

CultureTalk Tanzania Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>  
**Change in Primary Schools**

**Swahili transcript:**

Natasha: Sawa. Taja tofauti kati ya shule za msingi zile za zamani na zile za sasa, kwa sababu mambo yamebadilika kulinga na muda kama muda ambao sisi tulisoma darasa la kwanza na sasa hivi.

Michael: Oooh sawa sawa. Kwa sasa hivi kweli vitu vingi vimebadilika kwanza kunatwisheni nyingi , kuna kiingereza sasa hivi toka darasa la tatu tofauti na zamani yaani kiingereza zamani ilikuwa toka darasa la tatu wakati sasa hivi toka darasa la kwanza wanafundisha kiingereza, na vitu kama hivyo. Hata shule yaani zimeongezeka wingi, wanafunzi wanapasi sana .

Natasha: Ambayo itakuwa mara nyingi mabadiliko kama hayo yatakuwa yametokea mijini lakini sio vijijini sana.

Michael: Vijijini kwa kweli bado, bado, bado wako nyuma.

Natasha: Aaah.

Michael: Bado.

Natasha: Kuna faida gani katika mabadiliko hayo ambayo yametokea sasa hivi kulinganisha na yale ya zamani yaani na shule za zamani.

Michael: Aah sawa. Faida ipo kwa sababu sasa hivi mtoto toka darasa la kwanza anajifunza kiingereza, hanajua hata kuhesabu kwa kiingereza na kuongea ongea ingalau hata kama sio sana lakini kidogo anamwangaza hata akifika huko mbele anakuwa asembuki sana.

Natasha: Yaani ni hizo zote kiingereza kimeongezwa katika shule zote zote hata kama yani sio english media or academis.

Michael: English media wao ni toka wanapoanza kusoma ni kiingereza, lakini hizi shule zetu za serikali hizi, zamani ilikuwa tokea darasa la tatu lakini sasa toka darasa la kwanza ni kufundishwa kiingereza. Sina uhakika kama vijijini ni hivyo hivyo.

Natasha: Aah aah sawa.

Michael: Ila kwa mjini hapa ndio hiko hivyo toka darasa la kwanza.

Natasha: Ni vitu gani ambavyo vinaweza kuwa vipingamizi au matatizo kuhusu shule za msingi haswa kuhusu gharama yaani ni vitu ambavyo vinaweza kuwazuia baadhi wasiende shule. Kwa sababu kuna watoto ambao bado wanaenda shule na kunawengine

hawawezi kwenda shule, so vitu ka , mambo gani yanatokea ambayo inawafanya wasuende.

Michael: Yaani mambo mengi hayo yanaingia katika swala moja la hali ya uchumi inachangia sana. Utakuta kuna mtu anawatoto wake wanne watano sasa *anaafodi* kumpeleka mtoto mmoja tu shule kutokana na uniform zile, madaftari nini michango michango. Yaani matatizo yote hayo ni hali ya uchumi kwa ujumla ndio inakosana.

Natasha: Je shule yenyewe ina inachangia kama vitu mbalimbali wanavyoweza kuleta kama mfano kuongeza school fees kila siku au sijui michango na nini.

Michael: Na kwa kweli michango iko mingi utakuta serikali inapewa fungu lakini utakuta shule zinasema mchangie jengo labda au mchangie vitu hiki machangie hiki.

Natasha: Ambao wanakuwa hawajaambiwa kabla hawajaenda shule ...

Michael: Mmmh.

Natasha: ...kama wazazi wakiwa wanamwandikisha utakuta wanaambiwa mtalipa kiasi hiki lakini wakienda tu utakuta ....

Michael: Wakianza tu kusoma vitu tinaongezeka.

Natasha: Aah. Ok sasa hivi kunashule mpya za English media, taja faida na hasara zake kama unaweza. Yaani kuna faida gani kuhusu shule za *English media* sasa hivi.

Michael: Aah faida zipo kutokana na mtoto akimaliza shule za English media akienda shule za sekondari yaani kidogo anakuwa na mwangaza yaani vitu vinakuwa havimsumbi sana yaani tofauti na mtu ambaye kasoma shule hizi za kawaida hizi. Akifika shule ya secondary yaani anapata tabu sana yaani hata ulewa wake unakuwa wa tabu zaidi ni *kucremisha* kuliko kuelewa vitu.

Natasha: Je kunaharasa zozote ambazo zipo?

Michael: Kwa upande upi?

Natasha: ... Kwa kusoma katika shule za English media?

Michael: Kwa kweli mimi hasara sijaona. Nyingi ni faida kwa sababu watu wengi wanajua kiiengereza haraka na hata akienda kusoma mbele inakiwa haimsumbui vitu anakuwa anaelewa kwa haraka tofauti na shule zetu za serikali za primary.

Natasha: Lakini inawezekana kuwa kama kwa mfano wale wenye uwezo wa kuwapeleka shule *English media* , yaani itakuwa yani watoto wao wanakuwa waneendelea. Wale ambao wazazi wao hawana uwezo wa kuwapeleka *English media* hawataweza. Kwa hiyo kunakuwa kunatofauti ya maendeleo.

