



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

A long-time intervention with the FIE
or
Tomas' journey towards a dream

It is December the 14th 2018, late afternoon and we are preparing for another lesson of Feuerstein's Instrumental Enrichment (FIE) with Tomas. We have before us the second last page of Relations in Time. We will focus on the task and its solution as well as tasks about movement. We still remain standing before the tasks and even though we are putting the finishing touches on this casuistics, FIE is already under way and at a high level. Such that FIE mediators reach after tens of hours of study, practice and sincere and humble search.

EVA: Tomas, do you comply with making your name and details of your story public?

TOMAS: Yes, I have no problem with that. If it may be of any help...

EVA: It can. That is why I am writing this and why we (Charlie Karlín that is) have this project underway.

TOMAS: You know, I tell myself, what else can 'Feuerstein' bring me after all these years? I made so many of my dreams come true...

EVA: You have no more dreams?

TOMAS: I have, you know it well, graphic workshop, but I am worried about becoming self-employed.

EVA: Do you think you could keep your dream as a goal and think about steps, which will lead you to it?

TOMAS: I think so. But what more can Feuerstein give me?

EVA: Do you think there is no reason to carry on?

TOMAS: No, there is! I just wonder what in concrete will it bring to me.

EVA: Do you remember the last lesson? Was it not a crucial task to divide information – those we need, and those we do not need? And then put them in context? In other words to find relations and connection between distance, time and speed?

TOMAS: Yes. And why do they not teach math this way in schools?

EVA: In some schools they do... May I ask about the brochure? The first one. Do you agree I will put its scan into your casuistics?

TOMAS: A will people like it?

EVA: Why do you ask, Tomas? You presented it in front of students a couple times and it was a great success!

TOMAS: I went to lecture of a famous coach, gave him my brochure and he told me it was not that great and it was missing something, right...



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

EVA: Tomas, did the man read your brochure? We can have different opinions on the same thing, but I suspect that the coach did only glance at it.

TOMAS: I do not know, he said he read it.

EVA: Tomas, do you know what coaching is about?

TOMAS: Yes. It is about personal development. They talk about how we should think and act if we want to be successful.

EVA: And do you know the difference between coaching and FIE?

TOMAS: In the FIE we experience everything in the instrument and then bridge it into the real life. Coach just talks about it.

EVA: Do you think we could go experience it now?

Sometimes entering this world of ours can be difficult... Tomas Protiva (born in 1991) was delivered with great difficulty. His diagnosis and following prognosis gradually formulated by representatives of medical and psychological fields were severe: slight brain dysfunction, epileptic seizures, and right hemiparesis, never to walk...

At the same time, Tomas was very lucky. His parents have not given up on him, we went through rigorous rehabilitation and searched for all possible ways to improve everything summed by the word handicap. As of now, Tomas is involved in sports (currently combat sports), he became left-handed (very dexterous at that, as read below) but his right side of the body works (with some restriction), he is an author of multiple graphic designs (find some of them enclosed) and he is on his way towards his dream: a bookbinding and graphic studio. But let us watch Tomas' story as it has unfold.

Tomas entered school with a delay and an assistant. At the end of the 5th grade he was sent to a special school for handicapped children because he could not cope with requirements of normal school. After finishing it he went on to the study bookbinder at Jedlicka Institute (special facility for children and youth with various handicaps). In the second year of his studies we met, our first session took place on the 10th September 2009. On that occasion Tomas was accompanied by one of his parents for getting to my office on his own was not feasible. The bookbinder studies continued with certain difficulties. Tomas was overall very passive, did not have friends and often referred to himself as someone 'having many issues'. He complained. We began working with Organization of Dots and many more instruments from both Basic and Standard formats followed. I shall mention one of them later. Tomas visited me once a week on average, currently it is less often since my workload became larger. Thanks to FIE he developed ability to formulate strategies, his intrinsic motivation grew and school results improved. He also became more active outside his studies. It was apparent he possesses talents for arts which manifested in his book cover designs he sewed himself, and he made various hardcovers and boards. We discussed Tomas' future with his parents and it was clear he should continue education. Parents decided to stick with bookbinder – at a regular vocational school this time! Tomas actually managed to graduate the bookbinder studies and after that also design at the same institution. He was a very active student who provided his alma mater with many a propagation paper. He was not a straight A student but he managed to pass the final exams. It did



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

not stop with school curriculum as Tomas sought opportunities to improve wherever he could. He looked for internships at design enterprises, attended several courses (English included) his most recent was web design. He was able to come to multiple FIE courses I led as a guest speaker and talk about his story and FIE. He started to read books at the age of 20! He worked his way through tens of titles, he keeps an eye on newly published literature and gives me recommendations what I should read. He goes to ice hockey, he travels, and has friends... Naturally, a question may arise that Tomas just became mature. Is that so?

