

JA History Project

Action Team Oral Historical Society

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ORAL HISTORY OFFICE



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HMONG WOMEN'S ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

INTRODUCTION

Minnesota is home to one of the largest Hmong communities in the United States. More Hmong live in the Twin Cities than in any other urban area in the United States. Originally from Laos, the Hmong supported American troops during the Vietnam War. Beginning in 1976 and continuing in four waves until 1996, many came to the United States as political refugees. The Hmong have strong kinship and clan ties. Many who originally were resettled in other areas, chose to move to Minnesota to be close to family members and other relatives.

The elder women's experiences included maintaining home and family while their husbands fought alongside American soldiers in the Vietnam War. They fled their farms and villages and crossed the Mekong River into Thailand where they lived in refugee camps before resettling in the United States.

The experiences of the oldest members of the community are vastly different from those who came here as children and those who were born in this country. Today, Hmong women work as teachers, lawyers, and decision makers in their respective positions—opportunities not available to them in their homeland. The youngest never experienced war or resettlement and are unfamiliar with the privations of their elders.

This oral history project chronicles the contributions and experiences of Hmong women with ties to Minnesota. Members of the Hmong Women's Action Team, a group of Hmong women community leaders and activists, interviewed each other and their mothers and grandmothers, and in one case her daughter. They share their stories of life in the Minnesota, Thailand, and Laos. Three generations from six different families are represented in this series of eighteen interviews.

The interviews help provide a greater understanding of Hmong women's roles in the home and community, challenges and successes in public and private realms, and across time and space.

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An Interview with

Yer Moua **Narrator**

Wall-History Project Mai Neng Moua Interviewer

January 20, 2000

For the **Hmong Women's Action Team Oral History Project Hmoob Thaj Yeeb Oral History Project**

The transcript is presented in both English and Hmong.

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Yer Moua

MNM: What is your maiden name?

YM: My maiden name is called Yer.

MNM: What is your clan?

YM: The Vue Clan.

ight? Team oral History Project MNM: The Vue Clan? Okay, what clan did you marry into?

YM: The Moua Clan.

MNM: How old are you now?

YM: I am 65 years old.

MNM: Ok, how many children do you have?

YM: I have four children.

MNM: Ok, but one passed away, right?

YM: All of them are still alive.

MNM: Oh! Oh...

YM: He is Thong Moua.

MNM: What is the highest grade that you completed?

YM: I have had no education at all.

MNM: Okay, have you gone to school at all?

YM: Not at all. Carried the basket (*kawm*) and farming was all I did back in Laos.

MNM: What about after you came to this country, did you go to school at all?

YM: Yes, I did. I kept receiving diplomas too.

MNM: Okay, what kind of jobs are you doing now?

YM: I only work around the house.

MNM: Okay, what do you think your income is... How much do you make per year? Is it between \$10,000 to \$20,000, \$20,000 to \$50,000, or \$50,000 and up?

YM: I only work around the house, so I only made about \$500 per month.

MNM: Ah!...Okay, when did your husband passed away?

YM: My husband passed away before General Vang Pao moved to Thailand.

MNM: You were very young then, so how come you decided not to get married again?

YM: Yes, I was very young, but there was no one that I really liked. The one that I liked was very old and the ones that admired me, I didn't like them.

MNM: So the one that you liked, they didn't like you. The one that you liked they were old and had children already, so that was why you decided not to get married, right?

YM: Yes.

MNM: Oh! Okay, Right now you are living with all of your children, right?

YM: Yes, I am.

MNM: How long have you been in this country?

YM: I have come to this country...I don't know how many years, but I have been here since 1981.

MNM: Okay, so...

YM: Right now is the year 2000...

MNM: So... It has been 19 years.

YM: Yes.

MNM: Where were you born?

YM: My mother and father gave birth to me in a town called Thab Tam, located in the state of Xeev Khuam.

MNM: Okay, what is your clan?

YM: I have told you that I am part of the Vue Clan.

MNM: Are you White Hmong, Blue Hmong or the Stripe Hmong?

YM: White Hmong.

MNM: White Hmong, how come you are not speaking White Hmong?

YM: Yes, I am speaking White Hmong too.

MNM: Yes... Yes...

YM: Maybe you can't tell.

MNM: What about right now, do you still carry the old tradition or are you a Christian now?

YM: We are Christians now.

MNM: Why did you decide to become a Christian?

YM: It's much better to be a Christian than the old tradition. Back then I didn't know anything that is why I thought that the old tradition was better, but now that I know more... The new way (Christianity) is the truth. Christianity is the way God intended for all of us.

MNM: You had mentioned that when you were young, you had not attended school at all, right?

YM: No, I had not attended school at all.

MNM: What about your brothers, were they attending school?

YM: Regarding my brothers, we only sent one person to school.

MNM: Only one, why?

YM: Within our immediate family.

MNM: Why did you only send one person?

YM: Because we did not have enough money.

MNM: Oh! So you only had enough for one person?

YM: Yes, everybody worked to send him to school.

MNM: Okay, when you were a child, the chores that you did to help out around the house... What kind of work was that?

YM: The chores around the house were such as... feeding the livestock, sweeping the floor, and preparing meals for my parents.

MNM: Okay, was there any other work that you did to help out your relatives or the community.

YM: There was none.

MNM: So you only worked for your family, right?

YM: Yes.

MNM: Okay, when you were young and still a child... What were some of the duties that you had learned?

YM: Back then when I was still a child, I learned how to do handicrafts, learned how to work on the farm and there were lots of things to do.

MNM: So you did handicrafts and worked on the farm.

YM: Yes

MNM: Did you cook?

YM: Yes, the first thing you learn as a young girl was how to do handicrafts. You learned how to cut the fabric for your mom and she taught you how to do it then. After you were about eight years old then you started to learn how to work on the farm.

MNM: Did you feed the livestock too?

YM: Yes, I had to feed the livestock too.

MNM: What about doing laundry?

YM: When it comes to doing laundry, then you had to do your own.

MNM: So your brothers, did they do their own laundry?

YM: My brothers, they just gave their clothes to me to clean for them.

MNM: Oh! When you were a teenager, what were some of the things that you did for fun?

YM: The things that we used to do for fun were getting together and playing, attending the New Year Celebration, and getting together for a feast or something like that.

MNM: So you attended the New Year Celebration and helped others prepare food for their celebrations, right?

YM: Yes.

MNM: Was there any time that the young boys and girls went to play by themselves?

YM: No, there wasn't. I don't know about the boys, but for us, the girls we had time to play too and our parents always went with us.

MNM: So the girls went to play as a group with their parents, right?

YM: Yes, our parents always sent at least two moms to go with the girls.

MNM: So was there a time that they went by themselves?

YM: No, there wasn't. We were much too different than what you are here.

MNM: Okay, what were some of the things that you wanted to accomplished and wished that you would have had as a young teenager?

YM: I wanted to be a highly educated girl. That was what I wished for.

MNM: An educated girl?

YM: I wished to be educated, smart and be able to speak other languages, but I did not have anyone and there was no teaching like that.

MNM: Because someone else went already. There was not enough money to go so they sent one of the boys instead, right? So you wanted to learn other languages and you...

YM: I wanted to learn other languages, wanted to be rich, and I wanted to be the most beautiful girl of all.

MNM: Oh! Really? Okay, what about the duties of a woman, what were they?

YM: These are some of their duties... Farming, take care of the livestock, raise the children, take care of your family and prepare meals for your husband and your family.

MNM: What about during the war? Had their duties changed or were they still the same as they were before the war? Such as was there more work to do because the men were drafted to become soldiers at the battlefield.

YM: The men went to the battlefield and it seemed like there wasn't that much more to do because during the war we did receive some rice that was supplied to us by the government. All we had to do was to raise the children and find ways to make more money to buy food and prepare it and send it to the men at the battlefield.

MNM: Were you farming during that time?

YM: Yes, we did, but on a much smaller scale. We were moving from place to place because of the Vietnamese soldiers were chasing us and because of the migration, we only had a few livestock.

MNM: The livestock was not as big as it was before, right? So if the men were at the battlefield and you were the one who took care of everything around the house, wouldn't you have more work than before?

YM: There were lots of work to do because the man were at the battlefield, so you just had to raise the children yourself and farmed a small field to help out the family.

MNM: Yes, yes, yes... Were you doing any kind of business during that time?

YM: Business... There were some that did it, but others were not doing any business at all.

MNM: What about you, did you do any business?

YM: Yes, I did.

MNM: What kind of business did you do?

YM: I sold shirts, dresses and tobacco.

MNM: Did you buy them from someone else and resell them or did you...?

YM: I had to travel far away to buy and then I sold them to the soldiers. I went into the boot camp and sold to the soldiers when they received their pay.

MNM: You went and bought it from someone else and they buy....?

YM: It's because there were helicopters that could take us to their place.

MNM: So how did you come back after you had traveled to their camp because...?

YM: I went to the camp where the soldiers were and sold to them...

MNM: Within your family, what is the role of a woman in the decision-making process?

YM: Within my family, the role of a woman in the decision-making process... I don't know how she made the decisions and in what way...?

MNM: Such as... How did you make decisions within your family? Were the decisions mostly made by the man, the woman, or both?

YM: Oh! It was both the man and the woman.

MNM: So both the man and the woman talk before making any decisions such as... How are they going to do this or that? How much money they were going to spend?

YM: For us, the Hmong people, you had to get the permission from your husband before you can spend the money.

MNM: What about within your relatives...? Who normally made the decision? Was it always the men, the women or both?

YM: Within our relatives... If there was a discussion, they will not let the women know about it or they would not let the women attend the meeting, only the men were allowed to attend. This is the Hmong people's rule.

MNM: So then all the decisions were made by the men, right?

YM: The man made all the decisions except that when he needed to take out the money then he would let you know about it.

MNM: Oh! So within your immediate family, both the husband and wife talked about it before making any decision, but for others, the men usually made all the decisions, right?

YM: Yes, they wouldn't allow the women to attend. In fact they wouldn't even allow the women to come close to the meeting because they might have heard what the men were talking about.

MNM: How come they won't let the women sit in the meeting to have the discussion with the men?

YM: This is because the men see the women as at a lower level than they are. They had mentioned that they did not allow the women to hear about the discussions because they might go out and tell other people about it.

MNM: Oh, you mean within our Hmong people and around the communities, it was like that?

YM: Yes.

MNM: Okay.

YM: When they had a meeting, they would not let the women know about it at all.

MNM: Okay, what about during the war when all the men were drafted to become soldiers, were there any women that you knew of that had become leaders?

YM: Within our Hmong women, there was no one who became a leader at all.

MNM: Is that right? So mostly they were the men, right?

YM: Yes.

MNM: Okay, what are the things that the woman did to help out her family?

YM: The things that the woman did to help out her family were to work and earn money to help out the family. She made sure that there was enough food to eat and prepared the meals for the family.

MNM: You have mentioned doing handicrafts and working at the farm. Would these be some of the things that the woman did to help out her family?

YM: Yes, those are the things that did help out.

MNM: Okay, I see.

YM: Within the Hmong people, we had to prepare like that because we needed the clothes to wear.

MNM: So preparing clothes for your husband and your children were the duties of the woman, right?

YM: Yes.

MNM: Okay. Who was the one that did the preparing or planning to have children?

YM: Who would ever be prepared for that?

MNM: The decision that was made to start a family and have children, was it made by both of you after you had talked about how many children that you two wanted to have? Such as you two should have four children, five children or ten children? Who was the one who made the decision?

YM: The Hmong people probably don't have that. I don't know about others, but for the Hmong people, I'm afraid we don't have anything like that.

MNM: You mean there was no communication between the husband and the wife?

YM: There was no communication at all, we just kept having child after child.

MNM: [Laughter] Didn't they talk about how many children that they wanted to have at all?

YM: I don't know much about it, we just took whatever we got

MNM: So then you just kept having baby after baby, right?

YM: Yes.

MNM: Why did you have lots of children?

YM: Why, I don't know... We didn't know how many we wanted to have at all.

MNM: So you had never thought to yourself that you only wanted five children...?

YM: No, we just took what we could have.

MNM: So if you have ten children, then you will take ten and if you have twenty children then you will take twenty?

YM: We had to have them all or go until we could no longer bear children.

MNM: Was there a time that you could not longer have children?

YM: Oh... They could run out.