Michael: Eeh kuna kitu kama hicho. Ndo maana nasema vitu vyote vinaingia katika sawa la uchumi vyote hivyo.

Natasha: Kama mtu kwa mfano akisoma *English media* akienda sekondari kwa sababu mara nyingi utakuta primary yaani shule ya msingi unajifunza kiswahili tu kitupu yaani vitu vingi viko kwenye kiswahili alafu ukiingia kwenye secondary kila kitu kiko kwenye kiingereza. Je nifaida gani au mambo gani yako tofauti kati ya mwanafunzi aliyesoma shule za *English media* na aliyesoma katika hizi shule za kawaida tu za msingi kama Kurasini hapo.

Michael: Aah. Aliye soma shule za *English media* anakuwa na uelewa wa haraka sana haangaiki sana kama mtu aliyesoma shule kama za Kurasini hapa. Kwa sababu wa Kurasini yeye mara nyingi atakuwa *anacremisha* aelewi kitu ila wa *English media* kwa sababu yeye anakuwa anauelewo asembuki sana.

### **English translation:**

Natasha: Okay. Could you talk about the differences between the old primary schools and the current primary schools, because so many changes have taken place since we attended primary school?

Michael: Ooh, okay. To be honest, many things have changed. First of all, the amount of tuition has increased. They now start teaching English in standard one, which is different from the past. In the past, they taught English from standard three but they now teach English from standard one and other things like that. Even the number of schools has increased, and the students do very well.

Natasha: But it's likely that more of these changes have taken place in the cities than in the country.

Michael: In the country, life is still far behind.

Natasha: Aaah.

Michael: Not yet.

Natasha: What are the advantages of the recent changes as compared to the ways schools were in the past?

Michael: Aaah, okay. One advantage is that right now kids start learning English in standard one, they know how to count in English and speak English, though not very well, but they at least know they will not have to suffer so much later (due to lack of understanding English).

Natasha: So those changes have taken place at all schools, not only at the *English media* or at academy schools.

Michael: At the *English media*, they start learning to read in English, but at these government schools of ours, it used to be that they started teaching English in standard three but now it is from standard one. I'm not sure if the same thing happens in the country.

Natasha: Aaah, aah, okay.

Michael: But here in the city that's how it is from standard one on.

Natasha: What could be the barriers, or would keep kids from attending primary schools? Perhaps the expense is the thing that could keep some kids from attending primary school. Because there are kids that attend schools while there are other kids that can't attend primary school. So what are the problems that get in the way of them going to school?

Michael: One factor could be the economic situation of a family. What you find is that when a person has four or five kids, he can only afford to send one kid to school because of the cost of the uniform, books and various other expenses. The problems are generally due to the lack of money in a family.

Natasha: But do the schools contribute to these expenses in different ways? For instance, they could increase the school fees or ask for different contributions.

Michael: To be honest, schools ask for too many contributions. The government is given funds but the schools ask children to contribute to different things such as the school's construction projects or this and that.

Natasha: And they aren't told about these contributions in advance, before they go to school.

Michael: Mmmh.

Natasha: ...like when the parents register their kids for school they're told they have to pay a certain amount and they find....

Michael: As soon as they start school, the expenses start to increase.

Natasha: Aaah.Okay, now there are new schools known as *English media*. Describe the advantages and disadvantages of these schools, if you could. What are currently the advantages of these *English media* schools?

Michael: Aah, one advantage is that when kids graduate from *English media*, when they attend secondary school they at least have an idea of what's going on. That is, things don't faze them, which is different from the kids who graduate from the normal schools. When those kids start secondary school, they have many problems insofar as it's harder for them to understand the work and they end up memorizing things instead of understanding them.

Natasha: So are there any disadvantages?

Michael: On what side?

Natasha: ... in attending *English media* schools?

Michael: To be honest I haven't seen any disadvantages. Mainly there are advantages. More students learn English faster *and* when they go on with further education, they don't have as many problems since they understand English better than the public primary school students do.

Natasha: But is it possible that, for instance, those who can afford to send their kids to English media schools will have kids that progress better and end up living a better life. Those who can't afford to send their kids to English media schools, their kids can't progress. Therefore, there will be inequality in the levels of development with these individuals.

Michael: Yeah, something like that. That's why I say it all goes back to the issue of income.

Natasha: For instance if somebody attends *English media* when they go to secondary schools... In primary school, we learn everything in Swahili. It's only when you attend secondary schools everything is in English. So what are the advantages or differences between the students who attended English media and the ones who attended normal primary schools such as the nearby Kurasini primary school?

Michael: The one who attended English media is able to understand things very fast compared to the one who attended the normal school like the nearby Kurasini primary school. Because the one who goes to Kurasini will mostly end up memorizing things without understanding them, the one who attended *English media* can understand English so he or she won't have as many difficulties.

**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 everyday. 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.

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