

CultureTalk North Africa Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
Preparing Lentil Soup
Part 2

English translation of Libyan Arabic:

Abed: First thing before...aaa... we slice the tomatoes like this... We take the tomatoes... and we slice them into small pieces... and get rid of the stem, which cannot be eaten, I mean... We slice them into small pieces... like... so that... they can cook fast, I mean, when it cooks fast it looks fresh... we try to arrange them... I mean, it is necessary... like this... or any other way, for example. The important thing is to cut them into small pieces and get rid, for example, of the parts that are not edible... like this.

The stem is, of course, the part we cannot eat... Of course, we try to put the small pieces like this... It is necessary, I mean, to have, of course, depending on, I mean, the servings... if they are many or not... In any shape, of course, in any shape... it can be cubes, for example, triangles... etc... Like this, of course, we try to control how to...aaa... to cut...ahuh...ahuh... and like this... ahuh... we try, I mean, in any way, the most important, I mean... I mean, we try to cut, I mean, so that it is easy to cook and fast... so that it is done fast. After that, what do we do? ... We take a big pot with water and then we take the tomatoes... of course, there is... aa... big pot of green¹ [raw] tomatoes, of course, they have to be green [raw]... It is a condition, I mean... They can't be tomato paste or any other type of tomatoes, for example, dried. ...aaa... There is large amount of water... Of course, we boil it on heat, of course.

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.

¹ They use the word green to refer to something raw or fresh

© 2007-2010 Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and Five Colleges, Incorporated