

**1976:** Born in Mexico

**Education:** Attended school for 12 years in Mexico.

**1996-2002:** Worked as an Assistant Accountant in Mexico

**October 2002:** Arrives in the U.S. with his wife.

**Summer 2003:** enrolls in the ESL (level B –high beginning – All Skills) at

1<sup>st</sup> interview (July 2003)  
-Work: full-time as a custodian  
-General goals: speak and understand English better  
-Academic goals: graduate school

**Fall 2003:** 2<sup>nd</sup> term of ESL (level C – intermediate – All Skills)

**Winter 2004:** 3<sup>rd</sup> term in ESL (level C All Skills)

**Spring 2004:** 4<sup>th</sup> term in ESL (level D – upper intermediate – All Skills)

**Summer 2004:** 5<sup>th</sup> term in ESL (level D All Skills)

2<sup>nd</sup> interview: (July 2004)  
-Work: full-time as a custodian (75 hours a week)  
-General goals: become a citizen, communicate better and work with children's teachers  
-Academic goal: Professional certificate

**Fall 2004:** 6<sup>th</sup> term in ESL (level D All Skills). Leaves after the first day for a professional training course.

**Summer 2005:** 7<sup>th</sup> term in ESL (level D All Skills)

3<sup>rd</sup> interview: (August 2005)  
-Work: full-time as a custodian  
-General goals: become a citizen, keep his job  
-Academic goals: Bachelor's degree

4<sup>th</sup> interview: (March, 2006)  
Valerio expressed frustration about several areas of his life in the U.S. At work he reported feeling discriminated against because he is from Mexico. He also reports being frustrated by not getting enough input for his English language progress at home where his wife (who speaks English as her first language) prefers to speak Spanish in order to maintain her own bilingual proficiency.