

TUTOR'S NAME: Samuel J
TUTOR'S AGENT: Bespoke Tuition



SUBJECTS TAUGHT:

Geography/History/English/Maths/French/Humanities/Arts/Critical thinking/Nepalese

EDUCATION:

2011-2013 Human Geography M.A. University of British Columbia

Funded by Canadian Rhodes Scholars Foundation

2008-2011, Geography B.A. Hertford College, University of Oxford

Final Honors School – First Class Distinction, Proxime Accessit for the Gibbs Prize (best performance) and A.J.Herbertson prize (best dissertation)

1st year Preliminary Examinations – First Class distinction, top in year

2003-2008, Sevenoaks School, Kent, UK

International Baccalaureate: 44 points (out of 45)

Higher Level – Geography 7, French 7, Biology 7

Standard level – Maths 7, English 6, Economics 7

Bonus points 3 for extended essay and theory of knowledge

10 GCSEs: 10 A*s including Geography, Maths, German and Music

French IOL distinction: Institute of Linguists

AGENCY'S COMMENTS:

"A truly international tutor, Samuel has received a remarkably broad and cosmopolitan education. This privileged and multi-disciplinary academic route has afforded him incredible opportunities and resources to be taught by and interact with elite educators. Samuel's father is headmaster of a UK Prep School (2-13 yrs) and his mother is also a teacher, fuelling an early passion for education. Though Samuel has a particular zeal for Geography, we consider him as one of our highly prized 'generalist tutors' who can support students in multiple subjects within the Arts & Humanities. As such, Bespoke Tuition has assigned Samuel on a range of specialist residential (live-in) tuition assignments for private families based in Finland, Lagos, Nigeria and Hong Kong. On all occasions, Samuel has received resoundingly positive feedback and has been invited back several times. A wonderful sense of humour and engaging personality helps Samuel to motivate, inspire and win respect from a range of age groups. He is an outdoors enthusiast, talented musician (Grade 8 Trumpet and Grade 8 Cello) and keen photographer. Samuel's sharp intellect and enthusiasm for active debate and discussion, accompanied by a charming and positive manner sets him apart."

TUTOR SPECIALISMS:

- Geography, English, EAL, Humanities, French, Nepalese
- Scholarship success – (independent secondary)
- Familiarity with a range of syllabuses and curriculums - (13+, GCSE, IB)
- Remedial tuition (homework assistance, support with schoolwork)
- Supplementary tuition (Samuel tailors bespoke curriculums outside of school syllabus)
- Critical Thinking Skills
- Executive Functioning skills (planning and organising workload; time management; working memory; multi-tasking)
- Creative Writing (Samuel writes his own self-reflective travel journals)
- Literary appreciation
- Essay Writing skills
- Interview technique
- Oxbridge preparation
- Debating/Public Speaking skills
- Careers advice
- Trumpet
- Dissertation writing – Samuel’s undergraduate dissertation was published: ‘Fixamotosis’

PERSONAL MESSAGE WRITTEN BY SAM:

“The value of a bespoke education cannot be underestimated. This hit home for me in the Oxford tutorial system, as I was mentored through 3 years of study for a Bachelor's degree in Geography by my tutors. Since then I have taught Geography at a University level and tutored on a one-to-one basis.

I was fortunate enough to do the International Baccalaureate at Sevenoaks International School in Kent, England, and have therefore been educated across a broad range of disciplines and subjects. This continued as I read Geography at Hertford College, Oxford, before completing my Master of Arts in Human Geography at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada. My passion lies in the relations between people and place in social, cultural, and political ways. In studying Geography for so many years, my appreciation for the subtleties and complexities of human culture(s) has deepened. In particular, I am fond of social theory with a critical edge, recognising both the long lineage of modernity and the turbulent transformations that characterise our present day.

