

Hindi transcript:

अर्पिता - पिक्चरें देखना मैं... मेरे मित्रों और मेरा बहुत ही बड़ा शौक था, और जब पि समय बहुत म हप्ता था पिक्चरें देखने का। और जब भी टी.वी. पे हर पिक्चर पी थाड़ी-सी झलक दिखाते थे, उसी बारे में आ के हम बहुत बात करते थे पि उस हिराइन ने क्या पहना, और वह हिराइन कसी हू गई हू और वह हीरक से पि स...पि स... पि ससे चकर चल रहा हू तू बॉलीवुड पी खबर के मिस्ट्री लब में ए...ए ऑक्साइ दूसरे में पाले... के मि ल पालते समय पूरे टाइम नॉन-स्टॉप बात करते रहते थे। हम...हम लण टी.वी. भी बहुत देखा करते थे - चन्नल वी और एम.टी.वी. - पर ए...ए इसमें विचित्र बात यह हू पि मैं पिबेटिष्ठा टीम में थी और न्यूज देखना, एन.पी.टी.वी. देखना, और बरखा दत्त ने क्या कहा और प्रणॉय रॉय ने क्या कहा, and “The Great Indian Debate”में क्या हुआ पि स... रना भी बड़ा trendy और fashionable समझा जाता था। इससे लगता था पि आप... बड़े learned हैं, और ज... वही words use करना ज... ये journalists use करते थे बहुत ही... बहुत ही अच्छा माना जाता था। त... अपने...अपने वार्तालाप में ‘categorically’ use करना या...या ‘bone of contention’ चाहे...जब उस... के ई जरूरत ही नहीं थी... बहुत ही ज्यादा हम उस... प्रयण करते थे।

प्रश्नार्ता - त... आपलण फ़िल्में जब देखते थे, त... गानों के बारे में भी, जाहिर हू पि काफी चर्चा हुई हणी। Bollywood songs...

अर्पिता - हाँ, बहुत ज्यादा हुआ करती थी। ए... टीचर्स के हप्ता था September 5th के उससे पहले... जसो ही summer vacations से लौटते थे, टीचर्स के preparation के लिए सब तय्यार हमने लगते थे। त... ज... sum... ज... गर्मी पी छुट्टियों में ज... बहुत ही, बहुत ही फ़ेमस गाने हुआ करते थे, वे ला... र, उनपे dance practices घण्टों चला करती थी। और पि स तरह के पड़े पहने जाएँ... क्योंकि पड़े पहनने का भी ए... बहुत ही ज्यादा... बहुत ही ज्यादा controversial issue था। क्योंकि अगर आप टीचरों के लिए कुछ कर रहे हैं, त... त... आप ऐसा कुछ नहीं पहनना चाहते जिनसे वे... offend हों, या कुछ। पर... त... स्पोर्ट्स पहन सकते थे, पर उसी length के बारे में बहुत... बहुत घण्टों त... पि स... शन हप्ता था। पि स... लर... क्या पहनना हू और पि स तरह से बात करनी हू। अगर हल्के - से accent से बात करेंगे त... फिर दूसरे लण मजा उड़ाते थे। ...और, जैसे बाल करने

हैं, और ये सब... इन सब चीजों में भी बहुत...बहुत ही ज्यादा फ़िज़ूल □ I time और energy waste □ री जाती थी।

English translation:

Arpita: Watching movies was a great pastime of my friends and mine, even though there wasn't much time to watch films. And whenever they showed a clip from a movie on TV, we would talk about it a whole lot – as to what the actress wore, what she is like these days, and which actor she... who is having an affair with whom (among movie stars). So, we would exchange news pertaining to Bollywood in the chemistry lab, while mixing one oxide with another ... we would talk non-stop [about these things] while mixing chemicals together. We ... we would also watch TV a whole lot – Channel V and MTV –but a ...a strange thing about this was that I was on the [school] debating team and watching the news, watching [the] NDTV [news channels], and discussing what Barkha Dutt (a well-known television journalist and analyst) said, what Prannoy Roy (director of NDTV and a psephologist and political analyst) said, and what went on in “The Great Indian Debate” (a televised discussion of current affairs) was also considered very trendy and fashionable. [Your doing so] would show that you ... were very learned [about these matters], and it was considered very good ... to use the words that these journalists used. So, in our conversations, we would use [expressions like] ‘categorically,’ and ‘bone of contention,’ whether or not it was necessary to do so ... we would use them a whole lot.

Interviewer: So, when you watched films, you would [surely] also discuss their music. Bollywood songs ...

Arpita: Yes, there would be a lot [of discussion about them]. September 5th would be observed as Teachers' Day (a semi-holiday observed in Indian schools on the birthday of the second president of India, Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, who used to be a university professor). Before that ... as soon as we returned [to school] after our summer holidays, everyone would prepare for Teachers' Day [celebrations]. So the very, very famous (hit) songs from summertime [movies] would be brought in and dances would be practiced for hours. And as to what kind of clothes would be worn ... because the [selection of clothes] to wear [at these functions] was a very controversial matter. Because, if you are performing before your teachers, you don't want to wear something that they would find offensive or something. But ... so, you could wear skirts, but there would be much... much discussion on the length of the skirts. What colors would be worn, and how one would speak ... if someone spoke (presumably, English) with a mild (un-Indian) accent, then the others would make fun of them. ...And, how one would do one's hair, and much time and energy would be needlessly spent on discussing these ... all these things.

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