We have built together with Tomas his competence and fulfilled his dreams. And it is an ongoing effort.

Very interesting example of Tomas' progress is his dyscalculia. Tomas was not aware of the value that lies with every number, numerical operations for him were out of this world. It was clear to me that due to absence of numerical abstraction it was necessary to work with From Unit to Group instrument of the Basic programme. To work tediously... Today he can calculate the price of the products he makes.

With Tomas' consent I take the liberty to enclose some examples of his work:

Here are some pages out of the aforementioned brochure Tomas created of his own volition and brought it with him as a 'surprise'.

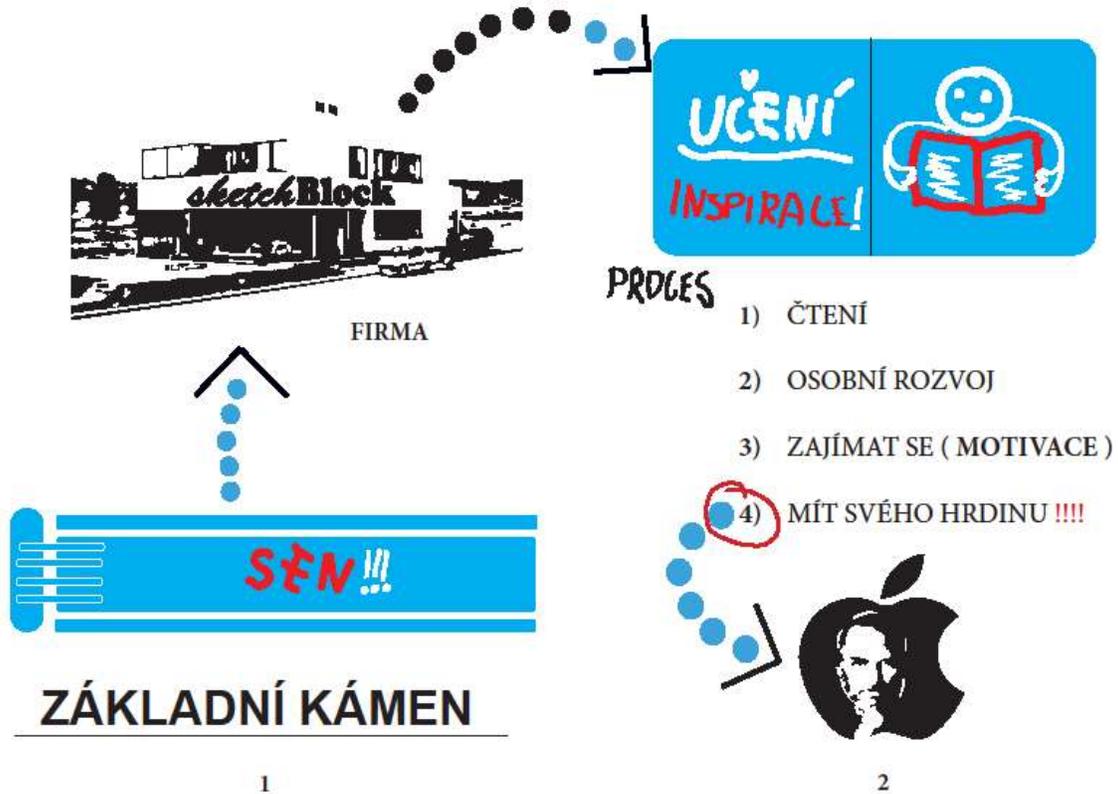


(on the left): Let every day be an inspiration...

(on the right, from bottom up): Dream – (Process) – Learning/Inspiration! – (Process) – Idea/Passion! – (Process) – Start/Hold on! – Success – sketchBlock

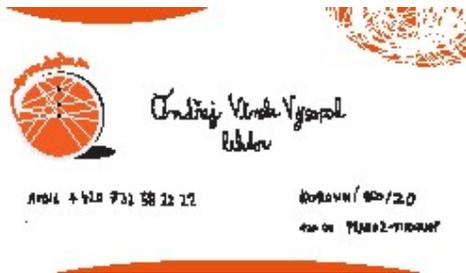


Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



(from bottom left, as arrows indicate): Dream – Enterprise – Learning/Inspiration, Process –
1. Reading, 2. Personal development, 3. Take interest (Motivation), 4. Have a personal hero

Tomas designs all kinds of propagation materials: posters, business cards,... some examples below:





Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

kavárna na balkóně
26/4/2018
14:00

Tvůrčí balkón



Patrikem Pařízkem
Flašinet je stále s námi

moderuje
PhDr. Zuzana Peterová

Židovská obec v Praze
Maiselova 18
Praha 1

KAVÁRNA
"NA BALKÓNĚ"