

CultureTalk Albania Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
On Dress and Free Time

Southern Albanian Dialect

Albanian transcript:

1: Persa i perket sporteve, muzikes, filmave, televizionit, veshjes... Cilat jane ato, bjen fjala, sporte apo lloji i veshjes qe mund te preferohet me teper, lloji i muzikes qe degjohet me teper?

2: Ne Shqiperi?

1: Ne Shqiperi.

2: S'e di fare. Veshjet, ose si e shikoj une ose ca mendoj une... Sport eshte futbollit. Pike. Asnje gje tjeter. Ka edhe gjera te tjera, jam i sigurt, por futbollit eshte qendror. Veshjet, shume te larmishme. E thashe gabim qe nuk di asnje gje. Di shume gje. Eshte pjese shume e rendesishme e menyres se si e shikojne shqiptaret vetveten eshte fakti qe jane shume perendimore. Dhe kjo e tregon, dmth, menyra se si vishen shqiptaret eshte shume e lirshme dhe ne njefare menyre ekstravagante nga sa kam pare ne te gjitha vendet e tjera qe kam qene. Dhe njerez qe kane qene ne Shqiperi kane qene dakord me mua ne kete ceshtje. Dmth... sidomos femrat shqiptare qe tregon dicka per gjinite – vishen sikur po dalin per te festuar pothuajse cdo dite, ose te pakten per cdo mbasdite kur vene ne kafe. Keshtu qe kjo eshte, kjo me ka rene gjithmone ne sy kur vete ne Shqiperi... Dhe nji problem i madh me familjen time eshte sasia e vezhgimit qe ata i japin veshjes time. E krahasuar me sasine e pakte, po te pakte, po dhe te vendosur nga ana ime se cfare lloj gjerash vesh une dhe aq. Pike.

1: A ka te beje kjo me faktin qe, bjen fjala, ne Amerike apo ne Turqi njerezit i kushtojne shume me pak vemendje veshjes?

2: Jo. Nuk ka te beje me ate.

1: Pse ky kontrast me nje fjale?

2: Pse ky kontrast. Per arsye se per shqiptaret eshte shume me qendrore, pjese qendrore e jetes se perditshme vertetimi i njefare identiteti te tyre, qe ka te beje me... dmth veshja tregon se cfare lloj njerezish jane. Dhe per shqiptaret kjo eshte shume e rendesishme per arsye historike; qe i perkasin njefare gjeografije qe eshte Evropa, dhe jo gjeografija, larg qofte, e Lindjes etj etj. Keshtu qe veshja qe nje rendesi...

1: "Larg qofte" – mos ishte ironi.

2: Ishte ironi, patjeter ironi. Keshtu qe, prandaj gjithmone jo vetem veshja por gjithë paraqitja, fakti nqs je i rruar apo jo; kjo ceshtje eshte shume me sensitive sesa ne Amerike

dhe ne Turqi. Ose ndoshta jam une injorant, ose nuk pyes une kur jam, se jam larg kontrollit te familjes. Por qe kjo eshte arsyeja kryesore e ndryshimit midis faktit qe njerezit e shikojne jashtezakonisht me teper veshjen ne Shqiperi, sesa me sa kam vene re ne... Tani dhe ketu ne Amerike, nuk eshte puna qe njerezit nuk e shikojne veshjen. Por ketu eshte shume me... kur vete njeriu ne pune e di si do vishet. Nuk dmth qe nuk i japin kujdes, por eshte e dhene. Keshtu, njeriu qe punon vishet keshtu, nxenesi vishet pak a shume keshtu, njeriu qe eshte alternative ndaj sistemit vishet pak a shume me shume ngjyra, me filan marka etj etj. Ndersa ne Shqiperi ana e veshjeve eshte shume me dinamike.

1: Persa i perket kohes se lire cfare mendon se shqiptaret... si e kalojne shqiptaret kohen e lire?

2: Kohen e lire. Duke punuar. Punojne ndonje cike kur... Se kur kane pune vene e rrijne ne kafe... Shaka... Si e kalojne shqiptaret kohen e lire? Ose me familjen, duke ndenjor ne shtepi, televizor, ose jashte me shoqerine neper kafe. Po une s'kam qene ne Shqiperi per vite e vite. Keshtu qe nuk jam shume i sigurt.

1: Psh mund te tregosh per shqiptaret ne Turqi apo dhe ne Amerike.

2: Ne Turqi kohen e lire njerezit rreth e rrotull meje e kane... ca duke u marre me... ka qene me pak kjo ideja qe te vemi ne kafe, po sidoqofte ne ambiente shoqerore, sociale... psh kur kemi qene ne shkolle kemi vajtur ne kantine, andej ketej, gjera te tilla. Ndersa ne Amerike koha e lire eshte me... si ta them, eshte me... e para, ka me pak kohe te lire, dhe kjo eshte e dukshme, mund ta shohesh ne jeten e njerezve qe kane me pak kohe per te harxhuar, dhe e dyta, eshte pak... ka te beje nje cike me teper me harxhimin e lekeve. Dmth, koha e lire ne Amerike thjesht dmth ose duke pare televizor, ose duke vajtur ne kinema, ose duke vajtur ne ndonje bar. Keto mund te them.

1: Falemnderit, dhe suksese.

2: Falemnderit, gjithashtu.

English translation:

1: In general what sports, music, movies, TV, clothes ... what kind of sports, clothes do people prefer, what kind of music does they listen to the most?

2: In Albania?

1: Yes, in Albania.

2: I have no idea. Clothes, the way I see it, or they way I think of them ... Sport in Albania is soccer, nothing else. I am sure there might be other things as well, but soccer is the main thing. The clothes are of a wide variety. It was my mistake to say I did not

know anything about the clothes. I know a lot. It is very important as to how the Albanians view themselves especially for the fact that they consider themselves very westernized. This is obvious because the way they dress is modern and extravagant. Everyone thinks the same about this topic, especially woman. They look like they are going out to celebrate something every time, even if it is just to grab a coffee. This has always left an impression on me when I come in Albania. My family always insists that I do not dress up often enough. But that is my choice, that's it.

1: Does this have anything to do with the fact that in America or even in Turkey, people do not pay a lot of attention to how they are dressed?

2: No, it doesn't have anything to do with that.

1: Why this difference then?

2: Why this contrast? According to the Albanians, the clothes you wear show the kind of person you are, they relate it to their identity. This is very important to them because of historical reasons as well. They want to show that they belong to the western world, not the eastern world, let that be far. Therefore the way one dresses is extremely important.

1: "Let that be far"- was it irony?

2: Of course it was irony. That's why the way you look even the fact of being shaved or not is a sensitive topic to them, even more than in Turkey or America. Or maybe I am ignorant and don't care what I wear because I am far away from my family.

1: How do you think Albanians pass their free time?

2: Their free time? They work. Because when they actually have to work, they go to coffee places ... I'm kidding. How do the Albanians spend their free time? They stay with their families at home, watch TV or go out at coffee places with their friends. I haven't been in Albania in a long time so I am not sure about what I just said.

1: Can you tell me about the Albanians in Turkey or even in America?

2: In Turkey the idea of going out to coffee places was not as popular. Instead, it was about going to other social places. In America, there is much less free time because they work most of the time. Free time in America includes watching TV, going to the movies or going out to bars. That's all I can say.

1: Thank you as well.

2: Thank you and good luck.

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 everyday. 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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