MNM: But then you already 50 or 60 years old, right?

YM: If you were 50 or 60 years old and you could still have children too.

MNM: So within the Hmong people, there was no communication between the husband and wife about how many children they wanted to have at all, right?

YM: No, they did not talk about it because they did not have any plan at all. At that time we did not have any education at all and we did not have any plan about how many children that we wanted to have.

MNM: Okay.

YM: We didn't know how many children the stuff in your body was willing to accept. It could be twenty or thirty, who knows.

MNM: But there was no communication about this is the number of children that we wanted to have, right?

YM: We didn't know anything about that at all.

MNM: Oh... Okay, back in Laos what did they use for birth control if they did not want any more children?

YM: There are no rights, no abilities like that at all. That is something new that we only heard about it in this country and after we escaped to Thailand was when we started to hear about these abilities.

MNM: What do you think about the Hmong people's reaction to those abilities that they could use different type of birth control to help then... Do you think they like the ideas or those abilities?

YM: I don't know, maybe they liked it. They must have liked it in order for them to use it

MNM: But after we came to this country we didn't need to have ten to fifteen children anymore, right?

MNM: They don't need the children anymore. That is why they use it.

MNM: Okay... When is the time that the women receive the most respect or praise from their family and other people?

YM: Based on what I saw, the Hmong people did not praise the women at all. There was none. Regardless of how big...

MNM: What about you? Was there a time that people treated you with more respect and with value? Such as when we were very young and after we had become teenagers, others did not respect us... When was the time that they treated us with more respect?

YM: They valued us the most when we were teenagers. The only time that we got the invitation to go and eat with the leaders or celebrate New Year with the leaders was when we were teenagers. But after we got married, there was none.

MNM: So there was none... Do you think that there will ever be a time that the Hmong people would give us, the women, more respect?

YM: They don't give respect at all...

MNM: Is that right? Okay. What is it that made them not respect us women? Was it because of sometime we did, something wrong to make them not respect us? When and why don't they respect us?

YM: The time that they had no respect for us was... Let's say if your husband left you for some reason and regardless how right you are, people would not respect you because they already are making the assumption that you are the bad one. All your children were taken away from you and they even had you pay for the child support too so there is no respect for us at all.

MNM: So if my husband said that he wanted to get out of our marriage, what could he do to you...?

YM: Oh! They will take all the money and all the children. They will take them all.

MNM: What about just between you and your husband? Was there a time that he respected you more than any other time?

YM: Oh... I'm afraid there... I think there was none.

MNM: Okay. So based on what you think, the Hmong men have no respect for their women regardless of the situation, right?

YM: There is no respect at all. For example... Some women may have a little value, but most of them were just like how the white men treated the black men.

MNM: They were treated very low like that, is that right?

YM: It was that low because when it comes to eating they always eat first then they will let the women eat after. They normally ate everything so there is nothing left behind.

MNM: I see.

YM: So if someone would leave something behind in the pot, they would come around and say, "How come there is food left over here and you didn't fill up the plate? How come there is food over here and you didn't provide it to us?"

MNM: What about the Hmong men...? Was there anything else that they did to show us that they have no respect for us at all.

YM: They won't tell you, but you will see that is what they did...

MNM: Yes, but what else did they do to show you that? One way is the way they eat...

YM: The way they eat was one of them and another was when they talk about something, they will not let you listen to them. If you happen to be nearby they would come out and tell you to get out to the mountain, our way of telling someone to stay far away.

MNM: They thought we had no ideas, the words that we speak have no meaning at all right?

YM: They won't let us hear the important stuff. They won't let us hear them at all. The only time that they knew we existed was when they wanted more money.

MNM: So among you and your husband, the woman kept all the money, right?

YM: The woman is the one who kept the money, but for others, it was the men who kept all the money. This is not always the situation... It's up to the one who kept the money to see if he or she is good with it or not... Some, the woman keeps the money, but she does not know how to handle it. She spends on anything she sees regardless of the value to the family.

So the husband won't let his wife keep it either

MNM: Okay, did you remember the time that you escaped from Laos to Thailand...? When was that?

YM: It was around September because we had found a rice field and we pick up the rice and we mixed it with water.

MNM: Okay, during that time had General Vang Pao left the country vet?

YM: He had already left the country.

MNM: Okay. When you think back to the time that you were living in the camp, what did you remember most about it?

YM: When I was living in the camp, all I can remember is working.

MNM: Where did you work?

YM: I worked for the Thai people.

MNM: Was that far away from the camp?

YM: Yes, it was far away. They came and picked up us in their vehicles.

MNM: So they came and picked you up... Were you the only woman who went with other men or were there other women too?

YM: There were many women. There were women mixed with men.

MNM: How much did you get paid per trip?

YM: We were paid ten bucks per day.

MNM: Ten bucks, you worked the whole day for them? What exactly was the kind of work that you did? HISTOR

YM: We pulled out weeds. We picked corn and cotton.

MNM: Oh! Ginger too?

YM: Yes

MNM: During that time, did they allow people to get out of the camp

YM: We had to sneak out.

MNM: You snuck out, but you were picked up by the Thai people, right?

YM: Yes, there were some who came to pick up us while others would arrest us.

MNM: [Laughter] They made a lot of money.

YM: Yes.

MNM: They made money when they arrested us and they also made money when they let us go too.

YM: This is because there were some that wanted more labor help from our people so they came and picked up us while others, they waited along the road to arrest us.

MNM: Yes. While you were living in the camp, what was it like to live in there?

YM: The life back in the camp was a very hard struggle. There was no money at all. We worked very hard all day long and would get only ten bucks. We were starving because there was not enough food to eat. It was very hot and we were desperate for a glass of ice water, but there was none available.

MNM: Were there places where you could farm?

YM: There were many places, but they won't let you do it.

During the time that you prepared the land and planted the crops, then they allow you to go out and work on it. But during the time that the plain was ready to be harvested then they closed the gate and won't let you go to harvest it. This means they got to harvest all of your hard work.

MNM: Oh... So they got it all.

YM: They got the fruit of our labors.

MNM: They were very smart and bad.

YM: They allowed you to go out and work on the farm, but once it is ready to be harvested then they closed the gate and wouldn't allow anyone out so they could harvest the fruit of your labors.

MNM: I see. So while you were living in the camp, were there houses available for every family?

YM: We had our own house.

MNM: Did you have to build it yourself or was it already built by someone else?

YM: We had to build it ourselves. There were some houses that were built by them, but others were built by us.

MNM: I see. So, how long were you there at the camp?

YM: We were there for two years.

MNM: Only two years?

YM: Yes.

MNM: In your opinion, was there anything good about the camp at all?

YM: No, there is nothing.

The time back there, was only temporary for us while we were waiting to see what else would be coming up next.

MNM: So back in the camp, in your opinion, there is nothing good at all. There were only bad experiences, right?

YM: Yes.

MNM: So, while you had mentioned that you were waiting in the camp... Were you waiting to go out to other countries? Were you waiting to go back to Laos? Or what were you waiting for?

YM: We were waiting in there to go out to other countries.

MNM: Okay, while you were in the camp... How did you live?

YM: While we were there, we were very poor and struggling... There is nothing good about living there.

We were struggling for food while we were there.

MNM: But it seems like they were supplying food for the people too, right?

YM: Yes, they did, but it was very small, not enough to eat at all.

MNM: They gave you a very small portion... They gave it to you based on the number of people in your household, right?

YM: Yes.

MNM: What kind of food did they supply? Did you remember?

YM: They brought pumpkin, sometimes they brought fish, meats such as chicken, and pork so if we had about four or five people then we only received this one big piece of meat.

MNM: Were you supplied once a month or once a week?

YM: They only supplied us once a month.

I don't remember well... Was it monthly or weekly?

MNM: So they gave you that small portion and expected it to last the whole month?

YM: Yes. When they supplied us from America, there was much more, but the Thai people took away a huge portion of it so whatever was left over then they divided that among all the people.

MNM: If they only supplied that much, what else did you have to do in order to provide enough food for the family?

YM: We had to work for money so we could buy a little salt, msg (*piaab vaam*), some hot peppers and then we went to pick up some *pav bong* so we could boil it to eat.

We went to pick up weeds around the house so we could boil them to eat.

MNM: If everyone was doing that then there would be no weeds left, right?

YM: We pick and pick and pick...

MNM: Did you pull them all the way from the ground?

YM: No, we tore the root.

MNM: What about back in the camp...? In your opinion, how much difference was there in term of treating people with respect between the women and the men?

YM: When we were in the camp, because we did not have any country, I think we were all equal.

MNM: So everyone was equal, right?

YM: Yes.

MNM: Okay, while you were back in the camp, were there any opportunities to go to school?

YM: Yes, that opportunity was available there

MNM: Was the opportunity available to both the women and the men?

YM: Both women and men went to school in the same building.

MNM: Were there any women attending school?

YM: Yes, there were.

MNM: So back then, there was no need to pay money at all, right?

YM: There was no cost at all.

MNM: When you were going to school, were you studying the Hmong Language, Laotian Language, or what language?

YM: I studied the Hmong [English] Language. We studied the things that we needed to know before we come to this country such as a chair, a book, bicycle, etc...

MNM: A chair, a book, bicycle... What about your teachers, who taught you?

YM: They were the Thai teachers.

MNM: Were they all Thai teachers?

YM: The Thai teachers that knew a little bit about the English Language, but there were some American teachers that came from this country too.

MNM: Were there Americans in the camp?

YM: There were some, but very few.

MNM: I see.

YM: So there were mostly Thai teachers.

MNM: Yes.

YM: The Thai teachers that know a little English such as I love you, I go, I come... Probably those Thai Teachers only knew as much as I do now.

MNM: Maybe that is right, but during that time, they knew some English, right?

YM: Yes.

MNM: Were there any Hmong who taught? Among all those teachers, there were no Hmong teachers?

YM: There were no Hmong teachers at all...

MNM: Oh! Okay, what drove you and your family to make the decision to come to this country?

YM: It was because we could not turn back anymore. If we would have turned and gone back to Laos then we would surely have been killed by the Vietnamese soldiers.

The reason we left Laos was because we could not stay any longer, that was why we moved.

MNM: So surely, you didn't want to go back to Laos, right?

YM: Sure, we wanted to go back, but there were people waiting for you back there and if you go then you would die. It's not because we don't miss our country, but we just can't go back there.

MNM: So even in Thailand, you didn't want to stay, right?

YM: Thailand is not our place to live. Thailand was only a temporary place to get together while we were searching for where to go next...

MNM: So you made the decision to come to this country based on... There were some who did not... There were some who made the decision not to come to this country... Were they just staying there or what?

YM: Those that made the decision to stay there, they decided not to come to this country and waited there hoping to go back to Laos... Those were the one who did not have any problem with the Laotian government.

Those were the ones who moved out because everybody did. If they would have gone back, there would not be any harm done to them.

MNM: The men were soldiers, right?

YM: They were only soldiers, not the kind that the Vietnamese soldiers really hate.

MNM: Okay.

YM: They were not the leaders, they were those people who only work for money.

MNM: So you thought that your family was the kind of family that they hated and that if you would have gone back, your family would be killed?

YM: They would have searched and killed us all.

MNM: So your husband, or your brothers, what kind of work did they do to make those people, the Thailanders, and the...?

YM: They were the leaders, those that ordered the soldiers to go to war and defend the country for them. They did things such as ordering the soldiers to go to the battlefield and fight. If you win, then you would be the leaders. They hated those leaders. One other thing that they really hated about us was that my brother knows English very well and the Americans came to us more often.

MNM: Which brother?

YM: It's Kim.

MNM: Oh! Uncle Kim, oh... He knew English back then too?

YM: He knew English so every time the Americans came they stayed at our home or camp.

MNM: I see.

YM: My brothers were the top leaders too.

MNM: I see

YM: So he went and ordered the soldiers to go and fight to get our country back to us. They were the big leaders such as the head of the gang. The biggest gang leaders.

MNM: How old were you when you came to this country?

YM: When we came to this country...

MNM: You came to this country in 1991, right?

YM: No... It was 1981 instead.

MNM: Let's see... 1981, okay.

YM: 1981, so let's say for all this time that I had been in this country... I am 65 years old now so I must had been about 40 years old back then.

MNM: Okay, after you arrived in this country, what were the things that were the easiest for you to learned and adapt to?

