes.

Ameer: Okay, so it's, it's a very convenient place too for you to come. Good. Terrific. What are you majoring in?

Jacob: Business.

Ameer: Business? Why business?

Jacob: I've always been – well I started my first job was in sales at Men's Wearhouse, I sold suits there.

Ameer: OK, nice.

Jacob: I've always been like interested in that, so trying to see where I can bring that. Going to get my real estate license soon, so trying to group it all together.

Ameer: Nice, nice. So, so you're a salesman, then? I mean, you've had sales experience, obviously.

Jacob: Yes.

Ameer: Men's suits. So, so you can tell us everything about, like jackets and lapels, and things like that. That's fantastic. And a real estate license, also. So, it seems like you're a people person.

Jacob: I try, I try to be.

Ameer: Sort of outgoing, easy to talk to. You're very good at engaging with people.

Jacob: I try, yeah.

Ameer: That's good. So, why a real estate license? I mean, that's, that's a tough job, right, to sell houses.

Jacob: Yeah, the license is pretty easy to get, so that's why I'm trying to just start there and see what I can do after that. Um, the school like you can take online for four weeks, so I'm just doing that during the break. And then, yeah, I gotta take the test, and hopefully it'll all go well.

Ameer: Good! Fantastic! How have you liked your time on on the campus?

Jacob: It's nice, yeah.

Ameer: Yeah, have you made friends?

Jacob: Definitely, yeah. Most people I know here are from High School East because a bunch of people came.

Ameer: Oh, I see. OK, so you have a lot of your friends from high school who are here already.

Jacob: Yeah.

Ameer: So it hasn't been that much of an adjustment for you.

Jacob: Yeah, not really. Same people I pretty much hang out with there, I hang out with here.

Ameer: Was it a lot harder? Do you find that college is harder than high school?

Jacob: There's different aspects to it, I feel like. The work – I don't know, there's some parts that are harder and some parts that are easier, but - I think the hardest part is being someone not holding you accountable for everything. That was in the beginning, I finally found like a little bit of a groove, but in the beginning it - not being able to show, like, not being able to show up and nobody says anything to you. I think that was an easy way out, and I didn't like that. Yeah.

Ameer: Interesting. Tell us, uh, tell us what you would love to do if you could do anything in a dream job. What would be like a dream job for you?

Jacob: Ugh. Well, anything that pays well, first, and then definitely sales, yeah. I just -

Ameer: Oh, really?

Jacob: I feel like, it's like, I like earning it. I feel like, I don't know, I feel like I get a reward for it.

Ameer: That's fantastic. It's really fulfilling to be able to sell something, right? Well, I mean, there is money in sales as well. So what do you see yourself doing in about 10 years?

Jacob: Hopefully, raising a family. Working a good job, and then, yeah, just, I don't want to stay in New Jersey, but not, I don't know. I want to just explore, and not not be trapped in the same place always. Yeah, I want to travel.

Ameer: Nice, lovely. Where would you like to go?

Jacob: My number one place is Japan. I feel like it's just, it's so unlike where I've ever been, so, yeah, definitely there!

Ameer: Totally. All right, so let's end with one last question. Tell us something about yourself that you'd like everyone to know. It could be a hobby. It can be an interest of yours, something that makes you uniquely you.

Jacob: I feel like I have very, what's the word - the opposite of humble, but I really have the best music taste ever. In my mind, I have the best music taste.

Ameer: Tell us some of the artists that you like.

Jacob: I do a wide variety of, like, I really listen to everything from Elliot Smith - I know you might not know him -

Ameer: No, I do.

Jacob: Oh you, Elliot Smith? Yeah, I just - with almost everything, I find something to enjoy in every genre.

Ameer: That's fantastic. Yeah. Where did - where did your love of music come from? Were you exposed in your household, like to a whole variety of different kinds of music?

Jacob: Oh yeah, my brother and sister, and my dad makes music, so yeah, they all -

Ameer: Oh your dad makes music? Like in what capacity?

Jacob: He produces. Not in a big - but he does on the side, yeah.

Ameer: Oh, I see. What kind of artists does he produce?

Jacob: Not big artists, but um, what is it called, this guy Ryan Lewis that makes music. Yeah, he just he makes beats, and then –

Ameer: That's exciting, that's really exciting. Anyway, thank you very much, really appreciate it, Jacob, thanks for taking the time to talk.

Ameer: As you've heard, we have a vibrant community and we would love to hear feedback from you about either the conversations that you've heard so far, or if you're interested in becoming one of the voices of OCC, please reach out to me. I am Ameer Sohrawardy, asohrawardy@ocean.edu, and we look forward to hearing some of your voices on upcoming episodes.

Announcer: “Voices of OCC” is a presentation of OCC's Global Education Committee and WOCC.

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