

CultureTalk Zimbabwe Video Transcripts: <http://langmedia.fivecolleges.edu>
Urban Schools to American University

English translation:

I: What school did you go to?

M: I grew up in Harare, and I went to a school called Alfred Beit School, which was in Malbereign.

I: Oh, so you went to Alfred Beit School?

M: Yes.

I: Okay. How did you learn, for example, how old were you when you started school?

M: I started going to school when I was 6 years old.

I : When you were 6 years old?

M: Yes.

I: How old when you when you finished at Alfred Beit?

M: I left when I was 13 years old.

I: Thirteen years old?

M: Yes. I was in grade 7 then.

I: So what kind of content did you learn in school?

M: We did subjects like Maths, English, Shona and Science.

I: So you started learning how to speak English at Alfred Beit?

M: Yes, I started learning English when I was in Grade 1.

I: So were you forced to go to school—like, were you forced by your parents or the government?

M: Yes, the government and our parents would make us go to school. We preferred to spend our days playing.

I: How about school fees? Here in the US students do not pay school fees, right?

M: In Zimbabwe, parents paid school fees [for any kind of school their child attended].

I: Oh I see, and that is very different from what happens here, right?

M: Yes.

I: So which school did you go to after primary school?

M: I did Form 1 at a school called St John's Emerald Hill.

I: And you spent 6 years there?

M: Yes.

I: And then you went on to do...?

M: Then I came here to the US for University [after high school].

I: What school did you go to here?

M: I went to Fairly Dickinson University.

I: Fairly Dickinson University?

M: Yes.

I: And your school had both men and women?

M: Yes.

I: And you studied there for how many years? Four?

M: Yes, four years.

I: Ok. So how was the application process when you were applying to come here? Was it difficult?

M: No, it wasn't very difficult. We just wrote the SATs like anyone else would do, and then we came here.

I: Okay, good.

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 every day. 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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