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

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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 did this
xxx but
xxx have you ever thought about that
xxx >blah blah blah<
xxx so um:
xxx they also asked my previous um
xxx work
xxx what I did qualifying papers
xxx um
xxx and I was not prepared for it
xxx because I did it in 2000-
xxx 2013 and 2012
xxx IS5: mm
xxx I1: which was a long time ago to me
xxx so I was panicking
xxx uh when they were asking me details
xxx about my qualifying papers
xxx but I answered the questions
xxx and finally they asked me um
xxx if you were asked
xxx ((IS5 gets up and shuts door))
xxx ((lots of background noise and conversation))
xxx ((continue at 1:36))
xxx IS5: u:h
xxx ((incomprehensible))
xxx ((yelling in background))
xxx I1: u:m
xxx yea
xxx so they asked me
xxx ((background noise))
xxx if you are going to teach Mandarin
xxx in our university
xxx u:h how would you teach about the vowel system?
xxx IS5: what is the vowels?
xxx I1: the vowels in Mandarin ((giving examples))
xxx and
xxx I thought to myself
xxx I know how to answer this question because I just read a
xxx paper about it
I said I will follow who who who this big name’s analysis his proposal because he wrote a book about Standard Mandarin origin and I thought okay great I answer the question but then they ask me uh there are many universities on this topic if you don’t teach that person’s analysis who else who other

IS5: else
I1: who else would you choose
and I was like come on!
((laughs))
I answered your question why are you doing this to me ((incomprehensible))

IS5: ((incomprehensible))
I1: ((laughs))
unfortunately I don’t have any analysis or proposal so I was a little bit there was a little awkward silence 3:00

((incomprehensible))
they told me
ah you can go check out this person from this university and blah blah blah
oh thank you very much ((incomprehensible))
and that was it
they asked me do you have any question for us?
and I asked about the research funding they were one of the faculty told me don’t worry about it in Hong Kong you can get a lot of ways to get research funding some of them are better than in US

IS5: yea (there are a lot)
I1: and I was like ok thank you good to know!
and that was it so they didn’t tell me ((incomprehensible))
we are going to contact you or we are going to email you
since then
I haven’t heard anything
((Video becomes too difficult to comprehend))

