

CultureTalk South Africa Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
A Manicurist Explains How She Operates Her Business

Xhosa Transcript:

M: Kengoku njoba usike amazipho am, uba bendithe suwasika uvele ufake phezukwawo?

S: Ebezawukhula msinyane lawakho avele pha.

M: Oh.

S: Ungekakhululi, ungekacingi uwaremuva. Azokhula msinyane.

M: Ndiwakhupha emva kwexesha elingakanani?

S: Ahlala inyanga. *After two weeks* uyawatrita *then* kengoku *after* enye itwo weeks uwakhuphe uphinde ufake amatsha.

M: Ndiwatrita ngantoni?

S: Uwatrita kuk'ba ngabana sawuremuva le *acrylic powder* ndizayifaka apha *because* izawuphuphuma izoma apha njengok'ba ima apha nje, izawuphuphuma izoma apha. Kengoku xa iphuphumile funeka ndiyifayile uyifayila kwam *ibesoft* ndiphinde ndiqabe enye ngaphezulu. Ndiyawatrita ke ngokwenjenje. Ndiphinda ndiwenza matsha *but* ndingayisusanga *itip* le. *After* kengoku ndiphinde ndiwenze ndiphinde ndiwafayile okukutsha *then* aphinde ibengathi uqalile, uwaqalele uwenza ngoku ulentukileyo uwatritayo.

M: Uba andizukwazi kengoku uwatrita?

S: Uba awuzuwatrita azawuziphumela uba awuwakwazanga uwatrita, azonchothuka azophumama *then* amane esuka *one by one*.

M: So abantu bayifumana phi ifone *number* yakho kengoku?

S: *Like* ndineflayazi nazi, ndihambhisa zona ndinikeze abantu.

M: Oh okeyi. So usebenza kude kube ngubani ixesha wena?

S: Mna ndivala xa kuvalwa apha *but* ndiyasebenza *until late* xa ndibhizi ndineclients ezi *late*.

M: Uvula ngabani ixesha?

S: Ndivula ngo *eight* kusasa.

M: Kuvalwa ngo *five* apha?

S: Ewe, *half five*.

M: Zike zingafithi ngamanye amaxesha mhlawumbhi *itips* emntwini?

S: Like *idifferent size*?

M: Ingabikho e...?

S: Ibakhona qha *a different size*. Ubontsi wam akalingani nowakho *so* ungangabina *size* *but* ibe khona kwenye kwezinye *itips because* lo kwezi ndiziphethayo nguwhani. Iqala kuwhani *itip*, ngubhontsi ke lowo. Uba ungunsayizi *zero* ubakho wezinye kwezi zi*white* angabiko u*zero*, ibe nguwhani, iqale kuwhani.

M: Uwhani ngoyena umkhulu?

S: Ewe zine *numbers*. Uwhani ngoyena umkhulu *utwo* alandele emva kowhani. Uyakwazi *notwo* abemkhulu kunothi*ree*. Ziyashiya shiyana.

M: Ziphela kubani kengoku?

S: Ziphela ku *eight*. u*Eight is the smallest one*. u*Seven* kufitha apha kuwe kucikicane.

M: Nguseven lona?

S: Mmm.

M: Ziphuma zingaphi *itips* kwi kulento?

S: Kule zibayihundreti kule pakethi *but* ke zikhona ezipakethi ezincinci bathengisa *twenty twenty* *but* kule le *box* kuphuma zibeyihundreti.

M: *So* uba ndingafuna uzenza amazipho kungafuneka ndithenge zonke ezizinto?

S: Zonke ezizinto ewe uzokwazi uzenza. Awunokwazi uzenza ungenazo.

M: Wayifumana njani leoffisi?

S: Ndathetha nomnye u nalomlungu kwakuthwa ngucaretaker *then* wandidibanisa nhemanager imanager yandinika kengoku indawo.

M: Wawumazelaphi lomlungu yena?

S: Hayi ndandibuze ebantwini indawo *so* ndadibaniswa nalomntu kengoku. Ndadnihambhe ndifuna indawo.

M: Iinwele yona yintoni okwazi uyenza?