YM: There was nothing that was easy to learn at all.

Everything was hard because I was not the educated kind of person. I am the kind of person that uses my eyes and knowledge to make my living.

MNM: What were the things that were the hardest things to learn?

YM: Learning the English Language was hard and learning to drive was also very hard.

MNM: So learning to speak English was hard, learning to drive was hard, and learning to get around the house was also hard, right?

YM: When we first arrived in this country, learning to move around the house was very hard. We did not know when to pay the rent, when to pay the utilities and we did not know when those bills were due.

We did not know how to write down the date so we just took the money to the agency and if they did not take it then we just brought it back.

MNM: Oh, dear. So how did you finally know...? How did you finally learn?

YM: I started to learn when I brought them the payment, they told me that it was way past due then I realized that oh...!

Now, this is due so next time I counted until that date then I go back and pay them.

MNM: What about the stove, refrigerator or other similar devices?

YM: The stove, I did not know how to use it at all...

MNM: What about the bathroom?

YM: Regarding the bathroom, we knew, but the stove, we did not know how to use it at all. Sometimes the stove did not light by itself so I had to light it and boom! It came on!

MNM: [Laughter]

YM: It burned some of my hair. [Laughter] So now I knew... Next time I just had to be careful.

Sometimes, I had to wear the protective gear before I turned on the stove.

Don't turn on the stove yet, let's look for the lighter first.

MNM: Oh, boy... What about driving the car...? Who taught you how to drive?

YM: Who? Whoever that is available.

MNM: What about the children? What did you think was the hardest thing for them to learn and adapt to?

YM: I don't know, but maybe it was their schoolwork that was hard for them. This is because all they did was go to school.

The one that work hard on their schoolwork, then they made it, but the lazy ones were the only ones who did not make it.

MNM: What was the one thing that you considered the easiest for you to adapt to in your new life in this country?

YM: There was nothing to help to make it easy at all. I had to make a decision and do it...

MNM: What about when you first arrived in this country...? What were the few things that you felt you must know quickly in order to make your new life in this country much easier?

YM: One of things was to learn how to use the money in this country. So I had to learn which one to use to pay for food etc...

MNM: Okay. What if you gave them the wrong change? They could have taken all your money quickly, right?

YM: They had taken most of it already.

MNM: That was how we learned, right? [Laughs]

YM: They just took our money as we gave it to them. After you left then you realized that they had taken all of your money and had not given back the change. Then we started to realize oh... This is how much it costs for this item and so on... That is why they did not give back our change.

MNM: So if you ran across the bad person then he/she would take all the money, right?

YM: Yes! When we first arrived into this country, we did not know much about anything and we thought that the Americans are all good-hearted people. We even thought if you gave them your money, they would not take the change. But our teacher told us—Don't even count on it... Americans are the worst people to be trusted.

MNM: Oh! So there were teachers that taught you all this too, right?

YM: Yes.

MNM: Were they the only ones who taught you all these things?

YM: The American teachers, they told us that those people that cheated us were very happy because we did not know anything.

So they taught us how to shop and look for that price tag and know how much money you had in your hand before going shopping. So when it comes to the checkout time you will know exactly how much they charge because you know how much it cost by looking at the price tag.

MNM: Yes.

YM: They gave me the receipt for the total after they rang it up on the machine then I brought the receipt home to show it to someone who knew more about this than I do.

MNM: So when you were attending school, did you finish it? Did it cost you anything?

YM: No, it did not.

MNM: It was free, right?

YM: No, it was paid for by the welfare department.

MNM: Did you go to school every day or only...?

YM: I went to school everyday and the Welfare Department gave us money for the bus fare so we could attend the class.

MNM: Oh!

YM: And if you were absent from the class then you had to take a note from the teacher down to the Welfare Department.

MNM: Oh, okay... So everyone attend these classes, right?

YM: Yes.

MNM: So this was something that was really helping our people out,

YM: When we were going to school, we didn't really study anything at all. It just the basic stuff like I get up, I wake up, etc...

MNM: Oh, so what else...?

YM: We learned how to speak...

MNM: So you learned how to write, right? Learned how to shop... What about the people who came before you that knew more about these things?

YM: There were very few of them.

MNM: Then you were the one who first came to this country, right?

YM: Those that came before us only knew as much as we did. They only knew enough to help themselves out. Sometimes they took us to the hospital and that was it.

MNM: Yes.

YM: Those that helped translate at the hospital, they knew more so the hospital used them to help others.

MNM: What about those Hmong that came later to this country...? Do you think their lives were much easier because there are people who had come earlier and knew what to do?

YM: Yes.

MNM: Okay. What do you think about all the knowledge that you had attained back in Laos or our old country, has that been helpful to you in this new country?

YM: We couldn't use it anymore after we came to this country.

MNM: I see.

YM: We are using the new things now. Back then we used our strength and our wisdom, but over here we have to use the letters and the numbers.

MNM: I see.

YM: So there is a huge difference...

MNM: So you have to learn the new ways, right?

YM: Yes, we have to learn all of it.

MNM: Okay. What about the life in this country, do you think it is better or worst for the women?

YM: After we came to this country it's much better for the women because they had the same rights as the men.

MNM: Yes.

YM: Regardless of what kind of meeting or feast, both the women and the men could attend and eat together.

MNM: So then the life in this country is much better for the women, right?

YM: But now the men were complaining that this is not good for them.

MNM: Why do they think that way?

YM: They said that now the women are equal to us, some of them could speak better than us, and now the police are on their side too so they are losing everything. Because of this freedom, the women want their own way and to do whatever they like so some of them had committed adultery.

MNM: I see. So in this country the women were the quickest learners, they could attend any meeting with the men and they had the same equal rights as the men did.... It must be devastating for the men, right?

YM: It is very hard for the Hmong men to adapt to it. Back in Laos some of the men claim to be leaders, but some of them didn't even know how to read and write. So after they came to this country, the women could speak much better so the men were ashamed of themselves and some of them stay way back in the corner. They were thinking how come these women who did not even qualify to do our laundry back in Laos, but how come now they can do better than us? So the men were ashamed of this.

MNM: They must be very jealous, right?

YM: They could not speak nor do anything about it.

MNM: The men were shy and did not try to talk at all that is why they were not as good as the women. What about you? Do you consider this country to be your home country or are you still considering that Laos is your home country?

YM: Oh... It will be the best thing for us if we could have our country, Laos, back which it was our home country. This country is not ours, it's theirs. We just came to live here.

MNM: Are you a U.S. citizen?

YM: Yes, I am.

MNM: What is your opinion on that subject, do you think that becoming a U.S. citizen has any value for us?

YM: I don't know, probably...

MNM: What made you decided to become a U.S. citizen?

YM: I heard others were doing it so I did it, too.

MNM: But you had to go to school for it. It was not easy, was it?

YM: That is why I'm saying that when I heard others were going to school for it, that is why I did it too. It's not like back in our country that only a certain individual could go to school. Anyone who wishes to attend the class can do so.

MNM: Okay, after you had become a U.S. citizen, have you gone out to vote?

YM: I just received my certificate so I don't know exactly when and where I need to go to vote.

MNM: Okay, Okay... What is your opinion about the Hmong that ran for office with the Americans in this country? Those that wanted to become leaders and work for the community.

YM: I think that they are the very highly educated and that is a good thing for them too.

MNM: In the past there was no one who tried to run for office like that at all, but now there are a few of them even including some women too.

YM: It looks like they are very capable and that is a good thing.

MNM: Yes. What about back in Laos, have you listened to or heard of other news from other countries such as different news stories around the world?

YM: There is none, I had not heard about them at all.

MNM: I thought you had the radio too when you were back in Laos.

YM: We only had radio for not that long.

There was news on the radio about wars in other countries like that too.

rallision. After the Vietnamese had the radio, then General Vang Pao also had it too.

MNM: But that only...

YM: It's the news on the radio...

MNM: I see.

YM: No, it's not the newspaper.

MNM: So the broadcasting of the radio only happened not too long ago, right?

YM: It only happened when... It was when General Vang Pao received his honor.

MNM: Regarding the broadcasting on the radio... If you listen to it then you will know about the news that is going on around our country, Laos, right? How do they get the information to others because everyone lived very far apart?

YM: We had to buy the radio, we bought the radio...

MNM: During the war, did they use the radio to broadcast information to others?

YM: They use the radio to broadcast because they each had one with them.

MNM: So if they wanted to send the message then they would just talk on the radio?

YM: When they broadcast the message, they did it at the headquarters and all you had to do is to turn yours on and you can listen to the message too.

MNM: Okay. Was there someone who notified other towns by mail or did someone actually deliver it to them via a pony?

YM: There is none.

MNM: So everyone just listened to the radio, right?

YM: Yes.

MNM: Okay, when you hear the news about the war in your country in the radio, what was it like? How did you feel?

MNM: Ah, I was very worried. We were very depressed, sad, and worried because the war was moving closer and closer to us. There were thoughts running through our mind about are we going to win or are we going to lose because we are just in the middle...

MNM: Back in Laos, was there a particular person that you admired or respected?

YM: Back then... We admired the king and the leaders of our country.

MNM: Who were they?

YM: Every time the king came by, everyone brought flowers to worship the king.

MNM: King...? Which one? Lao King, Hmong King or which king was it?

YM: It was the King of the Laotians. Regardless of who it was, the king or just other leaders coming by, we all would go out to worship them. This included General Vang Pao

MNM: Oh! Really, General Vang Pao? Who else beside General Vang Pao? Was it only General Vang Pao and his men?

YM: Only General Vang Pao.

MNM: Among the Hmong people, was there anybody that worked with those leaders?

YM: Yes, there was.

MNM: What was his name?

YM: I don't know.

MNM: But you also remember that you had gone out and worshiped them too, right?

YM: We had gone many, many times to receive them with flowers. We would also kill our chickens and pigs and cook them because they were the leaders.

MNM: Okay, what about in this country, what do you see in terms of women's leadership? How has that been changed from the past?

YM: Women's leadership has changed a lot, but I don't know how much it has changed. But it's all better than back then.

MNM: As I have asked you this question before... Back in Laos, where there any woman whom had become leaders that you knew of?

YM: No, there is none.

MNM: What about in this country, is there anyone that you know of?

YM: Over here, there is... There are women who have become leaders too.

MNM: Of those women leaders that you saw, what kind of job do they do and what kind of a leader are they?

YM: They are the leaders for their home, leaders for different organizations, they are all over the place including the company too.

MNM: After we came to this country, what are the duties that the women had done only because of their rights in this country that they could not had done if they were to stay in Laos and Thailand. What are some of those duties?

YM: They are all over the place, such as some are competing for other positions in the office or in the organization...

MNM: Yes.

YM: Right now, they are all over the place...

MNM: Including doctors and lawyers, they have become...

YM: Doctor or lawyer, they have the right to them all.

MNM: What about back in Laos or in Thailand, if you have the time to go to school for those career, could you do it because you are a woman?

YM: They won't let the women to have that kind of power. I don't think they can... Maybe underground...

MNM: I see.

YM: The highest they could go is doctor.

MNM: Yes.

YM: There was no one who had become leader among the organizations at all...

MNM: In other words, the kind of organization where the men had to work under your supervision, right?

YM: Regarding the women, I don't think there were any.

MNM: What do you see in terms of the work that was done by the Hmong women to help lift up our nationality?

YM: One of the things they knew was how to make sure that we are not departing, but instead we need to work on our differences and working toward a more peaceful community.

MNM: Yes. What about the abilities of others outside of our home, what were thev?

YM: Help around the house and making sure there is food on the table, but in terms of helping others outside of our homes, I don't know what to say because I had not gone to class with others whom had done that.

MNM: Do you have anything else to add to this?

YM: I don't have it. I don't know what else to say...

MNM: Well, with all the questions that I asked of you, do you have anything else to add to this?

YM: In this country I think that for those people that are highly educated, that is very good for them. It's the rest of us that do not education that it is not good. Just an example, sometimes we are so mad about something and would try to do something about it, but because we came to live in their country and it seems like there is no respect shown towards us like there was shown to other people. We always dream and think back to our old country about how peaceful we were even though we did not have the same rights as the men, but there is no one there to hate you.

