

# Never Had Time for School

Kevin Hayward

Going back to school late in life can be a little unnerving. I can't compare my high school experience to the classes I am taking now mainly because I have no memory of classes thirty years ago.

I had to leave high school at the age of 15 in order to support myself. Once I started working, there was no time to even think about school. I was working on a farm from dawn to dusk.

Now that I have begun ABE classes, I've found it to be challenging although not as difficult as I anticipated, with the exception of having to

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be in class with so many young people.

The most difficult obstacle I have is that not everyone learns at the same speed and some students are noisier than others without realizing how distracting

they can be. Joking around and entering class late are also distractions. Maybe I am not as much of a multi-tasker as the young people, but joking is for recreational activities, not the classroom.

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## Study the Charts

**Make up GED-style multiple choice question about the charts on pp. 10-11.**

**Write a sentence describing the educational requirements that workers like Kevin and Pearl (p. 11) face.**

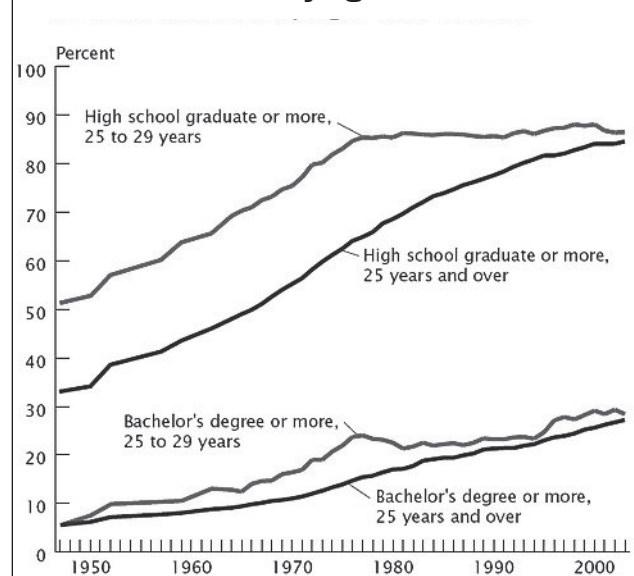
my life. Also, what's the point of learning how to write mathematical equations as if I am ever going to solve our country's financial difficulties or even attempt to; not likely!

In closing, we're all here trying to achieve the same goal, to better our lives. With the help and patience of the teachers here at Bristol Community College, everyone has a chance to succeed.



Kevin Hayward was born and raised in MA. His family has a long history of farming and working in construction. Kevin wants to use his background in construction to help him start a home inspections business when he completes his GED. He is a student at Bristol Community College in Attleboro, MA.

**Educational Attainment of the Population 25 and Over by Age: 1947-2003**



Note: Prior to 1964, data are shown for 1947, 1950, 1952, 1957, 1959, and 1962. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey and the 1950 Census of Population.