

Favorite Part of Being a Teacher

Yoruba transcript:

Òdòbìnrin: Kíni ẹ fẹràn jù nínú isé yín?

Arákùnrin: Ìkan tí mo fẹràn jù nínú isé olùkó ní wípé, emm emm nínú... tí èyàn bá wo ọmódé, tí ọmódé bá kókó dé ibi kan, tí o bá wòó, á dà bí ìgbà tí èyàn rí emm ìwé tí won yì ko ñkan kankan sí, tí o bá máa fi jáde, tí o bá máa wòó, á ti... á dàbí ìgbà tó jé pé... even iwo tí o kóo, á fé ma kó ẹ. So mo ròpé isé olórún ó ga, so kílóde tí èmi náà ò pèlú ẹni tí ó ma lè mold, kó... kó mú ayé èyàn da. So ìyẹn náà pèlú ñkan tí mo like jù nínú isé olùkó. Ọmọ wolé kò ní ìkankan lórí, ó n jáde erù ló gbé jáde pèlú ìmò... knowledge so it's a wonderful thing. So I just feel pé ó better kí èyàn jé pé you are instrumental sí irú ìkan bée yẹn and as a teacher, inú mí dùn because tí mi bá... kòsí ibi tí mo dé, tí mí bá wo ègbé báyi, màá rí ìkan nínú àwon ọmọ tí mo tí kó rí, wón á rán mi létí pé, ah ah ẹ ò rántí pé ẹ kó mí ní bí báyi báyi, ijó... ijó kan mo tí è wà ní emm airport, ọmọ ọbìnrin yẹn tí di lawyer ní ìgbà náà, òrò tí mò n so yí, òrò 1993. Ó tí di lawyer, ó bá pè mí, ló ní, Ma, sé mí ò rántí ọjú yí ní? Mo ní mí ò rántí mo, ah ó ní òun mi Benedita, mo ní Benedita níbo? Ó ní Mummy, ẹ kó mí ní Duse ní 1986, mo ní ah mi dá ẹ mò mò, ló bá so mó mí, lóni òun tí di lawyer nísiyí, sé mo mò, literature tí mo maá kó òun ní gbà yẹn tí òun maá ní pé òun ò mo eléyi òun ò mo toun, pé ó ti help òun, so isé yẹn náà lòun fí se isé lawyer òun. Ara àwon ñkan tó maá mú inú olùkó dù ni yẹn, tí á bá lówó lówó, tí a bá rí ọmọ wa tí ó ti di èyàn nílá, inú re á dù pé ah èmi náà wà lára àwon tí ó mú ayé eléyi ná da, so gbogbo ñkan tí ó jé kí inú wa máa dù láti jé olùkó niyẹn.

English translation:

Young Girl: What do you love most in your job?

Woman: What I love most in the teaching job is that, emm, emm, in... If you look at kids, if a child gets to a place, if you look closely, it will be like you are seeing, emm, a blank book, but when the child wants to graduate, if you look closely again, the child will... it will be like... even the child would want to teach you, her teacher. So I think God's works are wonderful, so why can't I join the people that will mold, to... to transform a child's life for the best. So that includes what I like in the teaching job. A child comes in without anything but leaves with wisdom... knowledge; it is a wonderful thing. So I just feel that it is better to be instrumental to that kind of a thing, and as a teacher, I am happy because when I... everywhere I go, when I look around I always see one of the students I have taught; they will remind me that, ah, ah, "You don't remember that you taught me in this particular place." Day... on a particular day, I was in, emm, at the airport; the young girl was a lawyer at that time; it was in 1993. She had become a lawyer; she called me and said, "Ma, do you not remember my face?" I said I couldn't remember. She then said she was Benedita. I said, "Benedita, where?" She said, "Mummy, you taught me in Duse in

1986.” I said, “Ah, I don’t recognize you again.” She hugged me and said she was a lawyer, that the literature I used to teach her in those days, that she used to complain that she doesn’t know this and that, that it has helped her, and that she had used it to become a lawyer then. That is one of many things that makes teachers happy; if we don’t have money but if we can see our students in big positions, you will be glad that you are instrumental to the child’s success. So those are the things that make us happy as teachers.

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