We were so peaceful in our country, but in this country for those who could learn the new language, things are good for them, but for the rest of us who were struggling through, we did not have the knowledge so we had to start to learn how to read or write so it was very hard for us. We are the one who got caught in the middle. We could not turn back because everything we had was gone including our home, livestock, farms, etc. Even though we went back to our country, we would have to start all over again. Who has the strength to do that...?

It was very hard when we first got started, that is why we were on welfare. For the people like us that had to be dependent on welfare for a while, we were treated with no respect by the social workers that work at the welfare department. I wish that we could trade our places with those social workers and see how they would act in our position. I was wondering what would they think if they were in our places. I think that we would probably hate them too just as they did to us, but I don't know how they would think if they were us. This is because our lives were falling apart. Ever since I was a small child, I never dreamt of coming to this country to beg for food like this. Maybe the life back there

would be better even though we did not have the same rights as men, but it would be so peaceful. We could farm anywhere we want without paying a fee for it. We could cut down all the trees and the bamboo in our farm and there is no one there to tell you what to do.

The forest, the entire hill and everything else are yours. There is no one telling you what to do. You could farm anywhere you wanted and all you had to do was to plant the seed and you are all set. Not like this country where you have to fertilize it and then you need to poison the weeds.

MNM: Killing the insects, right?

YM: There are going to be insects that eat out crops. When we were back there, I don't know for sure, but many grasshoppers that ate our crops were sent by the Americans as I was told.

MNM: Oh!...

YM: The Americans sent the grasshoppers out to eat our crops so that they could sell the poison to kill those grasshoppers so that they could make more money.

MNM: Yes, that is right.

YM: So we didn't really know that those grasshoppers were sent by the Americans. Maybe they just come up by themselves.

MNM: Oh... You had mentioned that when we arrived into this country there are other people who hated us and treated us with disrespect. Why did they hate us?

YM: They don't know about our struggling. They only thought that because their country is very fruitful so we just wanted to come and eat away their efforts.

MNM: I see.

YM: They didn't know what we had been through and why we have the problems that we had. It's all because the Americans sent their people to live with us and that is why the Vietnamese hated us so much that they just wanted to kill us for it.

MNM: I see.

YM: For them, they don't know anything about this. Now, all they see is that the reason we are here is because their country is so fruitful and they thought that we are here to enjoy and take away the fruit of their labors.

MNM: Right...

YM: There was one time that I went to the welfare department to fill out the paperwork and you all did not go with me...

MNM: Yes.

YM: That American social worker told me lots of thing, but I did not realized why he said those things. I wish I had a mini recorder like yours to record the conversation so that we could listen too, but I did not have it to record. I knew what he was talking about so I can even speak a word out of my mouth. Finally I told him that I know, Americans hate the Hmong people.

I told him that I really knew that Americans really hate Hmong people. He told me lots of stuff and I don't know everything he said, but the key point of it all was how he hated us...

MNM: Oh, dear.

YM: He told me that how come you did not go to work and why are you just keep coming to us to ask for money... That is what he told me.

But he did not know how much struggling we had been through. He did not know how lucky we are to stay alive so we could come to this country. Maybe he would still say all those things about us.

The only reason we are having this problem is because of the Americans who came to our country and caused all these problems. That is the reason why we came to this country, but he does not know about that and all he sees is that we are here to use his money and take his country and his home.... They really hate the people who are on welfare like us. For those who went to work to support their own families then the Americans said that now they are taking away our jobs.

MNM: So what do you think they wanted from us? Don't they want us to...

YM: We stayed by ourselves, but they kept saying bad thing about us... in this country.

MNM: That is right.

MNM: Even when you go to the office, they will say, "Hey!... The Asians are here to take away our jobs that is why we did not have enough work to do... For those who are still on welfare... They say that we are beggars and why aren't we going to work. It seems like we do not have any peace at all. The only people who have the peace are the ones who were highly educated. For the rest of us we don't have anything at all... The house we live in all belongs to them... The garden we did also belongs to them too. We had to rent every year.

Back in our old country, we did not have to pay any money to farm. In regards to our home, we built it by ourselves. We went into the forest and cut the trees to built our home so it's totally belongs to us. We did not have any bills such as electricity, but we have oil for the lamp and we had a special kind of wood that we used to light up our home.

We lived our lives so peacefully.

We didn't have to pay the rent or mortgage so everything we earned we could keep

We raised livestock and sold them to get extra money to help out our family to buy clothes and help pay the tuition for our children.

We didn't have any bills at all.

That was really good for the people like us.

But over here regardless of how educated you are.... If you are working for somebody then they will not let you go beyond them.

Let's say right now if you are attending school or going to fill out application. You go out and apply for a job. They will always hire their own people first so they will not hire you. So this why I saw that they are not being fair with everybody.

MNM: That is right...

YM: They did not treat us the same as their people... When we first arrived in this country we could not speak any English at all...

Just as I had seen while visiting you at your school. I noticed that even though you had raised your hand for help, but instead of helping you they rather go and help the American kid that was sitting at the corner. They did not help our children as much as others. I saw that this is not fair to all of us... I used to think that the Americans were the most good-hearted people on earth when they first came to our country.

But how come after the Americans and the Thailanders came to our camp for only three months and we lost our camp while we had been there for ten or twenty years and we are still there? Why did the Vietnamese hate them so much? This is because the Vietnamese knew what they were like. They knew the dark secrets inside the American's heart. This is why the Vietnamese hated them. Whenever the Vietnamese heard that there were Americans and Thailanders at our camp them they would come and bomb us. The Americans and the Thailanders were not there to make sure that we win, but they were there to have the Vietnamese destroy us.

MNM: After everything was destroyed then they moved out, right?

YM: After everything was destroyed then they moved on. They are not there to help us win the war. If they were there to help us to win, then we would have won already, but they were only there to attract the Vietnamese soldiers to come and kill us.

MNM: That is a very good point.

YM: After I came to this country and noticed how the American treated us then I started to realize that oh...! This is the reason why the Vietnamese hated and they chase the Americans all over the place and kill them. Only the Vietnamese and the Americans knew each other well. Only the Hmong people who were very uneducated... Whenever we saw one American came to our country and treated him so well, just like he is god. But the Vietnamese and the Americans they knew each other well... This is why the Vietnamese hated the Americans so much that they kept chasing them wherever the Americans go the Vietnamese would chase them and kill everything on the way, right?

So the Vietnamese... You don't know, but one time after our camp was taken over by Vietnamese, they chased an American all over the places and they search everywhere for him including under the beds and everywhere. They rush all over the places to search for him as they are going to eat him or maybe pull his tongue out. They chased so fast all over the place to drive the chicken crying all over the house. Once we heard that they are chasing him in and suddenly they were in and out of our home, they chased him very, very fast.

Just then we heard the guns go off, bang, bang... Only a short time like an hour they had chased him into our town. Just a few short time after that, they left our town the Vietnamese already reaching our town. The children were very scared and we were wondering if the Americans were so nice, how come the Vietnamese hated them so much? But after we came to this country we knew that the Americans' hearts were full of dark secrets. They only treated their people the best, but for other people they do not treated them equally... Just as we went to work, they will treat their people better than us. Even in school, they will treat their people better than us. Let's say if there is conflict with your children and their kids they will say your children are the ones who were at fault regardless of who's fault was it.

MNM: This is because they view their people with more important than other people.

YM: They saw that their people are more valuable than others. This is not good for us because back in our old country we have never been forced by anybody.

After we saw all these things so it looks like they were forcing us.

MNM: That is right.

YM: So whatever you say you need to be straight and say as it is... Don't keep changing your words and if you keep doing that then you are just like the Americans who are liars.

MNM: That is right, so in our eyes they have no value at all, right?

Hrnong Workshiresota Historical Society

Hrnong Workshiresota Historical Society

Hrnong Workshiresota Historical Society YM: Or sometime we were wondering how come this guy is so smart, maybe he is not an American... Because Americans always lie...

Yer Moua

Interviewer(I): Uas koj lub npe hluas nkauj yog ab tsi?

Yer Moua (Y): Kuv lub npe hluas nkauj yog hu ua Ntxawm...

I: Hmoob ab tsi maj?

Y: Hmoob Vwi os.

am Oral History Project I: Hmoob Vwj lov, okay koj ho los yuav hmoob xeem ab tsi os?

Y: Hmoob xeem Muas.

I: Tam sim no koj muaj pes tsawg xyoo lawm?

Y: Kuv muaj 65.

I: Ok, hos koj ho muaj pes tsawg tus me nyuam?

Y: Kuv muaj 4 tug.

I: Ok tab sis ib tug...tas sim neej lawm puas yog?

Y: Puav leej nyob hos...

I: Oh! oh...

Y: Twb yog Thoob Muas nev.

I: Uas, qib siab tshaj plaws ua koj kawm ntawv tiav yog dab tsi?

Y: Kuv tsi tau kawm, kawm ntawv qib siab li as.

I: Uh hm, puas tau kawm ntawv li maj?

Y: Tsi tau os, nyob teb chaws Nplog ces, ev kawm xwb, ev kawm thiab ua teb xwb.

I: Hos tuaj teb chaws Meskas no, koj puas kawm ntawv me ntsis?

Y: Kuv kawm thiab los mas, kuv ib sij tau ib daig diploma thiab tiag.

I: Huh...okay, koj ua hauj lwm dab tsi?

Y: Kuv, kuv ua hauj lwm hauv lub vaj lub tsev.

I: Ok, koj xav tias ib xyoos no koj tau nyiaj ntxiag npaum li cas, yog \$10,000 rau \$20,000, \$20 000 rau \$50,000 los \$50,000 sab nrau, sab sau?

Y: Kuv ua hauj lwm hauv lub vaj lub tsev xwb es Ib hlis kuv tau 500 xwb os.

I: Ah!.. ha ... okay, uas...tam sim no uas, uas koj...koj tus txiv twb tuag thaum twg lawm maj?

Y: Kuv tus txiv ces tuag puag thaum Nais Phoo ..tuaj ua ntej Nais Phoo khiav os.

I: Ces, cas koj ho txiav txim siab tsis yuav txiv no maj, thaum ntawd koj tseem hluas hluas nev?

Y: Kuv tseem hluas hluas mas tsi muaj tus kuv nyiam thiab, tus kuv nyiam ces nws twb laus lawm, hos tus niag kuv tsi nyiam ces ho nyiam kuv, ces kuv tsi nyiam thiab.

I: Ces tus koj nyiam, ho tsi nyiam koj hos tus koj nyiam ces ho laus laus muaj me nyuam es koj tsi xav yuav thiab puas yog?

Y: Uh hu....

I: Oh! Okay, uas tam sim no koj, tseem nrog koj cov me nyuam tag, sawv daws tseem nrog koj nyob puas yog?

Y: Tseem nyob los mas.

I: Hm hm..koj twb tuaj teb chaws nov tau pes tsawg xyoo lawm?

Y: Kuv tuaj teb chaws no...tsi paub hais tias tau tsawg xyoo, kuv tuaj 81 rau teb chaws no.

I. Ok. ces

Y: Tam sim no twb yog 2 000 xyoo lawm.

I: Ces 19 xyoos lawm nav.

Y: Hm hm...

I: Ws koj niam yug koj qhov twg?

Y: Kuv niam kuv txiv yug kuv lub teb chaws Thab Tam nyob av Xeev Khuam.

I: Hm hm.. okay, koj ho yog hmoob dab tsi?

Y: Twb hais tias hmoob Vwj no nev.

I: He..he.. hmoob dawb hmoob ntsuab hos...hmoob txaij.

Y: Hmoob dawb os.

I: Hmoob dawb. Tab sis koj twb tsi hais lus hmoob dawb nev?

Y: Kuy hais lus hmoob dawb los mas.

I: Ho!ho!... yog.. yog...hej..hej...

Y: Ntshe koj twb tsi paub pob.

I: Uas tam sim no nej ua kev cai qub los nej ua kev cai tsthiab lawm?

Y: Peb ua kev cai tsthiab es.

I: Ua cas koj ho txiav txim siab los ua kev cai tsthiab maj?

Y: Kev cai tsthiab zoo dua oj, thaum i yus tsi tau paub ces yus xav hais tias kev cai qub mas hais tias yog qhov zoo, tab sis tom qab no yus paub lawm, kev cai tsthiab thiaj yog qhov tseeb. Thiab qhov ntawd thiaj yog ntuj tsim teb raug es uas lub hauv paus chiv los mus.

