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Recommended Citation
"OfficeHours_IS5_20160407_Seg05.pdf" (2020). Ethnography Transcription. 230. https://commons.library.stonybrook.edu/language-adaptation-ethnography/230

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Setting: IS5’s office. Conversation about random topics.
Participants: IS5 (TA, facing camera), I1 (researcher, on the left)

xxx IS5: most
xxx in our gen-
xxx my generations
xxx most of us
xxx most of the u:h
xxx students like
xxx if the parents are businessmen then they are rich
xxx >so they will send the child<-
xxx I1: they [are trained
xxx IS5: [children abroad
xxx IS5: so:
xxx in their mind maybe this would be °changed° because
xxx I1: oh
xxx IS5: most of them receive the Western education
xxx I1: uuhh
xxx IS5: yea
xxx it’s not that bad
xxx but it
xxx °>it will be continued because it’s a traditional things<
xxx I1: yea
xxx IS5: but it might be not that (. ) serious in the future because
xxx most of them received Western education
xxx in England
xxx in British
xxx in America
xxx I1: mm
xxx IS5: Australia
xxx Canada,
xxx I1: mm
xxx IS5: yea
xxx I1: I heard that the population of Chinese speakers in
Australia
xxx there is a large population in Australia that it is ok
right
xxx now
xxx if you don’t speak English and just speak Chinese
xxx that’s what I heard
xxx IS5: I can’t admit that
xxx my cousin
xxx she is in New Zealand
xxx I1: ok
xxx what is she doing?
xxx studying?
xxx IS5: studying
xxx I1: ok
xxx IS5: she was there
xxx after the high school
xxx I1: oh ok
xxx IS5: so she was there for five years
xxx ((incomprehensible))
xxx I1: no
xxx IS5: >never met her after she went to New Zealand<
xxx I1: do you want to visit her?
xxx IS5: no:
xxx I1: I mean
xxx IS5: [why not!]
xxx IS5: [we’re not that familiar
xxx I1: cousins
xxx you don’t meet them during Chinese New Year?
xxx IS5: uhh
xxx I1: no
xxx IS5: I’m like his
xxx on my father’s side
xxx I1: mhm
xxx IS5: I grew up with my mother
xxx with cousins from my mother=
xxx I1: =ok
xxx IS5: so not uh
xxx familiar with her
xxx she is daughter of my father’s cousin so
xxx I1: oh! then that’s far away
xxx IS5: but but but since my father have
xxx is intimate (.) with his cousins
xxx I1: oh ok
xxx IS5: actually
xxx ° ((incomprehensible))°
xxx I’m
xxx I’m
xxx ((incomprehensible))
xxx IS5: lazy
xxx I1: you’re not lazy
xxx do you like to travel?
xxx not really
xxx IS5: I like to travel but um
xxx I1: the preparation
xxx IS5:   yea
xxx I1:    ((laughs))
xxx IS5:   like tickets and hotel for me it will *be the best thing* 
xxx I1:    travel with a friend and let the friend do everything for 
xxx you
xxx IS5:   yes
xxx but I can’t stand more than three people
xxx I1:    (. )ok
xxx IS5:   because like 
xxx you guys have different places to-
xxx I1:    [exactly
xxx IS5:   [to go right
xxx and some people don’t uh
xxx like
xxx I1:    exactly
xxx IS5:   if you separate to two groups
xxx I1:    mhm
xxx IS5:   so two people two people
xxx and someone will don’t like it
xxx they will feel you guys are separated
xxx and they want to be together all time
3:00
xxx so
xxx I1:    oh really?
xxx I’ve actually been on a trip in 2010
xxx I went with two other people so it was a group of three
xxx IS5:   mhm
xxx I1:    we went to
xxx Taiwan and to Japan
xxx and we had
xxx we went there for 10 days
xxx and uh
xxx the three of us made
xxx did the travel plan together
xxx and we had
xxx two days, 
xxx where
xxx we just
xxx go do our own thing
xxx so we went there together
xxx we went there for the whole day=
xxx IS5:   =mhm
xxx I1:    like one person wanted to go to a museum
xxx another person wanted to visit a famous restaurant
I wanted to go watch a show
so we just say ok
we will meet at the station
at what time
IS5: yea well-
I1: this is-
IS5: but once I I I
I had a friend
she really don’t like some such things
once they said they want to go to the museum
because she want to to uh
go to
find some food
good food.
I1: yea::
