

Applying to College in the U.S.

Georgian transcript:

ქ: განთლება რომ რამედ ვარგებულებო საქართველოში აქ არ ვიქნებოდით არავინ, და ... მე პირადად იქ ვიქნებოდი, ამის მსგავსი დონის სწავლა რომ ყოფილიყო. უბრალოდ ძალიან დეპრესიულია მართლა, როდესაც გინდა შენ სწავლა და შენ გარშემო არაფერი არ ხდება, იმიტომ რომ არავინ არ სწავლობს და ყველას ცალ ფეხზე კიდია.

ო: და შენ იმითვის რომ ამ კოლეჯში მიეღეთ კონკურენცია გაუწიე ძალიან ბევრ ამერიკელ ბავშვს და როგორ მოახერხე ეს?

ქ: ‘Cause I’m awesome!– ვხუმრობ. იმიტომ რომ, რავიცი აბა, ჩემი უნივერსიტეტი, როგორც ამიხსნეს ცოტა ხნის წინ, თურმე რაღაც იმას ეძებდა რა ... განსხვავებულს და diversity-ს ეძებდა და მაგიტომ ამირჩიეს მე.

English translation:

K: If the education in Georgia was worth anything, none of us would be here, and... I personally would be there, if there was an education similar in quality to the one here¹. It is just really very depressing – when you want to study, but nothing is happening around you, because no one is studying and no one cares².

I: And in order to get accepted here³ you had to compete with many American kids – how did you manage this?

K: ‘Cause I’m awesome!⁴ – I’m kidding. Because ... I don’t know, my university, as it was explained to me recently, as it turned out, was looking for something... different, it was looking for diversity, and that is why they chose me.

¹ Meaning, in the United States.

² In Georgian the interviewee uses an idiom ცალ ფეხზე კიდია, which directly translates as “hanging on one’s single leg.” This idiom is used everyday language and means that the speaker does not care about someone or something.

³ Meaning, DePauw University.

⁴ Sometimes in Georgian spoken language, people use phrases from other languages (mostly English or Russian) if they feel that they could be more accurate, or if they want to show off that they know a particular language. The interviewee is making a parody of such people.

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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