

CultureTalk Zimbabwe Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
Primary and Secondary Education (Part 2)

Shona transcript:

I: Makadini henyu?

M: Tiripo makadiiwo?

I: Tiripo. Munonzi ani?

M: Ini ndinonzi Munyaradzi Munochiveyi.

I: Ko makaenda kuchikoro kupi?

M: Pekutanga ndakaenda kuchikoro chirk kuKadoma chinonzi Mupamombe Primary School.

I: Mupamombe Primary School?

M: *Yes.*

I: Maifamba kuenda kuchikoro here, kana kuti maienda nemabhazi kana kuti makombi?

M: Taifamba kuenda kuchikoro nokuti zvikoro zvemumataundi izvi zvakavakirwa munogara vanhu. Saka imwe neimwe nzvimbo inenge ine chikoro chayo. Saka chikoro chaive pedyo nepamba ndicho chandakaenda.

I: *Okay.* Ko makazoendepi *kuhigh school*?

M: Ku *high school* ndakazoenda kuchikoro chinonzi Loreto Mission.

I: Chaive chiri kuKadoma?

M: Chaive chiri kuGweru.

I: Makazoenda kuGweru?

M: Hongu.

I: Saka maienda sei kuchikoro *kuhigh school*?

M: *Kuhigh school* uku kwaive kboarding. Chaive chikoro chemaCatholics. Saka taitokwira bhazi kuendako. Mazuva iwayo tanga tava kugara kuGweru. Saka ndicho chaive chikoro misheni chaive padhuze nekumba.

I: Saka maiendako temu yese modzoka kumba?

M: Ehe ndizvo chaizvo.

I: Ko KuZimbabwe chikoro chakamira sei? Mune matemba maviri sekuno here kana kuti akawanda? Uyezve munofunda zvakaita sei?

M: Kuchikoro vana vese kubva muGrade 1 kusvika gredi rekupedzisira ku*high school* vane matemba matatu pagore. Vane temu yekutanga inotanga muna*January* ichipera muna*April*, kuzouya rimwe rinotanga muna*May* richipera muna*August*, kuzouya rinotanga muna*September* richipera muna*December*. Ndiwo makoto acho matatu.

I: Ko vana pavanoenda kuchikoro vanopfeka hembe here kana kuti mauniform? Uye vanofunda zvakaita sei?

M: KuZimbabwe vana vese vanoenda kuchikoro, ndikati kubva vachitanga Grade One kusvika panoperera *high school*, vese vanopfeka mauniformu. Vanopfeka havo mauniformu akasiyana- siyana zvichienderana nechikoro, asi vanopfeka mauniform. Kudzidza vanodzidza havo zvakada kufanana nekuno. Hapana chakanyanyo kusiyana. Asi kungoti kuZimbabwe sezvamunoziva kwakawandiwa saka zvikoro zveko zvinenge zvine vana vakawanda kudarika kuno.

I: Ko kuenda kuchikoro vanhu vanomanikidzwa kuenda kuchikoro here, kana kuti hurumende ndiyo inomanikidza kana kuti vabereki ndivo vanonmanikidza vanhu kuenda kuchikoro? Zvakamira sei?

M: Aiwa mutemo chaiwo wehurumende unoti mwana wese anofanira kuenda kuchikoro. Mwana wese anofanira kuenda kuchikoro kunodzidza kunyora nekuverenga. Mubumbiro remutemo muZimbabwe, inotove kodzero yevana yatinoti iyo *Children's Rights*.

I: Ikodzero yemwana?

M: Ehe ikodzero yemwana. Vabereki vangazoshaya havo mari yekuti mwana aendere mberi nechikoro kumberi uko asi pari pakudzidza kuverenga nekunyora mwana wese anofanira kuenda kuchikoro.

I: Ko mati vamwe vana vangashaya mari, asi kunobhadharwa mari yechikoro? Nokuti vana vekuno havabhadhare mari yekuenda kuchikoro.

M: Hongu kuZimbabwe kunobhadharwa mari yekuenda kuchikoro. Kune zvikoro zvakasiyana-siyana. Kune zvikoro zvehurumende, kune zvimwe zvinorunwa nevanhu vakaita semap*private organization* kana kuti machechi. Asi vese vanobhadharwa mari. Saka zvinoitika ndezvekuti vabereki zvichienderana nekuwana kwavo, dzimwe nguva vanogona kushaya mari yekuti mwana wavo aenda kuchikoro chepamusoro chakaita

sekuti fomu *six* kana kuti ku *college*. Kana zvadaro mwana anozoshandisa paanenge agumisira ipapo.

I: *Okay* pakanaka. Ko chirungu, makatanga kufunda chirungu mune makore mangani kana kuti kuZimbabwe vanhu vanotanga kufunda chirungu zvaita sei?

M: Kazhinji mwana anotanga kufunda chirungu paanoenda ku*primary school*. Asi kune vamwe vane rombo rakanaka rekuti vanokwanisa kuenda ku*pre-school*. Ini zvangu ndakatanga kuenda ku*pre school* ndine makore matatu. Saka kubva makore matatu kusvika ndane mashanu ndanga ndiri ku*pre school* saka ndiko kwandakatangira hangu kudzidza chirungu. Asi chekuzonyora mukirasi rumu ndakatozotanga ndaenda ku*primary school*.