IS5: and another girl she wants to go to a museum=
I1: =ok yea
IS5: yes
and
so
the the
the girl who want to go to museum said that they can go
seperately
to see ((incomprehensible))
I1: yea
IS5: but another girl she really-
I1: can’t
we have to do it together
IS5: yes
I1: ((laughs))
IS5: so I believe they want to ((incomprehensible))
yea
I1: ((laughs))
I actually um
said backpacker
I went to Europe
for 21 days
the first week I visited my friend who back then lived in
Austria
IS5: mm
I1: and um:
I thought
she could you know
I1: accompany me for a whole three weeks but I realized that
she xxx didn’t have time
after the first week
so I was panicking
because I will be alone
travelling alone
in Europe [for 14 days
IS5: [it’s good to travel alone
Il: yea but I was
worried
((laughs))
so I went online
and I go to a forum
where um
you know
people who are looking for
travelling without someone
so I found a
a single woman
who
will be there
who are be travelling in Europe during the time I was
travelling
so we met at airport
and then that was the first time I saw her
and then um
we you know
chatted
and then started to travel together
and was there for 14 days
the first couple of days it was great because you get to
know new people
and usually people who are willing to travel
to far places on their own are very independant
and they usually:
are
open-minded people so
you get to know learn a lot of things from them
but towards the end of the trip there was a horrible um:
we had a lot of disagreement on the choice of food and
6:00
um things to buy,
places to go,
and we realized we had really different interests and
and um
and um
you know
choosing ((incomprehensible))
which attractions we should see
or what kind of tickets should we buy
that kind of stuff
so I was very sad toward the end of the trip
and um
I didn’t
continue contacting him after the trip
it was the end of our friendship
or partnership.
°traveling partnership °
uh yea
so
traveling
made me a learn a lot about humans
((laughs))
how to work with °humans°
and um:
hm
but I love traveling
and
I actually enjoy the planning stage
that’s
IS5: [((whispers))
I just don’t have enough money
if I have money I want to open travel agency
IS5: I’m really don’t like to
all the airplane ticket
or the hotel
I1: ((laughs))
IS5: it’s just
I’m actually going to Utah in May
mhm
I’m going to three separate conferences and it happens that
all three will be held in Utah
so I’m going there to Utah in May
so my plan is to make a first conferences
as a one trip.
so I won’t come back to Long Island
IS5: it’s a bit tired
I1: yea so I will stay there for 10 days
but then
I have you know
I was like should I bring a car
or
I think it’s good to watch too much TV all the time it’s good for me it’s good for you fly all the way to a new city and you just stay in hotel yes ok what is your plan in summer? to stay here and look for the energy high energy experiments my parents want me to go home so take two weeks off
xxx IS5:  if I could take off=
xxx I1:  =it misses you!
xxx IS5:  it is maybe a week.
xxx you know
xxx it’s very
xxx IS5:  maybe
xxx I1:  are they working ?
xxx your parents?
xxx are they still working?
xxx do they have free time?
xxx IS5:  they are working
xxx I1:  oh they are working
xxx IS5:  they are not retired
xxx I1:  then if you go back they still have to go work
xxx IS5:  yea
xxx yes once I remember once
xxx when it was in high school
xxx because when I was in high school
xxx >((alt add: i went )) in another city<
xxx so I just go home um:
xxx in uh
xxx I1:  weekend?
xxx IS5:  no
xxx the summer or winter
xxx I1:  summer or winter ok
xxx IS5:  it was in the summer I went home
xxx and uh
xxx the first week
xxx my mom was so busy like=
xxx I1:  =mhmm
EVC IS5:  she had to
EVC  she has so many uh
EVC  >°((incomprehensible))°<
EVC  like to I have dinner or lunch with his colleagues or
xxx I1:  ok
EVC IS5:  other people
EVC  other company
EVC  so
EVC  and my father is so busy too
EVC  sh- he was
EVC  in °((incomprehensible))° or
