

CultureTalk South Africa Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
High School Student in Matriculation Year

Zulu Transcript:

Z: Ngubani igama lakho?

J: Jabulile.

Z: Uneminyaka emingaki?

J: Ngineminyaka engu-*seventeen*.

Z: Uyafunda?

J: Yebo, ngiyafunda – ngiyenza u-*matric*¹ wam' lapha eHoly Family College.

Z: iHoly Family College yisikole esinjani?

J: Yisikole esisezingeni eliphezulu kakhulu esaziwa ukuthi *yi-independent school*. Lokho kusho ukuthi awuxhaswa nguhulumeni. Futhi yisikole esama-*Roman Catholic* – okusho ukuthi esikhathini esiningi, sisuka siyalaphayana e-*chapel*² siyothandaza. Futhi sinabo-*sister* abaxhasa isikole.

Z: Ufunda ziphi izinto eHoly Family College?

J: Izinto engizifundayo lapha zihluka-hlukene, njenge-*geography*, *i-business studies*, *i-biology* – ngiyenza sona isizulu nesingisi. Futhi ngiyenza *i-life orientation*³ ne-*religion* – ebalulekile kakhulu.

Z: Uthanda yiphi⁴ [*i-subject*] kakhulu?

J: Engikuthanda kakhulu *yi-business studies* ngoba ngiyi-*understand*-a kahle futhi yiso isifundo engisiphasayo kakhulu.

Z: Kusho ukuthini ukuthi ukumatriki khona manje?

J: Lokho kusho ukuthi – ngisesiphetweni sezimfundo zami. Futhi yisilungiselelo sokuqala kahle impilo yami; sokufunda ukuthi ngifuna ukuba yini kahle-kahle

¹ *matric*: The final year of high school, as in “I’m in matric this year.” Shortened from “matriculation year.” Also used to refer to a student in matric, as in “The matrics of 2010 did very well.”

² The Zulu word for “chapel” or “church” is *isonto*.

³ *life orientation*: A compulsory school subject for matric students that focuses on teaching basic life and career skills, etc.

⁴ “*Yiphi*” here refers to the Anglicized term “*i-subject*.” A less Anglicized way of saying this would be “*siphi [isifundo]*.”

empilweni. Lokho kusho ukuthi kumele ngifunde kakhulu kuze ngizophumelela ngama-*symbols* akahle, ajabulisa nabazali bami.

Z: Kunzima ukuba kumatriki?

J: Kunzima kakhulu ngoba – ziningi izinto engibekene nazo; njengokufunda futhi kwamanje – kunesitelegu sabantu abasebenzela uhulumeni. Lokho kusho ukuthi abothisha abekho ezikoleni futhi lokho kuphazamisa izimfundo ngokuthi sizobemuva ngalezinto esimele sizifunde.

Z: Abafundi bayenzani bona ngenkathi yesitelegu ukuzinceda?

J: Esukwenzayo ngukuhamba siyemalayibrari siyozifundela. Futhi sicedelele imisebenzi yethu uma ingaba iyashoda⁵, ngoba naku – sesitholile isikhathi sokuqedelela.

English Translation:

Z: What is your name?

J: Jabulile.

Z: How old are you?

J: I am 17 years old.

Z: Are you currently studying?

J: Yes, I am studying – I am doing my matric⁶ at Holy Family College.

Z: What kind of school is Holy Family College?

J: It is a good school and what is known as “an independent school.” That is to say, it is not run by the government. It is a Roman Catholic school – which means that often, we go to chapel and pray. We also have “sisters” [nuns] running the school.

Z: What subjects do you do at Holy Family College?

J: I learn many different things there, like geography, business studies, biology – I even do Zulu and English. I also do life orientation⁷ and religion – which is very important.

⁵ *ukushoda*: A colloquial Anglicism of being short, meaning unfinished or insufficient.

⁶ matric: The final year of high school, as in “I’m in matric this year.” Shortened from “matriculation year.” Also used to refer to a student in matric, as in “The matrics of 2010 did very well.”

⁷ life orientation: A compulsory school subject for matric students that focuses on teaching basic life and career skills, etc.

Z: Which one do you prefer?

J: I like business studies the most because it is the one I understand well, and it is the subject in which I do well.

Z: What does it mean that you are in matric right now?

J: This means that I am at the end of my [high school] studies. It also is the preparation to properly start my life and [learn] what I actually want to be. That means that I have to study so that I can achieve good [grades] that will make my parents proud.

Z: Is it difficult to be in matric?

J: It is incredibly difficult because I am facing a lot of problems; like studying right now, in addition, at the present moment – there is a strike by the government workers, which means there are no teachers in the schools, and that interrupts our studies, as we will be behind in terms of what we are supposed to have learned.

Z: What do students do to help themselves during the strike?

J: We go to the libraries to study ourselves. We also finish our work if it is incomplete, because now we have the time to do so.

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.

© 2013 Five College Center for the Study of World Languages and Five Colleges, Incorporated