

May 2020

OfficeHours_IS5_20160225_Seg02.pdf

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<https://commons.library.stonybrook.edu/language-adaptation-ethnography/221>

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Setting: ITA's office. Quiet.

Participants: IS5 (long black hair), S1 (not visible)

0:00

xxx IS5: what I need to do
xxx what I will do.
xxx S1: what are your
xxx um
xxx professors in the dept=
xxx IS5: =oh
xxx we don't have advisors now
xxx S1: ok
xxx IS5: in my department we will have official advisor,
xxx uh
xxx in two years
xxx S1: oh ok
xxx IS5: or three years
xxx depends
xxx S1: uh huh
xxx and usually do advisors have their own labs?
xxx IS5: only if they are experimental professors.
xxx S1: only if they're exp
xxx IS5: yea for theory
xxx you don't have
xxx you don't need a lab
xxx S1: that's true .
xxx hm::
xxx because I was thinking if you
xxx you can get into a lab
xxx and then later you can (.)
xxx through connection,
xxx you can get into
xxx industry,
xxx through professors connection
xxx or people they know in industry
xxx who have their own labs
xxx IS5: [yea
xxx S1: [and maybe are recruiting people=
xxx IS5: =yea
xxx but the problem is
xxx uh
xxx until ° I mean
xxx so far the labs in physics department.

Ethno Studies OfficeHours IS5 20160225 Seg02

xxx except if they want to buy some equipment
xxx S1: mm
xxx they won't have a very
xxx close relation
xxx with industry
xxx that's a problem.
xxx S1: why is that
xxx don't know
xxx policy?
xxx IS5: no I think it's
xxx ° a stage of physics
xxx like
xxx what do we do now
xxx we cannot apply that into
xxx S1: ok
xxx IS5: phhh prati practi-
xxx S1: practical
xxx empirical
xxx real world
xxx IS5: but there are some department in applied physics
xxx it might connect the industry
xxx but=
xxx S1: =mm
xxx IS5: in Stony Brook
xxx we don't have such
xxx S1: isn't there a
xxx a lab in
xxx Brookhaven?
xxx IS5: yea yes
xxx S1: is that a physics lab?
xxx IS5: uh
xxx S1: is [it different?
xxx IS5: [it's a huge lab
xxx it has physics
xxx chemistry ,
xxx S1: oh: ok
xxx IS5: it's a lots of-
xxx S1: -hardcore science
xxx IS5: yes
xxx alright
xxx IS5: and industrial
xxx like accelerator or,
xxx S1: ooo:
xxx IS5: so a lot of things yea.
xxx S1: I have

Ethno Studies OfficeHours IS5 20160225 Seg02

xxx I have many questions about accelerator
xxx what does an accelerator do?
xxx ((laughs))
xxx IS5: it accelerates
xxx particle
xxx S1: what
xxx is anything going to explode at the end?
xxx IS5: no.
xxx S1: no?
xxx because to me it's
xxx such a mystery!
xxx like people talk about °accelerator
xxx IS5: [it's just
xxx S1: [(and about)
xxx IS5: to increase the speed of the particle
xxx to get very high energy,
xxx so it can collide with another particle,=
xxx S1: =right
xxx IS5: so it might create new particles,
xxx S1: uh huh
xxx IS5: and
xxx S1: is that where the theory of the
xxx big bang theory (.) came from?
xxx why are we doing this kind of experiment?
xxx to accelerate particles?
xxx IS5: because-
xxx S1: what are we trying to prove=
xxx IS5: =cause we want to know if the standard amount of
xxx °((incomprehensible))
3:00
xxx S1: ok
xxx IS5: yea
xxx S1: is it proved?
xxx IS5: we prove some but
xxx ((incomprehensible))
xxx but we cannot say it is right.
xxx we can just say it is
xxx not wrong.
xxx °((incomprehensible))
xxx S1: ((laughs))
xxx ok
xxx IS5: uh yea
xxx S1: why did you
xxx what got

Ethno Studies OfficeHours IS5 20160225 Seg02

xxx when did you started to have
xxx this interest in physics?
xxx is it in
xxx your high school year?
xxx IS5: yea. maybe
xxx S1: middle school?
xxx IS5: yea maybe
xxx high school?
xxx IS5: but I hope that I don't have such interests ((laughs))
xxx S1: oh come on
xxx alright stop
xxx if you were not a physics student
xxx what would you do?
xxx IS5: I don't know but
xxx my life would be different right?
xxx S1: what do your friends
xxx high school friends
xxx doing right now?
xxx are they all in China?
EVC IS5: no
EVC some of
EVC like
EVC some of them are
EVC in in
EVC I mean
EVC like in master,
xxx S1: ok
xxx IS5: like in in British ,
xxx American,
xxx Japan-
xxx S1: -what are they doing?
xxx what are their majors?
xxx IS5: uh architecture
xxx S1: ah that's
xxx that's [fun
xxx architecture,
xxx IS5: [and
xxx financial,
xxx S1: that's boring
xxx IS5: and
xxx ((laughing))
xxx design a car?
xxx or something like this=
xxx S1: =that's also
xxx that sounds interesting