EVC  if she is
EVC  travels
xxx I1:  uuhh ok
xxx IS5:  and my sister’s not there too
alright so you’re alone
yea I was so angry
((laughs))
and I told it to my mom
I said
what’s the point!
I mean I was here for
almost 10 days
mhm
and uh
and I mean
just like
nobody was there
and nobody cook
((incomprehensible))
((laughs))
my mom
my mom feel guilty and the next week
she stayed ((incomprehensible)) at home
aw
that’s nice
yea
want to spend time with you
no
everyone is so busy
yea because like
they are 50 years old
so not enough to retire
and have to
go to work
yea may-
even
but they miss you
want to see you
>yea they want to see me<
but they have no time to see you
alright
go back one week is good
I hope I do
but-
where are you
where are your family right now in China?
what province
do you know (Gansu)
Gansu
xxx IS5:  yep
xxx I1:  Gansu is
xxx west-central?
xxx IS5:  no it’s west
xxx I1:  west
xxx no idea
xxx what’s famous in Gansu
12:00
xxx what food is famous
xxx IS5:  famous dishes
xxx maybe ((incomprehensible))
xxx the desert
xxx I1:  Gansu
xxx desert
xxx fine!
xxx ((laughs))
xxx that you can think about your hometown
xxx IS5:  my hometown it is good
xxx there are water,
xxx trees,
xxx mountains,
xxx I1:  ok
xxx IS5:  yea trees
xxx because it near Sichuan
xxx I1:  ah::
xxx IS5:  so it’s
xxx I1:  so
xxx IS5:  so it’s kind of similar
xxx because uh
xxx the north of Gansu
xxx near uh
xxx I1:  it’s just desert.
xxx IS5:  I think so
xxx but I’m in the south
xxx it’s better
xxx I1:  cool
xxx is it a good place to travel to?
xxx IS5:  (.2) depends on what you want to see
xxx if you want to see the >historical things<
xxx I1:  ohh-
xxx IS5:  like the silk
xxx silk road
xxx it’s in north
xxx I1:  oh really?
xxx Gansu goes to
xxx what is the west of Gansu
xxx IS5: it’s Tibet and ° (incomprehensible) °
xxx I1: o:h ok
xxx and what is north of gansu
xxx IS5: um I’m not sure if it is >Inner Mongolia if it is not Inner
xxx Mongolia
xxx it’s probably Mongolia <
xxx I1: so it’s at the border of China
xxx IS5: it’s on the border
xxx uh
xxx I guess
xxx maybe this is Mongolia
xxx this is ((incomprehensible))
xxx right here is,
xxx ((making hand motions))
xxx I1: but is it long?
xxx IS5: yea it’s long
xxx I1: oh ok
xxx sounds good
xxx IS5: I think so
xxx I1: interesting
xxx IS5: it should be Inner Mongolia
xxx I1: so do you know a lot of um
xxx ethnicly minorities
xxx IS5: what is that
xxx I1: ((Chinese))
xxx IS5: I am
xxx I1: you are?
xxx what are you?
xxx IS5: Tibet
xxx I1: really!?
xxx IS5: yea
xxx I1: you don’t look like Tibet at all
xxx IS5: I I
xxx I1: but you are
xxx could you speak?
xxx IS5: no.
xxx I grew up with,
xxx I1: do your parents speak Tibetan?
xxx IS5: no
xxx my grandparents
xxx my parents don’t know
xxx I1: so do they
xxx do your grandparents moved to Gansu and they stayed there?
>I don’t know<
maybe
I never ask because
you know
I grew up with Han
Han people
yes
and
I mean when I was born I start to see u:h
the language of Han
I have
like
I even
never uh
I can’t say never
but I mean
<I almost don’t meet any people who speak "Tibetan">
((laughs))
huh
interesting
yea maybe I can hear some
but I mean
if you
in your um
family you don’t do any
Tibetan
traditions or
rituals or
uh I cannot think we don’t do any because
sometimes they will mix it with the-
the Han tradition?
yes
so it can’t distinguish which one is
((laughs))
so yea
like sometimes the food we eat might be u:h
there are some food my parents eat
mm
might come from Tibet
but it mixed with the food from Han so it’s-
ok
so you can’t really tell the difference
and I have
I have a uh
I don’t know Tibet very well

have you been to Tibet?

no

so you can’t actually understand

((laughs))

maybe from the genes I am

ok

from the cultural ((incomprehensible))

yea it’s just

like the people

like the Chinese guy in the USA

mhm

from genes yes they are Chinese but the education went with

[the education

[they are not at all

not at all

cool!

interesting

I learned something new about you!