S: Mna ndenza *ibonding*, *isoftdread*, *ideepwave*, *itwist*, *braiding*. Endingayenziyo yilacarrot bayenza pha, andikakwazi uyenza.

M: Wazifundela nokwenza inwele okanye?

S: Ndijonge nje ebantwini indlela abayenza ngayo.

M: Uvele ujonge nje?

S: Ndivele ndijongwe nje.

M: Ube sowukwazi?

S: Xa sendifunda ndizame ukwenza *like* lento ukuba ndithi kawuthi ke ndenze *then* ndenze. *Like* kodwa amazipho ndawabukela nje ngoluhlobo ba ndihleli naye ndihlale pha estulweni ndijongwe njengoba esenza angabi mi nalapha phezukwakhe *but* ndimjonga *everyday* xa esenza ndiqonduba hayisuka lento le ilula *and* nda mamela nakwezizinto uba uthenga into ethile into ethile into ethile. Waba *surprised* xa ndimxelela uba ndiyakwazi. Xa endibona phofu ndenze awam wathi ha wayokwenza amazipho kwezinye indawo kodwa ndikhona ndithi ha-a¹ ndizenzele ndizenzile ndayo kuthenga ngokwam izinto. Wathi ha-a ndiyaphosisa ndathi *we must prove it* ndizawukwenza abantu uzobona. Hayi ndenza abantu ogqiba wawabona.

English Translation:

M: What if I had said, “Don’t cut my nails, but rather work on top of them”?

S: Your nails would grow very fast and poke out of your tips.

M: Oh.

S: It’s so that they do not grow before you have decided to remove them. They would grow really fast.

M: After how long should I remove them?

S: You can keep them for a month. You treat them after two [weeks], then you take them off after another two weeks and put new ones on.

M: What do I treat them with?

¹ *Ha-a* is a slang way of saying “no” in Xhosa.

S: Treating them entails removing the acrylic powder you applied on the nail and then reapplying it. I make them look new without removing the tip. You basically go through the same process as before.

M: What if I am not able to treat my nails?

S: If you are not able to treat the nails, then they will start coming off one by one.

M: Where can people find your contact information?

S: I have fliers that I put up and give to people.

M: Oh, okay. What time do you work until?

S: I close when this building closes, but sometimes I work later when I have late clients.

M: What time do you open?

S: I open at eight in the morning.

M: What time does this building close?

S: It closes at half past five.

M: Do the nail tips sometimes not fit a person?

S: Different sizes?

M: There isn't...

S: There always is, it will just be a different size. My thumb is not the same size as your thumb; therefore, although you may not take a certain size, you can find one in the other sizes that will fit. The tip sizes start at one, which is the thumb. Some tips start at size zero, but the most common start at one.

M: Is size one the biggest one?

S: Yes, one is the biggest, two follows, and so forth. They differ.

M: What is the last number?

S: Eight is the last number. Eight is the smallest one. Size seven actually fits your little finger.

M: Oh, this is size seven?

S: Yes.

M: How many tips come in one package?

S: This packet has 100 tips, but they also sell smaller packets with 20 tips in the packet.

M: So if I wanted to do my own nails, then I would have to buy all these products?

S: You would need all these products because you would not be able to do your nails without them.

M: How did you get this office?

S: I spoke to the caretaker, and he introduced me to the manager, and I got the place.

M: How did you know the caretaker?

S: I just asked around for a place to work, and people led me here.

M: What hairstyles can you do?

S: I can do weaves, softdread, deepwave, twist, and braiding. The one I cannot do is the carrot they were doing outside; I still cannot do that.

M: Did you teach yourself to do braids?

S: I just watched how people did it.

M: You just watched?

S: I just watched.

M: And then you knew how?

S: I used to just try when someone else was braiding hair and learned that way. But nails I learned just by sitting on a chair and watching her² every day. I didn't even have to be looking over her shoulder; I just watched her every day and thought it would be easy to do. I also knew which products to buy. She was very surprised when she found out I could do nails. At first she asked me why I had gone to do my nails in other places when I could have gone to her. I told her I had done my own nails. She didn't believe me, and I proved her wrong by doing other people's nails while she was there.

² Here the speaker is referring to a woman that she used to work with when she did body massage.

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