Ethno Studies OfficeHours IS5 20160225 Seg02

xxx IS5: ok ((laughing))
xxx S1: design right?
xxx [designing a car!
xxx IS5: [°maybe you will when I remember
xxx and we share many like
xxx and some of them go back home,
xxx S1: ok
xxx IS5: to find
xxx get a job,
xxx S1: mhm
xxx IS5: and some of stay in
xxx China
xxx S1: mhm
xxx IS5: to
xxx get their master's degree
xxx S1: mhm
xxx IS5: like
xxx one of them is in law
xxx yea.
xxx one
xxx law.
xxx S1: so
xxx like
xxx when you are
xxx ((clears throat))
xxx whatever kind of social media
xxx and then you see your high school friends (.)
xxx would you feel
xxx like
xxx do you envy their
xxx lifestyle?
xxx what they are doing?
xxx or you think you are fine
xxx you are doing fine
xxx you are doing as good as them
xxx IS5: °I don't know
xxx S1: you don't know?
xxx IS5: but
xxx I just think (.2)
xxx I mean ((beginning of Chinese word)-
xxx I don't know
xxx because I I
xxx actually-
xxx S1: did you have a
xxx life plan

Ethno Studies OfficeHours IS5 20160225 Seg02

xxx before you applied here
xxx to SB?
xxx IS5: uh yea
xxx life plan was to get a PhD=
xxx S1: =PhD
xxx IS5: and be a professor
xxx yea but
xxx S1: but back then you didn't know it was
Xxx very hard to find a job
xxx IS5: I know it but-
xxx S1: you want to give it a try?
xxx IS5: but
xxx I knew it when I was an undergraduate,
xxx °but I thought I could get into
xxx °I thought I can do better
xxx but-
xxx S1: make that your goal
xxx put a paper here on the wall.
xxx and say I want to be a professor.
xxx and everyday you just look at it
xxx IS5: but but but
xxx something I realized.
xxx S1: don't give up hope that
xxx IS5: I mean I mean
xxx if I became a professor,
xxx so what.
xxx S1: wha: ((laugh))
6:00
xxx what do you mean so what?
xxx it's a great achievement to be a professor
xxx no?
xxx IS5: I just can't (feel the achievement)
xxx S1: what do you want for life?
xxx do you wanna be rich?
xxx IS5: yep.
xxx S1: ok
xxx so professor is probably
xxx IS5: yes so what.
xxx S1: ((laughs))
xxx then
xxx go to Wall Street
xxx IS5: just I don't know
xxx but like um
xxx you know when you are
xxx when you are young

xxx you will think money is not important,
xxx S1: ((laughing))
xxx IS5: and you think that your achievement is more important
xxx and the way you will get over this is you will
xxx I mean you (mind) will-
xxx S1: become more realistic
xxx IS5: especially after I graduate I
xxx because I
xxx I I I
xxx I didn't apply to university as far as I graduate
xxx I go to work
xxx I want to work
xxx S1: oh ok
xxx IS5: for one year so,
xxx S1: did you like your work experience?
xxx IS5: no of course not
xxx S1: why?
xxx where did you work?
xxx IS5: uh it's in a
xxx company in China?
xxx S1: ok
xxx and what was your job?
xxx like analyst?
xxx IS5: no just
xxx it's weird because.
xxx this company people didn't work hard.
xxx S2: oh ok
xxx so you can't feel you had future there
xxx because you are young
xxx S1: right
xxx IS5: and you feel you are very uh
xxx slow company,
xxx S1: yea
xxx IS5: so I quit the job and.
xxx S1: ok
xxx IS5: yea.
xxx and
xxx I mean
xxx I changed a lot within that year
xxx S1: right
xxx IS5: yea
xxx so so so
xxx S1: but you know
xxx professors
xxx if you wanna get

