

CultureTalk South Africa Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
Township and City Schools

Zulu Transcript:

Z: Nangingena izikole ezinjani ngenkati nisadlala estradeni¹?

J: Sasingangeni i'kole zaselokishini kakhulu ngoba abazali bethu babefuna ukuthi sithole i'mfundo ekahle. Futhi sikwazi ukuthi sazi izinto eziningi so² sasingena izikole zasemadolobheni.

Z: I'kole zasemadolobheni zehluka kanjani ne'kole izila elokishini?

J: Emalokishi kakhulu abothishela babengezi – kube ne'telegu eziningi futhi abothisha bakhona babenga... jwayelekile ukuthi nabo bafunde kahle so ngalokho emadolobheni kwakuhlukile ngoba sasifundiswa ngabelungu so ngalokho uyakwazi ukwazi isiNgesi kahle. So ngalokho ke izikole ezasemadolobheni ezaziwa ngukuthi ama-Model C³ yizo bezi-right for abazali bethu.

Z: Njengoba nihlala elokishini – kukude ukuyofunda isikole edolobheni?

J: Yebo kwakukude ngoba sasivuka ngabo... four ekuseni bese sibuya ngabokhona... three ntambama. Lokhu kwakukhombisa ukuthi besihamba indlela ende futhi sasibuya sikhathela ekhaya ngoba leyondlela leyo yinde.

Z: Nanihamba ngani ukuya esikoleni nokubuya?

J: Sasihamba ngamakhumbi⁴ – okuthi ngama-transport⁵ wethu. Kuthi... Amakhumbi yila... kuno-driver olanda abantwana abangena sona lesikole osingenayo banilande emakini. Neninoba ni-twenty maybe e-transport-ini bese niyabhadhala imali umakuphela inyanga.

Z: Kwakumnandi ukuhamba nabanye abantwana ukuya esikoleni?

¹ *estradeni*: In the streets. From the Afrikaans *straat*, meaning street.

² The speaker uses the English word “so.” The Zulu equivalent would be *manje*.

³ Model C: A term used to refer to primary and secondary schools that were formerly reserved for white students only during apartheid. These tend to be located in areas that are historically white, and they usually have more resources than township schools. Model C schools may be private or public. Private schools are generally out of reach for most South Africans due to the cost. Even for public schools, it is normal to have to pay school fees, and public Model C schools are generally much more expensive than public schools in under-resourced areas.

⁴ *ikhumbi* (Kombi): A Volkswagen minibus. This is a name that was given to an old model of Volkswagen minibuses and now refers to all models of minibuses from Volkswagen.

⁵ Transport: Any form of transport – in this instance, a Kombi. “Transport” is used very commonly as a noun both in English and Zulu, as in “i-transport.”

J: Yebo – kwakumnandi ngoba ngalokho besikwazi ukuxoxisana ekuseni sikhulume ukuthi sizoyenzani esikoleni, yini ama-*homework* esasinawo... so kwakujabulisa ukuya esikoleni.

English Transcript:

Z: What type of schools did you go to while you were still playing in the streets?

J: We did not go to the township schools because our parents wanted us to get a decent education. Also, so that we could know a lot of things; so we went to the schools in the cities.

Z: The city schools – how are they different from the schools in the townships?

J: In the townships mostly the teachers do not come, and there are a lot of strikes, and the teachers there also are not... usually well-educated themselves, so in the cities it was different because we were taught by white people, so in that way you can learn English well. So because of that the schools in the cities that are known as “Model C⁶” are the ones that were right for our parents.

Z: Since you live in the township – is it far to go to school in the cities?

J: Yes, it was far because we woke up at around... four in the morning, and then we came back around... three in the afternoon. That shows that we travelled a long way, and we came back home very tired because the journey was long.

Z: How did you get to and from school?

J: We travelled in Kombis⁷ – which are our “transports⁸.” That is... Kombis are... There is a driver who picks up kids who go to the same school as you do, and picks you all up at your homes. There would be around twenty of you in the “transport,” and you all pay at the end of the month.

Z: Was it fun travelling to school with other kids?

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⁷ Kombi (*ikhumbi*): A Volkswagen minibus. This is a name that was given to an old model of Volkswagen minibuses and now refers to all models of minibuses from Volkswagen.

⁸ transport: Any form of transport – in this instance, a Kombi. “Transport” is used very commonly as a noun both in English and Zulu, as in “i-transport.”

J: Yes, it was fun because we could chat in the morning and talk about what we would do that day at school, what our homework was... So it was fun to travel to school.

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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