I: Saka kuZimbabwe vana vanodzidziswa nerurimi rwupi?

M: KuZimbabwe vana vanodzidziswa nechirungu nekuti ndiyo *official language* yemuZimbabwe. Saka rurimi rwekudzidzisa *language of instruction* chirungu. Saka mwana wese anofanirwa kudzidza chirungu. Hongu vana vanodzidza havo zvimwe zvirudzi zvakaita seShona neNdebele asi kana zvauya kudzidza *science, maths* nezvimwe zvakadaro daro vanoshandisa chirungu.

I: *Alright* pakanaka.

English translation:

I: How are you?

M: I'm okay, and how are you?

I: I'm okay. What's your name?

M: My name is Munyaradzi Munochiveyi.

I: Where did you go to school?

M: First I went to a school in Kadoma called Mupamombe Primary School.

I: Mupamombe Primary School?

M: Yes.

I: Did you walk to school, or did you take a bus, or did you go by *kombi* [a mini bus]?

M: We walked to school because schools in towns were built where people live. So each area had its own school. So I went to the school that was closest to my home.

I: Okay. Where did you go for high school?

M: I went to a school called Loreto Mission.

I: Was it still in Kadoma?

M: It was in Gweru.

I: You moved to Gweru?

M: Yes.

I: So how did you get to school?

M: The high school was a boarding school. It was a Catholic school. We had to take buses to get there. By that time my family had moved to Gweru. So that was the closest mission school to my home.

I: So you were at school the entire term then came back home after?

M: Yes, that's right.

I: What is school like in Zimbabwe? Are there two semesters like here in the US or are there more? Also how do you learn?

M: All students in Zimbabwe, starting from Grade 1 right through to the last form in high school, have three terms [trimesters] of school in a year. The first term is from January to April, the next is from May to August, and the last starts in September and ends in December. Those are the three terms.

I: Do students wear clothes or uniforms to school? Also how exactly do they learn?

M: In Zimbabwe all children who go to school, from Grade One till the end of high school, all wear uniforms. Each school has its own unique design, but they all wear uniforms. As for classroom experience, the students learn just like how they learn here. It is almost the same. The only difference is Zimbabwe does not have schools that are proportional to its population, and so the schools there have more children than you'd find here.

I: Are people forced to go to school or the government forces them, or parents force their children? What is it like?

M: No, the law of the government says every child must go to school. Every child should go to school to learn how to read and write. In the constitution, it is one of the Children's Rights.

I: Oh, it is a Children's Right?

M: Yes, it is. Parents might fail to find money for their children to go to higher levels of education but every child must have the opportunity to learn how to read and write by going to school.

I: You said some children might fail to get money to pay for school. Do children pay school fees? Children here [in the US] don't pay anything to go to school.

M: Yes, in Zimbabwe students pay school fees. There are many different types of schools. There are government schools, and there are schools run by individuals or churches— private schools. However all these schools require payment. So what happens is that depending on the parent's income, sometimes parents might fail to get money so that their children can go on to higher levels of education such as Form Six¹ or college. If that's the case, children can use whatever level of education they have to get a job.

I: Okay. How old were you when you started learning English? Or at what age do children in Zimbabwe start learning English?

M: Usually a child will start to learn English when they go to primary school. But there are other kids who are lucky who are able to go to preschool. I started going to preschool when I was three years old. So from the time I was three until I turned five I was in preschool and that's where I started learning English. However I learned written English in primary school.

I: So what is the language of instruction?

M: In Zimbabwe children learn in English because that is the official language of the country. This means the language of instruction is also English. So every child must learn English. Yes, children learn other languages, such as Shona and Ndebele,² but when it's time to learn subjects like science and maths and such the like, English is used.

I: Okay, that's good.

¹ The Zimbabwean education system is like the British system. When a child begins high school, they do the first 4 years of Ordinary Level known as Form 1 to Form 4 (equivalent to Grades 8 to 11 here in the US). They then go on to do Advanced Level known as Form 5 and Form 6. Form 5 is equivalent to Grade 12 here. Form 6 material is mostly equivalent to what is found in the first year of college material here in the US. A student can not attend a Zimbabwean university unless they have successfully completed all 6 years of high school.

² Ndebele is another language spoken in Zimbabwe.

About CultureTalk: CultureTalk is produced by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and housed on the LangMedia Website. The project provides students of language and culture with samples of people talking about their lives in the languages they use every day. The participants in CultureTalk interviews and discussions are of many different ages and walks of life. They are free to express themselves as they wish. The ideas and opinions presented here are those of the participants. Inclusion in CultureTalk does not represent endorsement of these ideas or opinions by the Five College Center for the Study of World Languages, Five Colleges, Incorporated, or any of its member institutions: Amherst College, Hampshire College, Mount Holyoke College, Smith College and the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

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