I: Hm hm um puag ta koj tias thaum koj me es koj tsi tau mus kawm ntawv li no puas yog?

Y: Tsis tau li as.

I: Es koj cov nus puas tau mus tej ntawd, puas mus kawm ntawv maj?

Y: Cov nus ces xa ib tug pais kawm xwb.

I: Es ib, ua cas?

Y: Hauv peb lub tsev naj.

I: Ua cas xa ib tug xwb?

Y: Es tsi muaj nyiaj ne.

I: Aus! ces muaj txaus ib tug xwb kaj?

Y: Uh hm, sawv daws khwv rau tu ntawd xwb ne.

I: Ah! ha, hm hm okay, thaum koj tseem me nyuam yaus koj ua dej num nyob, nyob ntawm tsev es, cov dei num ntawm tsev no ho yog dab tsi nab?

Y: Dej num ntawm tsev, pub qaib pub npua, cheb vaj cheb tsev, hau zaub tos niam thiab txiv, ua mov rau niam thiab txiv los noi.

I: Uh hm okay, hos puas muaj tej yam hauj lwm koj ho ua rau pab zej zog kwy tij neej tsa sawv daws?

Y: Uas tsi muaj.

I: Ces ua rau, hauj lwm rau tsev neeg xwb puas yog?

Y: Uh hm.

I: Ok, thaum koj yau es koj tseem yog me nyuam ntxhais ntawd, tej yam hauj lwm uas koj tau xyaum kom koj paub ho yog dab tsi?

om par Y: Thaum me nyuam yaus ntawd ces xyaum kom paub ces ua paj ntaub, ces mus ua teb, ces muaj ntau yam ua.

I: Ces ua teb, ua paj ntaub.

Y: Uh hm.

I: Ua zaub mov noj?

Y: Uas, uas thaum uas me nyuam ntxhais ces thawi thawi ces xyaum ua pai ntaub, es txiav paj ntaub rau niam, txiav paj ntaub los ghia rau ua, xyaum ua thaum ntawd, ces loj ces muaj li uas 8 xyoo ntawd ces mus ua teb.

I: Puas pub qaib pub npua tej ntawd thiab?

Y: Pub qaib pub npua lauj.

I: Hos ntxhua khaub ncaws tej ntawd thiab nev?

Y: Ntxhua khaub ncaws ces nyias mus ntxhua nyias li.

I: Es cov brothers los lawv yeej ntxhua lawv li thiab los?

Y: Cov brothers ces hle rau yus coj pais ntxhua.

I: Es, thaum koj yau yau, es tseem yog me nyuam ntxhais ntawd xwb tej yam um... oh! thaum koj tseem, koj ua hluas nkauj lawm nav, nej tej kev mus ua si kom lom zem ho yog dab tsi nab?

Y: Kev ua si kom lom zem ces yog kev mus koom rau hauv koom txoos ua si, ua new year tej ntawd lauj, muaj noj muaj haus tej lauj, li ntawd xwb.

I: Ws, ces mus noj peb caug, mus nrog lawv ua tej hauj lwm, lawv ua noj ua haus private tej ntawd xwb puas yog?

Y: Uh hm.

I: Puas muaj ib lub sij hawm es cov me nyuam tub me nyuam ntxhais lawv mus ua si lawv maj?

Y: Tsi muaj, peb mus, mus muaj, tiam sis mas cov tub mas tsi paub hais tias puas muaj, cov laus nrog cov ntxhais lawv muaj cov laus nrog nawj.

I: Ces thaum kawg, cov ntxhais ib pab mus ua si ib qho ces cov laus yeej nrog xwb puas yog?

Y: Ws, cov laus yuav tsum tso li 2 tug uas yog niam nrog cov ntxhais mus.

I: Ces yeej tsi muaj lub sij hawm lawv mus lawv, ua si lawv?

Y: Peb tsi muaj li ntawd os, peb yeej tsi zoo li nej cov tim no.

I: Okay, thaum koj tseem uas hluas ntawd, tej yam koj xav tau thiab ntshaw rau koj tus kheej thaum koj tiav me nyuam lawm ho yog dab tsi?

Y: Uas xav tau thiab ntshaw rau yus tus kheej, xav kom yus yog ib tug ntxhais txawj ntse

I: Ntxhais txawj kawm ntawy?

Y: Txawj kawm ntawv, txawj ntse paub lwm yam lus, tab sis mas yus tsi muaj tus, tsi muaj kev qhia li ntawd.

I: Hm hm rau qhov lawv tub mus, tsi muaj nyiaj mus ces xa ib tug mus kawm ntawv, ces xa cov tub mus xwb ne puas yog? Es xav kawm lwm yam lus thiab es koj kawm...

Y: Xav kawm lwm, lwm yam lus los xav kom yus yog tus muaj nyiaj, xav kom yus yog tus zoo nkauj tshaj.

I: Oh! lov, okay, uas poj niam tej hauj lwm ho yog dab tsi?

Y: Poj niam tej hauj lwm ces ua liaj ua teb tu tsiaj tu txhuv, tu me tub me nyuam, tu hauv lub khaub khuas npaj pluas nioj pluas haus tus txiv yuav coj cov uh tej neeg ntawd yuav los noj.

I: Thaum um ua tsov rog ntawd nav, koj hais poj niam cov hauj lwm ntawd nws pauv dua lawm los nws tseem zoo li qub xwb, los nws ho ntau dua ntxiv lawm rau qhov cov txiv mus, mus ua thab ham tas lawm ne....

Y: Cov txiv mus ua rog lawm...ces...zoo li uas tsi muaj ntau lawm, thaum cov txiv mus ua rog ntawd lawm ces twb ho muaj mov nyoob hoom noj lawm thiab, ces tsuas yog tu me tub me nyuam lauj, khwv nyiaj txiag yuav npaj uas cov khoom coj mus rau cov txiv noj pem tshav rog xwb.

I: Es thaum ntawd nei tsi ua liai ua teb lawm lov?

Y: Ua liaj ua teb ua me me lawm xwb, ces khiav khiav Nyab Laj caum caum thiab ces tsi muaj tsiaj txhu lawm, muaj los muaj tus puav lawm xwb.

I: Muaj tus loj li ib yam thaum ub lawm puas yog, hm es yog cov txiv twb mus nyob pem Thaib tas lawm, es yus tub yog tus take care cov, cov yus tsev neeg thiab es tej zaum yus cov hauj lwm ho ntau tshaj ah.....?

Y: Hauv hauj lwm ntau, hauj lwm ntau ces tus txiv tsi los pab lawm thiab ces thiaj tu me nyuam thiab thiaj ua me ntsis ib qho me ntsis teb pab lawm xwb ne.

I: Ws, ws, ws, es thaum ntawd nej puas ua business tej ntawd thiab maj, puas ua...?

Y: Business ces ua, cov ua kuj ua, cov tsis ua los nws yeej tsis ua.

I: Es koj puas ua nab?

Y: Kuv ua thiab.

I: Koj ho ua business dab tsi?

Y: Kuv ua busisness muag tsho muag tiab, muag luam yeeb.

I: Es koj mus txais ntawm ib tug los muag rau lawv los yog koj....?

Y: Yus mus yuav ib qho deb deb los, ces yus mus muag rau cov thab ham, ces vam mus nyob khaib ces muag rau cov thab ham thau thab ham lav nyiaj hli tuaj.

I: Uh..uh hm hm, es cas koj ho mus, mus, koj ho mus txais cov, lawv yuav....?

Y: Es yus twb muaj nyoob hoom ya mus txog qhov chaw ntawd nev.

I: Ces mus txog tim ces yuav ua cas rov qab los yuam rau ghov tias?

Y: Awv....hawv...coj mus nrog cov thab ham nyob ces mus muag rau thab ham...

I: Ws, hauv koj tsev neeg poj niam kev txiav txim yog qhov, yog li cas?

Y: Hauv kuv tsev neeg, kev uas poj niam txiav txim, kuv tsi paub xyov yuav txiav txim faim twg as?

I: Ib yam hauv tsev neeg es yus make decision li cas naj? Es yog cov cov txiv, txiv neej uas ua decision xwb los yog poj niam, los yog cov poj niam es 2 leeg sib tham es mam li?

Y: Oh! cov, cov poj niam thiab cov txiv neej tib si hos.

I: Ces ob leeg sib tham ces mam txiav txim siab tias yuav ua los yuav ua li no, yuav siv nyiaj npaum cas los siv npaum no lov?

Y: Ws, ces peb, peb hmoob mas yog ib pob nyiaj es yuav, yuav siv mas yuav los ntawm tus txiv tso cai thiaj li siv tau.

I: Ws, hos hauv ib pawg kwv tij ne, ho, hauv yus cov kwv tij ntawd lawv ho make decision li cas, cov txiv neej xwb los cov poj niam tib si, los yog leej twg thiab?

Y: Hauv pawg kwv tij ntawd peb, peb hmoob mas peb hmoob txoj cai mas yog lawv muaj kev sab Laj lawv tsi pub cov poj niam paub, lawv tsuas yog lawv xwb.

I: Ces cov, cov ua decision ces kuj yog cov txiv neej xwb puas yog?

Y: Uas cov txiv neej xwb hos thaum yuav los thau nyiaj ces mam li hais poj niam paub xwb.

I: Oh! ces ntawm yus tsev neeg ze ze ces ob niam txiv ces mam li sib tham xwb tab sis yog sab nraud lawm ces cov txiv neej xwb puas yog?

Y: Aws... lawv tsi pub poj niam, lawv twb tsi pub poj niam mus nyob ze thiab tsam poj niam hnov.

I: Ua cas lawv ho tsi xav kom poj niam zaum rooj nrog lawv, es sib sab Laj nrog lawv maj?

Y: Mas lawv saib cov poj niam qis tshaj. Lawv hais tias cov poj niam ces lawv tsi pub kom tej yam zoo es lawv sab Laj ntawd nav rau cov poj niam hnov tsam poj niam mus qhia lwm tus, lawv hais li ntawd.

I: Oh, koj hais ntawm peb cov hmoob nov, los ntawd zej zog los yeej zoo li ntawd thiab lov?

Y: Uh hm.

I: Okay.

Y: Lawv muaj rooj sab Laj ces lawv tsi pub poj niam paub li.

I: Okay, thaum ua thab ham, thaum ua tsov ua rog ntawd koj puas nco qab muaj tej tug poj niam es nws yog tej tus thawj coj thiab?

Y: Peb cov poj hmoob tsi muaj cov thawj coj li oj.

I: Lov, ces yeej, cov txiv neej xwb ne puas yog?

Y: Um.

I: Okay, poj niam kev pab txhawb nga tsev neeg yog dab tsi yog dab tsi?

Y: Poj niam kev pab txhawb nqa tsev neeg ces yog khwv nyiaj txiag los pab ua nrhiav pluas noj pluas haus saib yog yam twg tsi muaj yuav tau mus npaj li ntawd xwb.

I: Uas, puas ta koj twb hais txog ua paj ntaub tej ntawd thiab mus ua liaj ua teb ntawd, qhov ntawd puas yog ib qho es poj niam pab tau yus tsev neeg thiab?

Y: Yog, qhov ntawd yog qhov pab tau los mav

I: Hm hm.

Y: Ntawm peb hmoob es yuav tsum npaj li ntawd rau, yuav hnav mus rau lwm cev khaub ncaws nav.

I: Ces npaj khaub ncaws yus thiab yus tus txiv cov me nyuam ces yeej yog poj niam cov hauj lwm xwb naj puas yog?

Y: Uh hm.

I: Okay, leej twg yog tus npaj txog tej kev muaj tub muaj ki?

Y: Leej twg yuav npaj txog tus ntawd?

I: Uas, ib yam li thaum yus yuav txiav txim siab hais tias yus muaj pes tsawg tus me nyuam ntawd, uas puas yog ob niam txiv sib tham tso mam li, mam li, mam li hais tias oh wb mas wb yuav tsum muaj 4 tug, 5 tug los yog 10 tug nov yog tug yog tus es txiav txim siab qhov ntawd naj?

Y: Peb hmoob ntshai tsi muaj, kuv tsi paub hais tias lwm tus xav li cas, hos peb hmoob ntshai kuv xav tias tsi muaj ho.

I: Tsi muaj qhov sib tham ntawd naj puas yog?

