A Longitudinal Study of Language Adaptation at Multiple Timescales in Native- and Non-Native Speakers

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OfficeHours_IS5_20160407_Seg06.pdf

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

0:00
xxx I1: you are Tibetan!
xxx IS5: fake Tibetan
xxx I1: ((laughs))
xxx fake Tibetan
xxx but your grandparents now
xxx still live in Gansu?
xxx IS5: yes
xxx I1: oh
xxx silk road
xxx IS5: yea
xxx I
xxx we
xxx I don’t
xxx have a Tibetan name.
xxx I1: ((sighs))
xxx how bout your parents?
xxx do they have Tibetan names?
xxx IS5: no
xxx I just know my grandparents have
xxx I1: your last name is ?
xxx IS5: yea
xxx I1: where does this come from?
xxx IS5: um uh
xxx um:
xxx I don’t know its origin
xxx but, now
xxx I mean traditionally
xxx the Tibetan people don’t have family name
xxx but actually-
xxx I1: oh really?
xxx IS5: we don’t have like the
xxx like
xxx ((talking over each other))
xxx like us
xxx I don’t know if they have their own family name but
xxx I1: mm
xxx IS5: I’m sure that they don’t have family name like
xxx I1: ((Chinese name))
xxx IS5: yes
but now they have
maybe it will
what’s
maybe it is because they want to uh
work with
Han people
I1: mhm
I1: but I don’t know what is origin
but I have-
I1: interesting they choose
so you could have-
maybe my grand grand grand parents choose it?
((laughs))
who knows
ok
cool
I1: oh oh yea
my mom
my my grandparents have family name too
((long pause))
so we are saying because I have no idea what
((laughs))
I wanna go to Tibet and see a lot of
why do people all
want to go to Tibet?
especially ((Chinese))
because uh
I1: it’s [religious?
[religion I think
uh they just want to
um
mysterious?
feel spiritual
I1: I’m sure they have no idea what the Buddhism is
they just feel like it is
((laughs))
mystery-
mysterious
and ((Chinese))
holy.
holy
they feel like things
yea
actually they know nothing about
I1: mhm
IS5: Buddhism is
and they even don’t that Buddhism is in Tibet
is not the same with in-
I1: more mainland
IS5: yea
it’s not the same
I1: do you know the difference?
3:00
IS5: I don’t know the difference >(very clearly)< but I know
some
I1: because um (.)
EVC IS5: I don’t know how to speak it in English at all
I1: what is it in Chinese?
EVC IS5: like um
EVC ((speaking Chinese from 3:18 - 4:27))
I1: I will google the difference the difference
((laughs))
IS5: I’m the same as them
I have no idea what the difference is too
I1: it’s ok
I don’t know
I have very limited knowledge of religion
IS5: ((incomprehensible))
I1: shame on you!
((laughs))
like do you know the difference between Catholic and
Christianity?
IS5: uh I
I googled it once
yes
I1: don’t remember
IS5: no don’t remember
but I can find the search history
I1: I I
I was told that
um
Utah has a lot of Mormon (.) population
and people told me Mormon is a
is just like Christianity but
Christians treat it not as a religion but as a cult
they think it’s ((Chinese))
xxx IS5: huh
xxx I1: yea
xxx and because they believe there is an American version of
xxx Jesus
xxx ((laughs))
xxx so-
xxx IS5: religion is complicated
xxx complicated
xxx I1: it’s fun to learn about religion because you learn about
the
xxx history and culture
xxx IS5: the same like if I
xxx if I’m not a physics major and I learn religions so,
xxx it will be clear now
xxx I1: what do you mean?
xxx IS5: if you spend money on study
xxx I1: mhm
xxx IS5: or you spend time on study religions
6:00
xxx I1: mhm
xxx IS5: so you will be a
xxx maybe it’s hard to be expert but
xxx you can know something (.2)
xxx I1: u:m
xxx the what
xxx like
xxx human civilization?
xxx IS5: yea
xxx maybe or
xxx the history or
xxx I1: yea
xxx religion
xxx I know a person who is doing linguistics
xxx and she’s likely jobs right now
xxx trying to graduate
xxx and she told me that
xxx her husband is going to be a
xxx to get enrolled in the PhD program to learn about
xxx theology
xxx so
xxx uh I guess religions?
xxx religion.
xxx and so now she’s worried because she can’t find a job
xxx and she was thinking maybe she should stay in aca
xxx academia to post-pone graduation for another year
and then during the this year continue looking for jobs
in order to support
her husband
and what I was talking with her
I was thinking
why are you
why is the husband

trying to go to PhD program for religion
what do you do with religion?
PhD in religion?
what do people do,
if they are major in religion?
do they become a
pastor?

IS5: if they are good maybe they can help the
FBI or CIA
because of the
I1: ((laughs))
EVA IS5: problem in Arabic or
I1: huh
that’s [interesting ((incomprehensible))]
IS5: this is what I think<
maybe the
I1: cool
IS5: is the
I1: that’s something I hadn’t thought about
IS5: but like
one people is enough
I1: that’s true
IS5: one famous scholar is enough
I1: yea one expert
IS5: so
I1: do you have any religion?
what is the religion in Gansu?

