

**Croatian transcript:**

Zoran: Škola je besplatna bila potpuno, znači, osnovna, srednja i fakultet. Za fakultet se moralo polagat prijemne, znači nije svako mogao ići, znači. Osnovna i srednja je bila obavezna, a na fakultet je išao ko se uspio upisat. E onda, tko je bio jako dobar bi dobio od države još stipendiju; tko je bio jako, jako dobar, tom je stipendija bila bespovratna, a ovi srednji, to su se zvali studentski krediti, pa su to onda ljudi vraćali kasnije kad bi se zaposlili nakon što steknu neko zvanje.

Aleksandar: To nisu bile neke užasne sume novca?

Zoran: Pa nisu neke velike sume novca bile, da. Ali, mislim, školovanje je bilo besplatno, ali ne znam, stručna literatura nije bila. Često puta su to bile knjige iz uvoza, nije Hrvatska i Jugoslavija nisu baš mogle štampat sve te stručne knjige. Znači, ako je neko studirao medicinu ili arhitekturu, morao je kupovat knjige iz Zapadne Evrope ili iz Rusije, itd. Tako da troškovi, mislim, to nije bilo besplatno, znači, eto za to su služili; za to su služile ove, kako bih rekao, ti krediti, je li.

Aleksandar: Taj novac.

Zoran: Za studente, da. Da.

Aleksandar: To je pretpostavljam osamdesetih... Sedamdesetih, osamdesetih.

Zoran: Pa dobro, mislim da je jedan dio studenata živio u studentskim domovima; neki studentski domovi su bili onako neke zgrade u gradu, a neki studentski domovi su bili čitava naselja. Postojali su studentski klubovi i studentska kina, kazališta, hajmo reći disko-klubovi, kao i rock, muzički klubovi, glazbeni klubovi. Pa, mislim, kako ko, je li. Opet, jako velik dio studenata je bio privatno po gradu smješten, ili kod rodbine ili bi iznajmili neku sobu ili stan.

Vannastavni život... Pa ne znam, ja sam išao na nekakav netipičan fakultet, nas je bilo jako malo, bilo nas je možda 200 na svim smjerovima, na svim godinama, to je bila Akademija dramskih umjetnosti, i mi smo ustvari imali preko dana predavanja, popodne i navečer smo imali vježbe ili snimanja ili probe ili te javne ispite, pa smo imali i neke... Puno studenata je radilo, dakle, mogao si se privremeno i povremeno zaposlit kao student, kao nekakav freelancer, je li. Pa ne znam, izlazilo se na partije. Mislim, to nisu bili sad ti partiji kao sad, al' su bili neki koncerti, bile su zabave, bile su brucošijade - znači brucošijada, ja mislim da je to na cijelom bivšem Balkanu isti termin, to je velika godišnja fešta koju fakultet napravi kao svečanost da proslavi što novi studenti su se upisali, i tako. To su bili kao rock festivali, kao nekakvi rock festivali.

### English translation:

Zoran: Education was completely free, from primary school to high school and college. You had to pass an entrance exam to go to college, which meant that not everyone could go. Primary school and high school education was obligatory, and those who managed to enroll got to go to college. In addition, those who were really good [academically] would get a scholarship from the state. If you were really, really good, your scholarship would be non-refundable; those who were mid-placed were given student loans, which people had to pay back once they got a job following the completion of their studies.

Aleksandar: We're not talking about large sums of money, right?

Zoran: It wasn't a large sum of money, no. But, I mean, the education was free, but the [required] materials weren't. Often those books were imported, since Croatia and Yugoslavia couldn't really print all of those materials. So, if someone was studying medicine or architecture, he or she had to buy books from Western Europe or Russia, etc. So there were some expenses, I mean, that wasn't free, so that's what the loans were for.

Aleksandar: The money [given by the state].

Zoran: The money for students, yes. Yes.

Aleksandar: I presume that that was in the eighties... Seventies and eighties.

Zoran: Also, a number of students lived in student housing; some student dormitories were downtown, and some comprised entire neighborhoods. Student clubs and student cinemas, theaters, so-called disco-clubs as well as rock clubs, music clubs existed as well... It varied from case to case, though - a large number of students had private living arrangements across town, either staying with their relatives or renting a room or an apartment.

Extracurricular life... Well, I went to a non-typical faculty<sup>1</sup>. We were few, maybe 200 in all departments and in all classes. I went to the Academy of Dramatic Art, so we would have lectures during the day and workshops, filming, rehearsals and public exams in the afternoons and evenings, so we had [a different schedule]... Many students were employed; you could get a temporary or a part-time job as a sort of a freelancer. We went to parties, though. I mean, they weren't parties like the ones today; we went to concerts, get-togethers, or *brucošijade*. *Brucošijada* is a term used across the Balkans; it's a large annual party organized by the university to celebrate new students who enrolled, etc. It was a rock festival, a rock festival of sorts.

---

<sup>1</sup> In Croatia, as in most Eastern European and Balkan countries, universities usually don't have a central campus, meaning that departments, or groups of departments known as faculties, are usually located in different buildings or groups of buildings in different parts of the city. This leads to division among students according to their particular faculty, as well as a sense of belonging and identification with a faculty rather than the university as a whole.

**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.

© 2012 Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and Five Colleges, Incorporated