Y: Tsis muaj qhov sib tham, yug coob coob xwb oj.

I: Ah ha ha ha... he... he...es...es yus ob niam txiv txawm tsi sib tham tias yus yuav muaj pes tsawg tus me nyuam li lov?

Y: Tsi paub li lauj muaj tsawg tus ces yuav tib si.

I: Haj, haj...ces cia li muaj... muaj... muaj...mus xwb?

Y: Uh hm.

I: Es.. es.. cas ho muaj coob tag npaud maj?

Y: Txawm yog tsi paub..., tsi paub hais tias koj yuav xav hais tias koj yuav tsawg tus li xwb.

I: Es yus yeej tsi xav yus hais tias yus tus, yus xav muaj li 5 tug me nyuam ...

Y: Mus yuav leej twg yug tau tsawg tus los yuav tsawg tug xwb.

I: Ws, haj...haj... es muaj 10 tus yuav 10 tus, muaj 20 tus yuav 20 tus?

Y: Uh hm yug kom tag xwb.

I: Es nim yuav muaj lub sij hawm tag naj?

Y: Oh.. txawj tag los mos.

I: Twb tab sis thaum ntawd yus twb 50, 60 xyoo lawm ne?

Y: 50, 60 xyoo los tseem yuav yug mos.

I: Ah, haj...haj.... ces cov hmoob los lawv yeej tsi sib tham hais tias oh... yuav tsum muaj 10 tus, yuav muaj, yuav tsum muaj 5 tug xwb 2 niam txiv yeej tsi sib tham li ne puas yog?

Y: Tsi, lawv tsi tham los lawv twb tsi muaj phiam ne, peb thaum ntawd peb twb tsi muaj kev txawj kev ntse, tsi muaj phiam hais tias peb yuav vas phiam mas npaum no es peb yuav npaum no me nyuam xwb ne....

I: Hm hm.

Y: Cov uas hauv koj lub plab ces xyov nws yuav txais nws tsawg tus me nyuam li ne, 20 tus 30 tus los koj tsi paub li ne.

I: Haj..haj...tab sis yeej tsi tau muaj qhov sib tham hais tias yuav tsum yuav npaum no tus xwb no puas yog?

Y: Peb tsis, peb tsis tau paub txog tej ntawd.

I: Oh...okay yog thaum nyob teb chaws Nplog ntawd lawv tsi xav yuav ntxiv lawm nav es lawv yuav siv ab tsi thiaj ua kom tsi txhob muaj me nyuam lawm maj?

Y: Tsi muaj kev cai, tsi muaj tej txuj ci ko, es tsuas yog nyuam qhov tuaj hnov teb chaws no, thiab thaum ua rog es khiav los rau Thaib teb thiaj mam hnov tej txuj ci ko xwb oj.

I: Koj ho xav li tias hmoob ho xav li cas tej qhov ntawd tej qhov cov neeg xav tias ab...tsi xav muaj me nyuam ntxiv, es yuav siv ub siv no naj, hmoob puas nyiam qhov ntawd thiab, qhov kev cai ntawd thiab?

Y: Tsi paub, nyiaj yuav nyiam, lawv yuav tsum nyiam xwb lawv thiaj siv.

I: Tab sis tuaj txog teb chaws no lawm yus tsi toob kas 10 tus 15 tus me nyuam lawm nev?

Y: Tsis toob kas lawm ces thiaj li siv.

I: Uas.....okay ntawm zej zog thiab ntawm ib tse neeg ntawd, lawv ho hwm cov poj niam los yog lawv tsa poj niam cov cai thaum twg xwb?

Y: Kuv pom mas peb hmoob mas ntshe yuav tsi tsa poj niam cai li ho, tsi muaj li as, poj niam txoj caij txawm loj los yeej muab tsuj rau hauv av xwb, yeej tsis muaj li.

I: Es ntawm koj tus kheej ne, koj puas xav tias muaj ib lub sij hawm uas cov neeg saib taus koj thiab lawv ho saib tias yus muaj nuj nqis qhov twg maj, ib yam ntawm cov poj niam naj thaum hluas hluas, hluas nkauj tej ntawd xwb tej zaum lawv yeej saib yus tsi muaj nuj nqis mi ntsis ne puas yog, hos thaum twg lawv thiaj saib yus muaj nuj nqis maj?

Y: Lawv saib yus muaj nuj nqis ces thaum hluas nkauj xwb, thaum hluas nkauj ces lawv thiaj li ib yam lawv yuav muaj kev koom txoos tej, ces lawv thiaj hu cov ntxhais mus nrog cov txiv neej noj mov ua ke, es nrog cov nom tswv zaum ua ke...xwb hos, thiab yog lawv yuav uas, txog New Year ces lawv thiaj hais cov ntxhais xwb hos yog tag thaum uas dhau qhov ntawd mus yuav txiv lawm ces yeej tsi muaj li lawm oj.

I: Es yeej tsi, koj xav tias ntawd peb cov hmoob yeej tsi muaj lub sij hawm es lawv hwm cov poj niam tshaj lawm....?

Y[.] Lawy tsi hwm os

I: Lov, hm, okay. Uas, thaum muaj li cas luag thiaj saib tsi taus yus cov poj niam maj?

Y: Thaum muaj li cas? thaum uas...

I: Thaum, ib yam li uas, uas tej zaum yus ua tej qhov tsi zoo es luag thiaj saib tsi taus yus los yog lub sij hawm lawv saib tsi taus yus ntawd yog lub twg?

Y: Lub sij hawm uas saib tsi taus ntawd, ces piv xam hais tias, yog yus tus txiv tsi yuav yus lawm nav ces yus txoj cai txawm muaj npaum li cas los lawv twb uas txiav tag lawm ne, lawv me tub me nyuam los lawv yuav tag tib si, lawv tseem kom yus them lawv cov nqi rau lawv tib si ne, ces kuj yog tsi muaj nqis...

I: Ws, ces thaum yus tus txiv hais tias tsi yuav yus, muab yus li cas, ws...?

Y: Luag yeej oh!.... Luag yeej, uas niam no, tuav tag nrho cov nyiaj txiag, me tub me nyuam luag coj tib si ne.

I: Uh hm uh hm... hos ntawd yus ob niam, ob niam nkawm niam txiv ntawd xwb, puas muaj ib lub sij hawm es yua tus txiv hwm yus, thiab pom yus muaj nuj nqis tshaj ib lub sij hawm?

Y: Oh., ntshe kuv, kuv xav tias ntshe yuav tsi pom li ho.

I: Uh hm hm, ces ntawm ib yam koj xav ces zoo li cov txiv neej hmoob ces yeej saib tsi taus poj niam, tsi muaj lub sij hawm saib taus lawv li?

Y: Yeej saib tsi taus li, yeej, yeej ib yam li piv xam hais tias tej tus nyaj yuav muaj nqis ho tej tus ces, xuam laim cov coob ntshe yuav ua npaum li cov khej dawb ua rau khej dub xwb oj.

I: Saib qis qis li ntawd xwb, li ntawd laiv, puas yog?

Y: Saib qis qis li ntawd xwb rau qhov uas lawv noj mov tag lawv mam hu peb cov poj niam noj xwb nev, ces lawv noj tag huv huv lawm, lawv tsi tseg li nev.

I: Uh hm

Y: Ces yog hais tias leej twg tseem tseg ib qho rau tim lauj kaub ces los xyuas tib si thiab nev, ua cas tseem tshuav qhov tim no tsi txhab los rau peb noj nov nev. Ua cas tseem tshuav qhov tim no tsi txhab los peb noj.

I: Oh...o... hub,.. cov txiv neej nej hmoob puas ua lwm yam es qhia rau yus tias lawv saib tsi taus yus thiab tsi pom yus muaj nuj nqis?

Y: Lawy, lawy tsi qhia tab sis koj yeej paub hais tias lawy ua li ntawd los mos.

I: Txawm yog mas lawv ua ab tsi ntxiv es.. es... yus thiaj paub maj, ib qho yog qhov noj mov ntawd?

Y: Ib qho qhov noj mov, ib qho lawv sib tham lawv yeej tsis pub kom koj paub, ces yog tias koj nyob ze thaj tsam sab nraum zoov nraud ces lawv tseem tuaj cem hais tias kom khiav rau puag tim roob no nav.

I: Ws, ces muaj ntsis saib yus cav tswv yim, cov, cov, yus cov lus yuav hais ntawd tsi muaj nuj nqis ab tsi thiab?

Y: Uas, tsi pub yus hnov qhov tseem ceeb, tsi pub yus hnov li, ho yog thaum yuav los thau nyiaj ces thiaj tias muaj yus no nav.

I: Uh hm... uh hm...es, es ntawd yus ob niam txiv ntawd es tus poj niam yog tus khaws cov nyiaj lov cia lov?

Y: Tus poj niam yog tus khaws cov nyiaj, tab sis ib co mas tus poj, tus txiv yog tus khaws cov nyiaj, muaj tsi yog tag tag tus poj niam tag tag tus txiv neej, nyob ntawm tus uas yuav cia ntawd ruaj los tsis ruaj xwb. Tej tus mas tus niam khaws cov nyiaj los tus niam tsis txawj ceev cov nyiaj li, siv tsi muaj chaw txawb chaw rau li, tsim nyog siv los siv, tsi tsim nyog siv los siv lawm.

I: Hm hm...

Y: Ces tus txiv tsi pub rau tus niam khaws thiab.

I: Okay, uh koj puas nco qab yog lub, thaum nej los ntawd teb chaws Nplog los rau Thaib teb ntawd ho yog lub sij hawm twg?

Y: Lub sij hawm ntawd yog lub sij hawm thaum uas 9 hlis ntuj, es peb thiaj li pom, peb thiaj li uas muab cov nplej los ua mov es hlab dej.

I: Uh hm.. okay thaum ntawd Vaj Pov twb khiav los teb chaws?

Y: Vaj Pov twb khiav tas lawm.

I: Uh hm., uh thaum koj xav txog, thaum nyob hauv xoom koj puas nco gab dab tsi xwb?

Y: Thaum nyob hauv xoom hauv, nco qab... ua zog xwb as.

I: Mus ua zog qhov twg?

Y: Ua zog tom Thaib.

I: Uh es puas nyob deb ntawd xoom ntawd maj?

Y: Deb auj....Thaib tuaj muab luv, luv tos yus xwb nev.

I: Tos yus mus xwb puas yog, es koj ib leeg poj niam xwb, koj nrog lwm cov poj niam mus thiab los txiv neej mus xwb?

Y: Poj niam coob coob, poj niam qas txiv neej li.

I: Hm hm nej ho tau nyiaj npaum cas, mus ua ib zaug no?

Y: Ib nub no yog tau 10 npaj.

I: 10 npaj, yus ua ib....hnub rau lawv es ua ua txoj hauj lwm ab tsi maj?

Y: Dob nroj lauj, ntais pob kws lauj, de cov niag paj lauj li xwb las as.

I: Oh!...cov niag qhas puas yog?

Y: Uh hm...

I: Es thaum ntawd, nws tawm ntawm xoom ntawd mus, ho, lawv ho pub tawm thiab puas yog?

Y: Uas nyiag kev mus xwb.

I: Nyiag kev mus es ho muaj Thaib tuaj tos tib si?

Y: Ws, ws, ib co tos ces ib co ntes.

I: Ws, haj...haj...lawv tau nyiaj kawg yom.

Y: Um hm.

I: Ntes tau yus los tau nyiaj, hos tso yus mus los tau nyiaj tib si.

Y: Rau qhov cov uas xav tau zog ua, los xav kom muaj neeg pab los niam no tuaj nyiag, tuaj nyiag neeg hauv xoom mus, hos ib co ces ho tuaj tos kev ntes thiab.

I: Um hm...uh thaum nyob hauv lub neej nyob hauv xoom hauv zoo li cas xwb?

Y: Lub neej nyob hauv xoom hauv mas txom nyem heev. Nyiaj txiag tsi muaj li, mus khwv ib hnub tau 10 npaj xwb mas yeej tshaib nqhis, tsi muaj txaus noj tsi muaj txaus haus li, tsi muaj uas thaum tshav kub kub mas nqis naj kuab los tsi muaj tsi muaj coj los haus li.

I: Uas, puas muaj chaw yuav ua teb tej ntawd thiab?

Y: Chaw mas muaj ntau luag tsi pwb ua.

