

Laali Tattoos: Applying Hydrogen

Yoruba transcript:

Òdòbìnrin: Kí lè n sẹ nísìnyí?

Arábìrin: Mò n fì hydrogen sí ibi design ẹsẹ yen.

Òdòbìnrin: Kílílodé?

Arábìrin: Nítorí hydrogen yen taba fisi kò ní jáde, hydrogen yen gan gan gan ló maa n jé kó black although awọn làálì mí wà tí wọn yíi lo hydrogen but eleyi without no hydrogen kò ní hàn rárará, so agbòdò fì hydrogen si eleyi kó tó jáde.

Òdòbìnrin: Irú làálì ẹwó le ní fì hydrogen si?

Arábìrin: Àwọn, àwọn làálì kan báyi, àwọn ìyen wọn, àwọn, wọn maa n mú àwọn ìyen wá láti noṣṣi ní, inú ìgò báyi ló wà, inú ìgò kékeré ló wà but mi mò nkan tí wọn fì n mix e torí èmi mi kíi lo oní hydrogen yen ni mò n lò but very soon èmi náà maa geti ìyen toró àwọn ẹyàn maa n bèèrè fun but mi ò ní lówó báyi oní hydrogen ní mo ní, e lè geti i tó wà ní kemist then e silei geti raw hydrogen te ma mix fún ra yín so méjèjì isé Kànkán ní se but raw yen ó pay ju onígò yen lọ if not ikánkán náà ní.

Òdòbìnrin: Sẹ a lè rí ọwọ yín?

Arábìrin: Ọwọ mi re.

Òdòbìnrin: Kílódé tó dúdú bèè yen?

Arábìrin: Nítorí làálì tí mò n se, lo je kó maa dúdú, nítorí pé mi ò ti è fẹ kó ti è dúdú púpò, dúdú tí n dúdú yen mo wá fẹ reduce e lo ge n maa lo scissors torí tówó mi o baa kan hydrogen yen kò ní jé kó dúdú ọlá pé o maaa kan hydrogen, hydrogen yen ló maa n jé kó pick jáde tí ọwọ mi fì n dúdú báyi.

Òdòbìnrin: Kí le fin fowó yín?

Arábìrin: Eeehnnn actually nipé mi kín rí nkan fì fọ expect tí n bá ti è fẹ ké sí yanyan, except tí n báti stop isé yen laá sí but nísìyín nkan tó fa tí mo fin manage e diè diè tó fin sí diè diè ni wípé tí n báti n fọso black yen maa n reduce, nkan to fa niyen.

English translation:

Young Girl: What are you doing now?

Woman: I am putting hydrogen on the design on her feet.

Young Girl: Why?

Woman: Because if we don't apply the hydrogen, the design will not come out; it is the hydrogen that makes the design come out black. Although there are some *laali* that don't need hydrogen, but for this particular one, without hydrogen it will not show at all. But we have to put hydrogen on this one for it to come out.

Young Girl: What kind of *laali* doesn't need to be mixed with hydrogen?

Woman: Some... some kinds of *laali*. They are expensive; they are usually from the north. It is usually in bottles, in small bottles, but I don't know what they mix it with because I don't use it. I use the type of *laali* mixed with hydrogen, but very soon I will get it because my customers are asking for it. I don't have it on hand now. It is the hydrogen type I have now. We can get the hydrogen at the chemist, or you can buy raw hydrogen that you can mix yourself. The two do the same thing, but the raw is more economical than the bottled one, but aside from that they have the same function.

Young Girl: Can we see your hands?

Woman: Yes, you can.

Young Girl: Why are they dark?

Woman: It is because of the *laali* that I am doing, that is why they are dark; I am using scissors to reduce the dark color, because if my hands do not touch the hydrogen, my hands will not be dark. It is because my hands always touch the hydrogen, that is why they are this dark.

Young Girl: What do you wash your hands with?

Woman: Eeehnnn, actually, I don't have anything that I use to wash them, except if I want the dark color to be totally removed, I would have to leave this job. How I manage it is that, when I wash clothes, it reduces the dark color.

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