Ethno Studies OfficeHours IS5 20160225 Seg02

xxx be a professor here in US
xxx while you can't be super rich
xxx it's ok
xxx you can have a-
xxx IS5: I can have a decent life.
xxx S1: yea
xxx IS5: but it's so hard
xxx to do things
xxx so like
xxx S1: I know
xxx IS5: yea
xxx I stay in my office until 10 o'clock pm,
xxx S1: right
xxx IS5: maybe sometimes 11 o'clock,
xxx but if i'm in company
xxx if I can work til 10 o'clock
xxx S1: right
EVC IS5: so I can get
EVC but it's
EVC I mean
xxx S1: you get paid more
xxx IS5: yea
xxx but but
xxx of course here I get
xxx I learn more knowledge
xxx S1: ((laughs))
xxx that's true
xxx so what's the difference in sitting in the office
xxx and sitting in a company office
xxx cubicle
xxx IS5: so actually I
xxx I I I didn't stress
xxx I don't stress
xxx S1: mm
xxx IS5: students
xxx S1: mm
xxx IS5: young students with physics
xxx S1: unless they're-
xxx IS5: unless they feel very strong passion
xxx S1: right
xxx or
xxx or if
xxx only for those who are rich already
xxx and doesn't have to care about
xxx IS5: it's not about rich just

Ethno Studies OfficeHours IS5 20160225 Seg02

xxx my parents (can't) support themself too
xxx so I need to take care of them,
xxx but
xxx so uh
xxx being a physics student
xxx I don't have financial problems
xxx but
xxx it's just-
xxx S1: it's about=
xxx IS5: =what's your expectation is
xxx S1: dedication.
xxx ((laughs))
xxx S1: do you feel um
xxx frustrated
9:00
xxx staying so many:
xxx so
xxx so many hours here everyday in the office
xxx or you're actually enjoying it.
xxx IS5: I
xxx S1: spending time here.
xxx are you in good relationship with other-
xxx IS5: uh yea.
xxx S1: officemates?
xxx IS5: yes
xxx S1: that's nice
xxx IS5: they are nice guys
xxx S1: how many?
xxx IS5: one two three four five six seven
xxx maybe eight. or nine.
xxx S1: are you the youngest?
xxx IS5: uh
xxx I think so yea.
xxx S1: yea
xxx ok
xxx IS5: but the difference are.
xxx °of them are older than me for one year
xxx S1: oh ok
xxx and do you
xxx people like
xxx get together and
xxx go on have fun
xxx go to bar=
xxx IS5: =yes sometimes
xxx S1: ok

Ethno Studies OfficeHours IS5 20160225 Seg02

xxx this is nice
xxx see life is not that bad
xxx ((laughs))
xxx IS5: it's not bad.
xxx just uh
xxx it's not that good either.
xxx it's not bad
xxx S1: ughhh
xxx what is the ideal
xxx lifestyle
xxx or the ideal
xxx IS5: that's a good question
xxx I don't know either
xxx S1: you don't know
xxx IS5: because you know
xxx if you are
xxx I know if I went to company
xxx there would be
xxx some other troubles
xxx like
xxx S1: right
xxx you have to work with people
xxx and
xxx IS5: work with people?
xxx S1: yea=
xxx IS5: =it's fine
xxx S1: what kind of problem?
xxx IS5: I don't know
xxx some of my friends
xxx they worked.
xxx and they want to go back to campus
xxx S1: oh ok
xxx go back to school life=
xxx IS5: =right so
xxx S1: and do school life
xxx IS5: so maybe I will have the °same idea as them
xxx S1: why do they want to go back to school life?
xxx IS5: >I don't know<
xxx IS5: but maybe they think it's too tired to work with other
xxx people >or something like that<
xxx S1: too tired to work with other people
xxx ok
xxx but school life is also=
xxx IS5: =°boring
xxx S1: and also sometimes make you very tired

xxx IS5: yea
xxx I mean being
xxx being a professor in physics department is very hard.
xxx because you have to keep work hard for (.)
xxx for a lot of years
xxx S1: yea
xxx IS5: until you become a (tenure)
xxx like you'll be a (associate professor)
xxx and by that time you might be 40 years old.
xxx S1: wow [so
xxx IS5: [or 35
xxx S1: so do people have to get a post-doc before they apply for
xxx assistant professor?
xxx IS5: average of (four years)
xxx S1: oh my god!
xxx what is the average year for
xxx for the PhD program
xxx for you to graduate
xxx IS5: six.
xxx S1: so six years are of PhD
xxx four years of post-doc
xxx that's 10 years
xxx IS5: that's why when you are 40,
xxx S1: and then
xxx IS5: when you are 40 years old
xxx it is possible for you to get it (.)
xxx some °professor
xxx it's so hard
xxx S1: I know-
xxx IS5: I mean if you did want
xxx that kind of time=
xxx S1: =yea
xxx IS5: (between other things)
xxx it might be easier for you to get
xxx a better (.)
xxx payment
xxx or
xxx but.
xxx so
xxx that's why doing physics really isn't a
xxx you need to have °strong passion
xxx >and then I'm lost<
xxx S1: uh uh one of my relatives work in
xxx in a university in New Jersey
xxx and she told me that