I: Oh...

Y: Thaum lub caij, uas niam no, ua teb ces lawv kom yus mus ua, ces thaum lub caij uas cov qoob siav ces luag kaw kev, mas yus mus muab tsi tau, ces lawv tau yus cov ntawd.

I: Aus....ces lawv tau xwb.

Y: Lawy tau yus cov ntawd no naj.

I: Txawj ntse kawg thiab nawb yom, phem kawg thiab.

Y: Lawv yeej tso kev ua, tiam sis mas thaum uas lub caij koj yuav uas sau cov qoob, ces lawv kaw lawm, lawv tsis qhib kev koj mus lawm.

I: Um hm... es thaum nyob hauv xoom hauv, nyias yeej muaj nyias ib lub tsev lov?

Y: Nyias muaj nyias ib lub los mav.

I: Es yus tau ua yus self los lawv ua rau yus nyob naj?

Y: Yus ua yus hos, ib co mas lawv ua, ib cov mas yus ua yus.

I: Uh hm hm hm es nej nyob hauv xoom hauv tau pes tsawg xyoo, ho ntev npaum cas?

Y: Peb nyob tau 2 xyoos

I: 2 xyoos xwb lov?

Y: Um hm..

I: Ws....koj xav tias puas muaj tej yam es zoo nyob rau hauv xoom hauv maj?

Y: Wb, tsi muaj li.

I: Uas, tej yam eh....

Y: Nyob hauv mas yog los nyob tos es seb puas muaj kev tawm qhov twg xwb oj.

I: Um hm hm..ces nyob hauv xoom ces, zoo li koj xav hais mas, zoo li yeej muaj phem li phem xwb naj puas yog?

Y: Ws, hm hm..

I: Es nej tos hauv xoom no tos tawm mus rau lwm lub teb chaws, los tos tawm mus rov qab teb chaws Nplog, los tos ab tsi maj?

Y: Tos nyob hauv, tos tawm lawm lwm lub teb chaws xwb hos.

I: Um hm hm.. okay, um thaum nyob hauv xoom hauv koj ho nyob, nej ho nyob li cas xwb?

Y: Nyob hauv ces... nyob...txom nyem ntsuav xwb as, tsi nyob li cas li as...

I: Um hum...hum...hum...

Y: Nyob yoo ntshaib yoo nqhis.

I: Es lawv twb zoo li nga mov, zaub mov tuaj thiab nev?

Y: Nga zaub mov los yeej tsi txaus noj txaus haus li, faib me me xwb.

I: Faib me me, es lawv faib yus muaj pes tsawg leej ces tau npaum li ntawd xwb puas yog?

Y: Um hm.

I: Lawv nqa ab tsi tuaj xwb koj puas nco nqab?

Y: Lawv nqa taub, tej zaum lawv nqa ntses, lawv nqa nqaij qaib nqaij npuas, ces yog kab hais tias peb 4 leeg ces peb 5 leeg ces peb tau ib daig nqaij luaj no.

I: Luaj daim teb no xwb, es es ib hlis mam nqa ib zaug tuaj, los yog ib week lawv nqa ib zaug tuaj maj?

Y: Ib hlis lawv mam faib ib zaug.

I: Es qhov ntawd kom om...

Y: Xyov tsi nco qab lawv, xyov ib hlis los ib week li lauj.

I: Es muab me npaum ntawd xwb es kom txau yus tsev neeg ib hlis ntawd kiag?

Y: Um hm.

I: Hwj...

Y: Coob coob, lawv muab tim Meskas no tuaj mas lawv muab ntau tab sis mas Thaib muab uas khuj tas lawm ces Thaib muab npaum li ntawd faib sawv daws xwb.

I: Yog muaj me npaum ntawd xwb, yus ho khwv noj khwv haus mus li cas es thiaj li pab tau tsev neeg maj?

Y: Khwv noj khwv haus ces, yuav ib qho ntsev, ces ib qho peeb vam, ces kua txob, ces mus de cov nyuag phav npoob coj los hau noj xwb.

I: Hu hu...hu...

Y: De nroj tom tej coj los hau noj.

I: Es yog sawv daws de nroj tas lawm ces kuj tsi muaj nroj lawm?

Y: De de de ces tus pais de ib lwm, ces tus thawj thawj, tus mus ces de tau qhov ntev, tus tom qab mus ces de tau qhov luv luv, ces tus puag tom qab mus ces ntshi kiag.

I: Uh ha...ha... ces nrho kiag hauv av?

Y: Tsi yog ntshi kiag, tus kaus lawm hos.

I: Oh ho...ho...oh! fine.

Y: Um hum.

I: Hwj, thaum nyob hauv xoom hauv, koj xav hais tias puas muaj tib neeg saib poj niam thiab txiv neej uh muaj nuj ngis ho txawv li cas?

Y: Thaum nyob hauv xoom hauv xav hais tias tsi muaj teb muaj chaw lawm nyaj sib luag.

I: Ws, ces yeej tsis, sawv daws yeej zoo ib yam lawm xwb naj puas yog?

Y: Um hum

I: Okay, hos thaum nyob hauv, hauv puas, puas muaj kev mus kawm ntawd tej ntawd thiab?

Y: Muaj, los hauv xoom hauv muaj lawm.

I: Es poj niam txiv neej mus kawm los yeej tau thiab puas yog maj?

Y: Poj niam thiab txiv neej mus kawm ib lub tsev xwb los tau lawm.

I: Es puas muaj cov poj niam mus kawm ntawy thiab maj?

Y: Muaj thiab hos.

I: Ces tam sim no ces yeej tsi tas them nyiaj mus li lawm puas yog?

Y: Tsi tas them nyiaj li lawm.

I: Es nej mus kawm ntawv, nej ho kawm uh ntawv Hmoob, ntawv Nplog, ntawv Thaib ntawv ab tsi?

Y: Kawm ntawv hmoob, ces kawm ntawv uas yuav tuaj teb chaws no. kawm a chair a book, bicycle

I: Uh hwv...hwv....hwv... a chair, a book bicycle.... es nej cov Nais khu ho yog leej twg qhia nej maj?

Y: Nais khu Thaib.

I: Nais khu Thaib xwb puas yog? oh....

Y: Cov Thaib uas paub lus meskas dog dig, tuaj qee tus meskas tuaj teb chaws no tuaj thiab.

I: Uh hm.. ces ces hauv xoom hauv yeej muaj meskas lawm thiab lov?

Y: Uh hm.. muaj meskas tuaj kawm tab sis meskas yeej ua tsawg.

I: Uh hm.

Y: Ces cov Nais khu Thaib ntau

I: Uh hm.

 $Y: Ces\ Nais\ khu\ Thaib\ paub\ meskas$. I love you, I...I go, I come ntawd xwb... nyaj, kab hais tias thaum ntawd Nais khu\ Thaib\ paub\ ib\ yam li kuv xwb lauv.

I: Tej zaum ntag lauv, tab sis lawv thaus ntawd twb paub lawm nev, yeah?

Y: Uh hm...

I: Es tsi muaj hmoob qhia lov? Cov Nais khu tsi muaj hmoob?

Y: Tsi muaj hmoob li mab.

I: Oh! okay, yog vim li cas koj tsev neeg ho txiav txim siab hais tias yuav tuaj teb chaws meskas no?

Y: Vim hais tias rov tsi tau lawm, rov mus teb chaws tod, uas teb chaws Nplog ces kawg rov mus rau Nyab Laj hlais xwb.

I: Ws.

Y: Twb yeej nyob tsi tau thiaj khiav tuaj nev.

I: Ces yeej tsi xav khiav mus teb chaws Nplog lawm puas yog?

Y: Xav, xav tiam sis mas muaj cov nyob tim tos koj, koj mus ces tuag xwb, tsi yog hais tias lub teb chaws yuav tsi xav, yus lub teb chaws khuv xim kawg, tam sis mus tsi tau lawm.

I: Ces Thaib teb los, yeej tsi xav nyob Thaib teb lawm thiab puas yog?

Y: Thaib teb yeej tsi yog yus qhov chaw nyob.

I: Um hm uh hm.

Y: Thaib teb yog qhov chaw los uas txoo ua ke, txoos rau ntawv nrhiav lwm txoj ke xwb.

I: Ws, ces txiav txim siab tuaj teb chaws meskas no vim tias.....tej cov twb tsis, tej cov ho tsi txiav txim siab tuaj li, lawv ho nyob lawv xwb los cas koj ua tsi...

Y: Cov cov uas txiav, cov uas niam no nws txiav, nws tsi txiav txim siab tuaj no mas nws yuav nyob ntawd, nws rov qab, cov ntawd tsi muaj pluab muaj ntug.

I: Um.

Y: Luag khiay es teb chaws khiay, nyob tsi taus es khiay xwb roy los luag yeej tsis tua.

I: Qhaj tab sis sawv daws hmoob, hmoob sawv daws yeej ua, cov txiv neej es sawv daws ua thab ham xav?

Y: Ua thab ham xwb nws tsi yog cov uas luag ntxub ntxub.

I: Hu... hu...hu...okay.

Y: Tsi yog cov thawj coj, cov uas mus ua luag zog ib yam li mus ua luag zog yuav nyiaj xwb.

I: Ws, uas, ces koj yeej xav tias yus tsev ntawd yeej yog cov tsev neeg lawv ntxub, lawv yeej yuav xav tua thaum yus rov qab mus?

Y: Lawv nrhiav, lawv nrhiav tua li ntag ov.

I: Es, koj tus txiv, los yog koj cov nus, lawv ho ua txoj hauj lwm ab tsi es cas cov neeg, cov Thaib thiab cov...?

Y: Lawv us cov thawj coj, thiab cov uas niam no, xaj thab ham pais ntaus rog, es kom tau lub teb chaws rau lawv nyob.

I: Uh hm.

Y: Ib yam li ntxib thab ham pais tua ces kom yus yeej ces yus tau ib tug nom no nav. Ces luag ntxub qhov ntawd lawm, thiab qhov lawv ntxub ntxub ces qhov hais tias, thaum ntawd kuv tus brother paub lus meskas thiab ces meskas pheej tuaj.

I: Tus dab laug twg nab?

Y: Tus Kim os.

I: Oh! dab laug Kim, oh... nws paub lus meskas thiab naj puas yog?

Y: Paub lus meskas ces ib yam meskas pheej tuaj ces meskas tuaj nyob hauv yus lub xoom, lub khaib hauv nav...

I: Um hm.

Y: Ces yus tus, yus cov nws ho yog cov uas huam nab loj thiab.

I: Uh hm.

Y: Ces nws mus xaj tej, xaj tej mus ntaus tsov ntaus rog los ntaus kom tau teb chaws rau lawv zaum, no mas, ces lawv yog tus huam nab loj tshaj ces tus huam nab uas ib yam li cov laib es tus huam nab laib loj tshaj los mas.

I: Uh hm uhm... koj muaj pes xyoo lawm thaum tuaj teb chaws no naj?

Y: Thaum tuaj teb chaws no

I: Ws, tuaj teb chaws meskas nav, tuaj thaum 91 puas yog?

Y: Ces...yog 81 laiv.

I: Soj, 81 um hm.

Y: 81 ces kab hais tias kuv tuaj txog teb chaws txog tav no kuv twb muaj 65, ces thaum ntawd twb muaj 40 xyoo lawm laiv.

I: Okay, um thaum tuaj txog teb chaws no yam uas xyaum yooj yim heev, thiab yus paub sai sai ntawd ho yog dab tsi nab?

Y: Tsi muaj ib yam es yuav yooj yim es paub sai li.

I: Um hm.

Y: Yam twg los yeej nyuab. Yus tsi yog ib tug neeg uas yuav kawm ntaub kawm ntawv, ces yog neeg uas siv qhov muag thiab siv tswv yim xwb.

I: Es yam twg yog xyaum nyuab tshaj plaws maj?

Y: Kawm lus meskas los yeej nyuab, hos niam no mus tsav tsheb los yeej nyuab.

I: Ces sau ntawv hais lus meskas los nyuab, tsav luv fais tej los nyuab, hos ntawd vaj tse tej ntawd nev uh...

Y: Vaj tse ntawd los thaum yus nyuam qhuas tuaj yeej tsi paub txog li, tsi paub hais tias lub sij hawm twg yuav mus them qhi tsev, lub siv hawm twg mus them nqi fais fab, dhau lawm los tsi paub li...