As a generalist tutor, I enjoy not teaching advanced geography, but also across a breadth of subjects, from history to French, politics, writing, music, and art. I am also capable of tutoring the full range of curriculum subjects from 11+ through 13+ up to GCSE level. Fostering curiosity is at the heart of all of this. If exams test you on the application of your thinking, then education must teach you not only the content but also train you in the process of thinking. As such, I also value alternative teaching styles and approaches, with imaginative engagements with the world; asking questions, probing for answers, and delving deeply into different matters. I have experience in teaching with experiential learning techniques, from field trips and observation to open-ended tutorials and hands-on discussions (incidentally, I wrote my undergraduate dissertation on experiential geographies).

I should add that the extra-curricular element of education has always been important to me - I am an avid sportsman and enjoy playing music. As a positive, energetic, and sincere tutor, I can certainly echo the refrain of Bespoke Tuition with confidence, asserting the value of 'learning how to learn, studying how to study, and thinking how to think'.”

~ Samuel Johns

PREVIOUS EXAMPLE TUITION ASSIGNMENTS:

Geography A2

Sam tutored Dominic for A2 Geography (CIE) in December of 2013. Dominic wanted some help with a number of aspects of the syllabus, but also study skills and exam technique in general. They had a great time together learning more of what it means to think as a geographer, answer questions as a geographer, and interpret data critically as a geographer. From map reading to daily news items,

along with exam mark schemes, syllabus content, and new case-studies to cover, Sam ensured that there was not a dull moment.

Sam thoroughly enjoyed working with Dominic on some of the finer aspects of exam technique. They worked on structure, essay style, and different ideas for paragraph content. Sam found it interesting to see the different learning styles and teaching tools that resonated best with Dominic's conception of geography. All in all, the time spent was productive and enriching, but also good fun.

Multi-subject mentorship/Experiential Learning

Sam was selected to join a family for 3 weeks in Hong Kong to nurture a 9 year old boy's interest in learning and curiosity about the world around him. Recognising that any topic can be made interesting through the eyes of the right person, the family wanted Sam to take their son around Hong Kong Island studying things they encountered, whether in the realm of the physical, the topographic, the historic, the political, the artistic, the philosophic etc. Sam took him on cultural visits around the city to places of interest, integrating Geography, History and other subjects into each trip. When back at home, as well as participating in sports and games, Sam and family also discussed daily news with the boy, encouraging him to partake in interesting discussions and take a standpoint. Sam became a respected and inspiring 'big brother figure' to the boy over the 3 week period. A lot of fun was had, interest was stimulated and learning made enjoyable – the family's key objectives of the assignment.

EAL

Sam has taught English as an additional language to multiple students since 2008 across the globe. In Honduras, he taught English to local primary school children for a few weeks in Cusuco National Park. The following year he spent 3 months teaching English in Bhimsen Higher Secondary School (HSS) in Nepal. In 2012, Sam taught Human Geography at BA & BSc level at UBC in Canada, including to non-English as a first language students, for 2 years. More recently, Sam spent a few weeks working in Nepal teaching EAL at Bhimsen Higher Secondary School (HSS).

STUDENT TESTIMONIALS:

"Samuel was an absolutely fantastic hit with the boys and us. He is very well structured, organised, disciplined and patient! We tentatively spoke about having a week in London end July."

"Sam provides a phenomenal atmosphere for learning. I always enjoy going to discussions and take more out of these discussions than anything else I am learning here at UBC. He is very organized and open. He knows what he is teaching and how to teach it in an engaging way."

"Sam was inspiring, passionate and knowledgeable. He showed genuine interest in the course and students and provided useful comments on papers."

"This was a very engaging tutorial and the classroom discussions that Sam initiated were always interesting and thought-provoking."

"Sam was by far the best TA (Teaching Assistant) I've ever had! He's very knowledgeable, approachable, understanding, helpful and just really cool. He's done a great job with this course."

"Sam provided really good guidance on writing topics and good critiques on written work."

"I loved Sam as a TA. He was energetic, fun and good at getting discussion going."

"Sam always came to lessons prepared and with a solid understanding of the topic for every given week. He had a positive attitude and sparked a positive reaction from the group as well."