Ethno Studies OfficeHours IS5 20160225 Seg02

xxx she knows many people> not in physics <
xxx but in chemistry
12:00
xxx they're in their 40s
xxx they have families
xxx and they're still doing post-doc-
xxx IS5: I know
xxx and they're
xxx S1: right
xxx IS5: >it's still common in physics dept<
xxx S1: and then
xxx last month
xxx um they had this
xxx this little
xxx good bye party for a person
xxx who find-found a job in community college
xxx to teach chemistry
xxx and um
xxx because I was complaining to my relatives
xxx saying that it's so hard to get a job in academia
xxx and then that
xxx that person was trying to comfort me that (.)
xxx um
xxx IS5: you get an interview
xxx ((incomprehensible))
xxx it's a most important
xxxx impossible for
xxx S1: yea
xxx IS5: unless you are so smart
xxx so brilliant
xxx S1: yea very outstanding
xxx IS5: but
xxx I mean if you are so smart
xxx you can do anything
xxx S1: ((laughs))
xxx aw:
xxx I don't know
xxx what else can you do then
xxx IS5: I don't know either!
xxx S1: ((incomprehensible))
xxx IS5: that's why I'm lost
xxx I stay here to do the homework
Xxx and I could feel-
xxx S1: you don't feel there's a future
xxx so it's just like the situation you were-

Ethno Studies OfficeHours IS5 20160225 Seg02

xxx IS5: I just feel like
xxx maybe I'll have to get the PhD [degree
xxx S1: [first
xxx IS5: but then you know
xxx S1: but after that
xxx what
xxx IS5: yea
xxx and
xxx I mean
xxx if I took five years to
xxx to my PhD degree,
xxx S1: yea
xxx IS5: and then I cannot do things related to
xxx to it=
xxx S1: =that's true=
xxx IS5: =why don't I spend 5 years to do other things
xxx and I can °continue
xxx S1: what else do you wanna do?
xxx besides physics
xxx IS5: that's a good question!
xxx S1: ((laughs))
xxx IS5: I want to
xxx S1: what makes you happy?
xxx IS5: money.
xxx S1: ((laughs))
xxx alright
xxx let's not talk about money
xxx what kind of activities make you happy?
xxx when you are doing some things
xxx other than solving problems
xxx IS5: I have to say I (don't like something)
xxx which need
xxx it takes intelligent
xxx S1: ok
xxx like solving problems
xxx [puzzles
xxx IS5: [yes
xxx I like to social or something
xxx >maybe I can do it<
xxx but I am not very good at it
xxx S1: I have a great suggestion
xxx detective
xxx ((both laugh))
xxx IS5: that's good
xxx yea

Ethno Studies OfficeHours IS5 20160225 Seg02

xxx S1: right?
xxx IS5: yea it's good.
xxx S1: uh that's a bad suggestion
xxx um intelligence
xxx IS5: because I mean
xxx I wh wh wh
xxx what I think is that
xxx it's because I think
xxx maybe this is what I can uh
xxx compete with someone.
xxx because even though I'm not that smart,
xxx I'm not stupid.
xxx S1: but I think there are
xxx um
xxx government um
xxx departments that requires people of high intelligence
xxx right?
xxx there must be some kind of positions or jobs.
xxx that requires someone who can provide
xxx like. analytical skills,
xxx or
xxx someone with very good logic and reasoning
xxx IS5: (.)yea
xxx S1: or maybe not government
xxx mmm
xxx I don't know like
xxx in big companies
15:00
xxx IT
xxx software development companies,
xxx IS5: maybe these companies (.) often get PhD
xxx and
xxx ((incomprehensible))
xxx S1: ((laughs))
xxx IS5: this is the [standard
xxx S1: [you shouldn't regret it
xxx didn't say anything
xxx but I wanted to learn
xxx how to
xxx you know develop software
xxx I wanted to be a programmer
xxx IS5: it uh
xxx there are too many people,
xxx S1: too many people
xxx IS5: so:: too many

Ethno Studies OfficeHours IS5 20160225 Seg02

xxx S1: too many ((incomprehensible))
xxx but
xxx people have been telling me
xxx the future is computer!
xxx everything in future is about programming!
xxx and even our own department
xxx we're starting this computational linguistics department
xxx we are hiring new faculties with C-
xxx IS5: maybe me?
xxx S1: do you have a CS background?
xxx IS5: I can programming
xxx S1: alright, go for it!
xxx we are hiring a senior position
xxx so you need a associate
xxx or a full professor