IS5: actually in China it
unlike US
or European country
in China they won’t
don’t have official or
widespreaded religion
Buddhism might be the-
I1: Buddhism is part of the culture
right
like Buddhism
Taoism
we learns things
principles from them
IS5: yea but if you try to find like the
((Chinese))
I1: Catholic
like uh
Christianity
IS5: like uh
Catholic or Christianity
they are uh
you can treat it as official religion in another country
but we don’t have such things ((alt add: in china))
so if you try to find some similar things
9:00
maybe-
IS5: very hard
I1: Buddhism
IS5: yea
Islam?
I1: Islamic
IS5: for some [special:-
I1: [oh!
you do? ((alter: chinese word not you do))
IS5: yes they have this one but
for most uh
nationality?
((Chinese))
I1: minority
IS5: yea
I1: ethnically minority
IS5: yea yea
for most-
I1: do you know any Muslims?
in China?
IS5: yea
I1: can they eat pork?
IS5: no
I1: ((laughs))
so
unimaginable to live in China without
while they can’t eat pork
cause pork is so delicious in Chinese dish
IS5: mm
IS5: no
they are not supposed to
you shouldn’t eat pork
but
↑if they are not
like
because
is
Islam u::h
the religion doesn’t
I1: mm
I5: allow them to eat pork
I1: mm
I5: but if you don’t believe in it
maybe you can try to eat it secretly
I1: I have a question
((incomprehensible)) in Chinese
is it based on religion?
or it is based on (.)
I5: family
genes
if your parents are
so you are
I1: you are
can you choose not to be
a Muslim?
I5: u::h no
you can’t
I1: oh
ok
I5: because I mean you are a child
we were child
we all was a child
[we never know anything!
I1: [you never know anything
I5: if we want to be a Muslim or not but
I1: but when you become an adult
and you certainly one day you choose
oh I don’t wanna be a Muslim anymore
I5: I think like if you don’t wanna be a Muslim
you can try to do it
and don’t let your parents know
I1: ((laughs))
ok
I5: [I think
xxx I1: [I see
xxx IS5: I think
xxx if there is a guy who a
xxx ((incomprehensible)) tell me
xxx he is not a Muslim I accept it
xxx I respect it
xxx IS5: doesn’t means ((incomprehensible)) will accept it because
xxx I1: he will be treated as a traitor
xxx IS5: yea
xxx but for me it’s ok because
xxx my gene don’t determine my mind
xxx I1: ((laughs))
xxx that’s true
xxx yea
xxx yea I
xxx I know this girl who is American
xxx from
xxx raised in a Christian family
xxx she met this guy
xxx who: is a Muslim
xxx IS5: mm
xxx I1: Arab
xxx um
xxx IS5: so she has to be a Muslim
xxx I1: no actually
xxx because they are living in West right now and
xxx they got married
xxx IS5: ok
xxx I1: but
xxx IS5: but
xxx I1: they have so many difficulties on both families
12:00
xxx so the guy’s family doesn’t want him to marry someone who
xxx is
xxx non-Muslim and is not from their own ((incomprehensible))-xxx IS5: but the girl cannot eat pork ((anymore?))
xxx even though she is not Muslim
xxx I1: oh really?
xxx IS5: I think she has to like
xxx uh not obey like uh
xxx I1: but she told me she is still a Christian
xxx IS5: I think she can eat it when she is alone without his
xxx husband
xxx I1: ((laughs))
xxx IS5: I guess
because if the husband is here and you eat pork and he
you have to compromise
you have to
but maybe it’s just respect his religion or
>I don’t know<
oh so is it a
is it in the religion that you marry a Muslim you have to
become a Muslim?
I don’t know but
but but
as far as I know
it’s true
what you do
if the guy marry a girl
the girl cannot eat pork
hm
that’s why some parents don’t want their children to marry
marry who is not
who isn’t Muslim
but it depends maybe
how
if you husband is open
so maybe he can accept it
then I have a question
what happens if they go to:
like a a student from (a Muslim family)
go to university and they go to the
dining hall
and
ok in most
>mostly in university in China they will have a Muslim
restaurant<
oh
wow!
that’s nice
solve the problem
yea
cause it’s a
eye they’re food habits is special compared with our
((whispering))
(is it ok for us to talk about muslim?)
no no let’s change the topic then
how bout your
interview?
my interview oh
xxx IS5:  Hong Kong linguistics?
xxx I1:  yes I did and um:
xxx it lasted about 30 minutes
xxx it was a video
xxx on Skype interview
xxx and
xxx you know
xxx I had my
xxx I was looking in a very small laptop screen
xxx and
xxx in my
xxx up here on my screen it was a long table
xxx my camera is probably positioned here
xxx and then uh
xxx it was a round uh
xxx edge of a table
xxx there was seven people
xxx IS5:  seven!
xxx I1:  in the middle was the chairman of the department
xxx three on his right
xxx three on his left
xxx I can’t see any expression because it’s so far away!
xxx I only see seven circles
xxx not their faces
xxx and I can hear their talking but
xxx I can’t read their
xxx whether they are
xxx IS5:  appearance
xxx I1:  yes
xxx but um
xxx they spoke from their voices
xxx I can tell everybody was so serious
xxx there were no jokes
15:00
xxx no laughter
xxx and the first thing they ask me was
xxx alright
xxx tell me uh
xxx about your research work
xxx what is your contribution to this field?
xxx like that’s very different from what I expected
xxx I thought it was a casual talk like
xxx and so what’s your name
xxx IS5:  but it should be like they will ask this question
xxx uh
if you’re not first interview
they will ask it next interview
>you have the preparation<
yea
I prepared a lot
so I just give them
I actually memorized the thing that I was going to say
about my research
so I talked about 5 minutes
and I thought yes
that was a pretty good presentation
and I actually got a compliment
one of the research committee told me
oh that was a very good presentation of your research
and then they started asking
harsh harsh questions like
have you read this person’s work,
what you think about that person’s work compared to your
own
work,