"Thanks Sam for facilitating very intellectually stimulating discussion sessions. I appreciated how you engaged all of us in the discussions – your efforts really made a difference in ensuring well-rounded and thoughtful sessions."

"Sam's tutorials are interactive and informative. He brought humour to our classes while still retaining a high level of respect and delivering knowledge to each student."

"Our tutor remains a breath of fresh air. We are very impressed with our daughters continued enthusiasm during and after Samuel's session. In one week the improvements are vast. Our tutor has literally turned that room upside down, creating an atmosphere so conducive to learning. We are so pleased! He related to our daughters very well. He is firm, but approachable; he is conversational with the children and us –truly a delightful person. We wish you All the Best Sam"

"Sam was a WONDERFUL tutor and we absolutely adored having him here with us for the three weeks. It was just perfect. Thank you again for all your help." (Parent's testimonial)

"Absolutely brilliant tutor. Well organised, structured, disciplined and patient. Would highly recommend him." (Parent's testimonial)

ABOUT US:

Bespoke Tuition is a British Private Tutoring Agency founded in 2010, rated A grade by the Good Schools Guide and a Corporate Member of the Tutors' Association, that is proud to offer personalised one to one academic support, both in-person and online, to students of all school and university ages, worldwide.

HOW TO PROCEED:

Information required: If you wish to engage this tutor's services, please respond with:

- your full name, email address, contact number and address
- student's full name and DOB
- billpayer's full name, email address, contact number and address (if different from above)

Paid trial: If you are happy to proceed then we will connect you with the tutor via email on receipt of the above information so that you can liaise directly with the tutor and schedule in a first session.

Initial conversation: You are welcome to have a 0-10 minute phone call with one of our tutors prior to committing to a paid trial to help you to discuss requirements and determine a good fit.

Booking sessions: You may book as many or as few sessions as you wish with the tutor. We do not believe in committing families to a fixed number of tutorials as we appreciate that a student's needs may change month on month.

PAYMENT PROCESS & TERMS:

Tuition feedback: A written report is provided once monthly, alongside the invoice so that parents can steadily monitor students' progress and retain a written record of development.

Payment: The requested payment method is via an online bank transfer (or direct debit) in arrears. Bespoke Tuition pays our tutors directly so no cash is to be exchanged between client/tutor.

Invoices: Bespoke Tuition sends an invoice (on behalf of the tutor) via email in the first week of each month. The invoice details all days and hours of tuition taken place in the previous month.

One-off registration fee: for all new clients to Bespoke Tuition, a £50 registration fee will apply but will only be charged once tuition is underway and covers all siblings.

Cancellation policy: Cancellations made less than 24 hours before a scheduled time will be charged.

Terms: By requesting to proceed with a tutor of Bespoke Tuition, you agree to and are bound by the Client Terms sent to you alongside the tutor's profile.

ONGOING SUPPORT:

Management: You will have one point of contact at Bespoke Tuition from start to finish. Our goal is to develop close relationships with families on a long term basis and provide personalised tuition support to students throughout their academic journeys.

Teaching Resource Bank: Bespoke Tuition provides its tutors with an exclusive bank of teaching resources containing subject-specific websites, past papers, assessments, apps, games & exam tips.

Sibling support: We offer discounted tuition for siblings.

Additional services: UK/US School & University Admissions, Bespoke Oxbridge Masterclass, Skill-building sessions, Full Time Home-schooling, Travelling/Holiday Tutors, Residential Tuition.

Private arrangements forbidden: By introducing you to our tutor, we trust that you will on no occasion attempt to illicit that tutor away from Bespoke Tuition. We are a small, family business that relies on expansion via word of mouth and in order for us to maintain our high quality standards and continue to support both clients and tutors, we are grateful for your loyalty in this regard. Similarly, we request that you please refer any colleagues back to Bespoke Tuition (emma@bespocketuition.com or info@bespocketuition.com) as opposed to the tutor; thank you in advance.