another question was
what is the most recent book you have read
most [recent-
another question was
what is the most recent book you have read
textbook
to me I was like
oh my god
we are reading papers and I stopped reading books
and all the books are related to linguistics
I don’t know why they are asking that kind of questions
I know right
so I was preparing that kind of question a lot
because I heard
I mean if some professor asked me this question
I would be like
this guy is (insane)
because it has no relation. with my major
yea I-
maybe it has some relation with my personality or
but but personality or career
I was preparing a lot of these uh
about embodying my personality
the way I work with people
I work with a team
but I got zero questions on that
all the questions were about my research
because I mean sometimes I really don’t care about
I mean
about personality
like um
I’m kind of um
(I don’t know if) it is right
but I think the personality and the
ability-
doesn’t matter
doesn’t matter
right
as long as you have ability to do something
and the skills and are professional
yes
xxx I1: even you are mean
xxx IS5: yes
xxx I1: people should tolerate you because of your ability
xxx IS5: no no don’t tolerate you because you are a jerk
xxx ((incomprehensible))
xxx but you are professional in your work
xxx >like I’m professional to ((incomprehensible)) with you<
xxx but after that
xxx I have
xxx I won’t communicate
xxx I1: but humans
xxx are communities
xxx IS5: I mean this kind of person is not
xxx that welcome
xxx but I’m just saying that the good personality
xxx personality has no relation
xxx with
xxx I1: [of course
xxx IS5: [ability
xxx yea
xxx I1: but if someone has a good personality that would be a plus
xxx IS5: yes
xxx yes
xxx but if I am the (.)
xxx I1: interviewer
xxx IS5: interviewer
xxx so I won’t care
xxx I1: you don’t care
xxx IS5: so much the >personality<
xxx I don’t care if he is a jerk in their marriage or
xxx I1: ((laughs))
xxx IS5: something like this
xxx I just care if you can do very well of me
xxx IS5: you should be a ((incomprehensible))
xxx ((laughs))
xxx IS5: yea maybe I’m the boss
xxx I1: yea administrative job
xxx yea I heard
xxx I also heard on the news this morning
xxx IS5: I was so angry ((incomprehensible))
12:47 ((data becomes incomprehensible))
xxx ((it sounds like the others are watching a movie))
xxx IS5: maybe I will get along well with my friends
xxx but it doesn’t means I can work for you
xxx I can work very well with you
Xxx  >doesn’t means I can get along<
xxx I1:  mhm
xxx IS5:  so it has no relation why do you ask me such problems!
xxx  ((both laughing))
13:10
xxx  ((Chinese))
xxx IS5:  I really don’t like such questions
xxx I1:  yea
xxx IS5:  (I’m such kind of bad people)
xxx  they "won’t like because"
xxx  I just care about the-
xxx I1:  ((laughs))
xxx IS5:  the result
xxx I1:  I don’t care
xxx I1:  don’t care about anything else?
xxx IS5:  yea if I’m an interviewer I just care if you can create
xxx  profits
xxx IS5:  hm?
xxx I1:  u:m
xxx  I don’t know
xxx  people always give me suggestions about attitude
xxx IS5:  attitude is important because I think
xxx  if you- (.2)
xxx  but
xxx  yea
xxx  attitude is important
xxx I1:  yea
xxx IS5:  cause we have to be positive
xxx I1:  I remember when I was doing the practice interview
xxx  one of my professor told me
xxx  Sofia you are too calm
xxx  you speak in a calm way
xxx  that people will not have good impression of you
xxx IS5:  you mean C A L M?
xxx I1:  mhm
xxx IS5:  why?
xxx I1:  calm
xxx  they want to see passion
xxx  they want to see you are excited
xxx  about something
xxx  so I was doing a lot of practice
xxx  I was
xxx  you know
xxx  facing it
EVC IS5:  no I mean
EVC: if you have the
EVC: if you
EVC: need the
EVC: your the
EVC: ((incomprehensible))
EVC: interesting
EVC: will be excited
EVC: of course
xxx I1: but the way I talk is very calm
xxx: that’s what they’re
xxx: what the
xxx: ((laughs))
xxx: criticism is
xxx IS5: no
xxx: I think if you are excited about something
xxx: you will have some (.)
xxx: reaction
xxx IS5: so that is related to your personality
xxx I1: I am so calm that-
xxx IS5: it is still good I mean
xxx I1: rarely get excited about anything
xxx: or I can secretly excited but it’s not (showing)
xxx IS5: I mean if you are calm so maybe you can avoid some mistake
xxx: and if you are excited you can create more things
15:00
xxx I1: yea
xxx IS5: so can’t put these two people in a group
xxx: ((incomprehensible))
xxx I1: but one suggestion that I got was actually that
xxx: since I am interviewing with people
xxx: they are Asian cultures
xxx: so
xxx: it’s very different from American culture
xxx: where people want to see you get passionate
xxx: and excited
xxx: and get all enthusiastic about something
xxx: ((incomprehensible)) just be yourself-
xxx IS5: yea I think-
xxx I1: you don’t know what they will do-
xxx IS5: this is what I think
xxx: be yourself because
xxx: maybe like for a team
xxx: will already have some people who are really passionate
xxx I1: right
xxx IS5: who is crazy about it
xxx so they just want someone who is calm
xxx ((laughs))
xxx IS5: to avoid some mistake
xxx so this is what they want from you
xxx I1: right
xxx I should always come to you for your advice
xxx next time
xxx IS5: this is what I think
xxx just be yourself
xxx because you never know what they want
xxx so you quite don’t know what they want
xxx ok I’m just myself
xxx maybe will not
xxx not what you’re looking for but
xxx if I’m good enough