I: Um hm..

Y: Tsi txawj suav qhov vas thib ntawd li, nqa mus lawm tsi yuav ces nqa rov los xwb...

I: Hm ha ha ha .. es cas, cas yus hos paub mas, ua li cas yus hos paub lawm mas.

Y: Hm yus suaj hais tias thaum yus nqa lawm, lawm qhia hais tias qhov no twb dhau lawm nev, no ces yus mas li paub hais tias oh ..

I: Uh hhh hm.

Y: Ntawm no yog ua li no ces dhau lawm os, ces suaj lws zaus yog txog qhov ntawd ces mam mus them.

I: Ah, hm, hos ntawd tej, uas, qhov cub, refrigerator tej ntawd...

Y: Qhov cub tsi paub siv li...

I: Hoom nag...

Y: Hoob nab tej ntawd, paub lawm, qhov cub, nplaim taws tsi paub siv li. Mus ze taws rau tseem cig nrov poog tuaj thiab..

I: Ws, haj, haj, haj ...

Y: Ua plaub hau kub nyiab tag.

I: Haj, haj, haj, ces ntawd yus thiaj paub hais tias, lwm zaug ces mam mam os.

Y: Lwm zaug kav tsij niam no npaj ntai tib si rau ntawd, ces mas li qhib..

I: Ws,...eh eh...

Y: Tsi txhob qhib cia mas mus nriav ntai.

I: Ws, haj, haj, oh, boy, hos tsav luv fais ntawd leej twg qhia koj tsa luv fais, es koj thiaj li keej?

Y: Twg twg los, twg twg khoom ces kom twg twg tag nrho xwb.

Yer Moua

(Side B)

I: Me nyuam ntawd, qhov twg yog qhov nyuaj tshaj rau lawv kawm... xyaum tau?

Y: Qhov twg kuv tsi paub, tshe qhov uas niam no kawm ntawv seb lawv, puas yog qhov nyuag tshaj plaws qhov rau lawv kawm ntawd xwb.

I: Uh hm.

Y: Tus rau siab ces thiab tau tus tub nkeeg ces tsi tau li.

I: Uas, yam dab tsi uas koj nyoog tau sai rau lub neej tsthiab nyob teb chaws no?

Y: Tsi muaj dab tsi yuav pab tau li, yus tus kheej rov qab txiav txim siab es ua yus xwb.

I: Uas thaum yus tuaj txog kiag teb chaws no, koj xav hais tias cov, cov ntxuj ci yuav tsum kawm tau sai sai kom pab yus lub neej yog dab tsi nav?

Y: Cov ntxuj ci kawm sai sai pab yus lub neej ces xyaus siv nyiaj seb yuav siv li cas...

I: Uh hm.

Y: Es xyaum saib, uas niam no, tus nqi uas daim koj mus yuav zaub seb peb tsawg?

I; Uh hm, tsam ib pliag lawv, yus hos muab nyiaj tsi thwj ces lawv, lawv muab tag nrho yus cov nyiaj rau lawv ces lawv, khaws tsuag tsuag mus lawm xwb puas yog?

Y: Lawv yeej khaws ntau lawm mas.

I: Yus thiaj paub lawm ne puas yog, haj, haj, haj.

Y: Uas, lawv yeej, yus muab yus cov nyiaj rau, ces lawv khaws lawm, ces yus mam li rov qab saib hais tias ua cas lawv ho muab yus tav nyiaj tag nrho, lawv ho cia li tsi muab los lawm no, ces mam li xyuas hais tias oh! qhov nov mas npaum no, mas niam no, cov zaub no mas raug npaum li no, es lawv muab lawv tsi ntxiv los lawm xwb no nav.

I: Ces tej zaum yeej muaj tej, tej tug siab phem ho muab ntau tshaj, ces yus thiaj li kawm tau lawm xwb puas yog?

Y: Aws! Ces puag thaum puag peb tuaj mas peb tsi paub, peb xav tias meskas siab dawb dawb !... li ces muab rau meskas los meskas tsi yuav, ces Nais khu qhia tias txhob cia siab, meskas poj, txawm yog neeg meskas los siab phem tshaj plaws.

I: Oh! ces yeej muaj cov Nais khu qhia yus tej no thiab puas yog?

Y: Uh hm.

I: Vim cov Nais khu meskas xwb lov?

Y: Nais khu meskas, Nais khu hais tias lawv tsi tus ntawd paub tias nej tsi paub mas ntshe lawv zoo siab kawg kiag.

I: Uh hu...hu...

Y: Ces nai khu mam li qhia mus yuav zaub, qhia hais tias yuav tsum saib ntawm daim nqi ntawd, koj saib koj tav nyiaj es muaj pes tsawg thaum ua ntej koj mus yuav zaub ntawd, ces thaum lawv los ntaus ntawd es saib koj saib ntawm, koj cov nqi ntawd thiab daim label lo ntawm daim thooj nqaij los qhov zaub ntawd nav li cas.

I: Uh hm.

Y: Ces thaum lawv los ntaus tom machine seb daim receipt ntawd li cas, mas nqa los rau lwm tus paub saib.

I: Es nej mus kawm ntawv no es nej kawm puas tas, puas tau them nyiaj maj?

Y: Tsi tau as.

I: Free xwb puas yog?

Y: Nais... welfare them ov.

I: Welfare them oh...kawm txhua txhua hnub los kawm....?

Y: Kawm txhua txhua hnub os.... Kawm txhua txhua hnub ces welfare twb muab nyiaj rau yus coj mus caij npav mus kawm tib si nev.

I: Oh!....

Y: Hais tias yog yus qhaj lawm ces tseem nqa ib daig ntawv tim uas Nais khu los rau nram welfare tib si nev.

I: Oh, okay, ces sawv daws yeej mus kawm no tib si puas yog?

Y: Uh hm.

I: Qhov no ntshe yog zoo ib qhov pab tau yus heev.

Y: Thaum uas kawm ntawm ces, koj kawm ces, tsis kawm ab tsi li, kawm, I get up, I wake up xwb.

I: Uh ha ha es puas kawm muaj...

Y: Kawm hais lus.

I: Ws, haj, kawm sau ntawv me ntsis no puas yog, thiab kawm kom tej ntawm uas mus yuav zaub tej ntawd yus paub. Es puas lwm cov hmoob tuaj ua ntej yus es paub ub paub no hos qhia yus, qhia tau, qhia yus mas?

Y: Lawv muaj tsawg tsawg tus xwb.

I; Ces yus yeej yog cov xub xub tuaj ntag puas yog?

Y: Lawv cov xub tuaj ntawd los yeej paub ib yam li peb thiab xwb, lawv tsuas siv tau rau lawv thiab xwb, tsuas yog lawv coj mus hoom maum tej.

I: Uh hm.

Y: Coj mus txhais lus pem hoom maum tej, ces lawv paub, es tom tej hoom hias tej hos siv lawv mi ntsis xwb.

I: Koj hais cov tuaj, cov hmoob es tuaj tom qab no nav, koj hais tej zaum lawv lub neej tsi nyuab npaum li yus lub rau qhov muaj cov twb paub ne puas yog?

Y: Uh hm.

I: Okay, Uas tej kev txawj tim teb chaws Nplog, txawj ntse tim teb chaws Nplog, tej kev yus paub ua ntawd nav, koj hais tej ntawd puas, thaum yus tuaj txog teb chaws no naj puas pab tau yus thiab maj?

Y: Tuaj teb chaws no tsi siv lawm.

I: Uh hm.

Y: Tuaj siv qhov tsthiab lawm.

I: Uh hm ces tej...

Y: Tid mas yog siv lub dag lub zog thiab si tswv yim. Tim no mas yog siv ntaub ntawv, siv ntawm tus lej lawm.

I: Uh hm.

Y: Ces txawv ntau lawm.

I: Ces yus yuav tsum tau kawm cov txuj ci tsthiab xwb puas yog?

Y: Aws, txuj ci tsthiab tas nrho lauj.

I: Ws, okay, tuaj txog teb chaws no koj puas xav hais tias, lub neej tim nov zoo tshaj rau poj niam los yog tsi zoo rau poj niam?

Y: Tuaj tim no cov poj niam, yuav zoo tshaj rau cov poj niam lawm, cov poj niam muaj siv ib yam li cov txiv neej nev.

I: Uh hm, uh hm.

Y: Txawm muaj kev sab Laj los poj niam txiv neej mus sab Laj uas ke, muaj noj muaj haus los poj niam thiab txiv neej tau noj uas ke lawm nev.

I: Ces zoo li lub neej tim no kuj zoo tshaj rau poj niam lawm?

Y: Ws, tab sis ziag no cov txiv neej ho hais tias tsi zoo rau txiv neej li lawm.

I: Ua cas lawy ho hais li ntawd maj?

Y: Lawv hais tias poj niam thiab yus sib nrawg, hos poj niam ho keej hais lus dua yus, ces tas luaj los pab poj niam thiab ces cov txiv neej tsi muaj nqi ab tsi li lawm no nav. Ces poj niam ua ywj siab ywj ntsws, ces poj niam tseem mus tham hluas nraug thiab no nav.

I: Um hm hm..hum..hum... ces tim no cov poj niam kawm ntawv los lawv kawm tau, mus sib sab Laj los lawv sib sab Laj tau nrog cov txiv neej, hos siv los lawv muaj ib yam txiv neej, tej no zoo li nyuab heev rau cov txiv neej hmoob?

Y: Nyuab rau cov txiv neej hmoo los mav. Cov txiv neej hmoob ces nyob teb chaws Nplog ces luag yeej hais..., nws hais tias yog nws yog nom no tab sis tsis, twb tsis tau txawj sau ib nyuas tug ntawv los cav hais tias yog nom no ces tuaj tim no ces mus hais lus meskas ces cov niag poj niam hais tau dua ces cov txiv neej txaj txaj...muag ces nkaum tom kaum tsev xwb, ces tias cov poj niam no mas ua cas nyob teb chaws Nplog es twb tsis xav pub ntxhua yus cov khaub ncaws los ua cas tseem hais tau lus dua yus no mas txaj muag hwv lauj.

I: Kuj khib heev thiab?

Y: No ces tsi hais lus thiab ces tsi tau thiab no nawj.

I: Ces lawv, lawv txaj txaj muag, lawv tsi hais lawv thiaj tsi keej npaum poj niam ntag. Ua koj puas xav tias lub teb chaws no yog koj lub vaj lub tsev thiab, los yog koj tseem xav tias teb chaws Nplog yog yus lub vaj lub tsev?

Y: Uh...yog qhov zoo tshaj mas yog yus muaj yus lub teb chaws Nplog mas yog yus lub vaj lub tsev, tej teb chaws no, tuaj teb chaws no yog luag vaj luag tsev xwb, es peb tuaj nyob xwb.

I: Uas, koj puas tau ua ib tug xam xaj meskas?

Y: Kuv ua lawm mav.

I: Koj hais qhov ntawd, ib qho ua xam xaj meskas no uas, nws puas tseem ceeb rau yus thiab?

Y: Kuv tsi paub nyaj yuav tseem nes.

I: Es li cas koj ho txiav txim siab ua xam xaj meskas maj?

Y: Hnov luag tej ua ces ua xwb.

I: Ah!..tab sis koj twb mus kawm kawm thiab es koj thiaj tau xwb los sav, twb tsi yog, twb tsi ngaib npaum nev?

Y: Txawm yog hnov luag kawm ces mus kawm, hnov luag kawm xam xaj ces yuav tsum kawm, thiab tsi yog yuav nyob li teb chaws Nplog es cov niam cov txiv qia qia dub es txwv tsi pub kawm, teb chaws no luag tso plhuav kawm, ntshe yog yus tsi xav kawm xwb.

I: Okay thaum koj los ua tau tus xam xaj meskas no, koj puas tau nrog luag pov ntawv xaiv nom tswv maj?

Y: Kuv nyuam qhuav tau kuv daim ntawv xwb es kuv tsi tau paub mus xaiv thiab xyov lawv xaiv lawv haum twg lawm tsi hnov.

I: Ws okay, okay, koj ho xav li cas txog cov hmoob es nws nrog luag cov meskas mus sib tw ua nom tswv ua cov nom nyob teb chaws no nav, tuav tej cov hauj lwm es... los ua, los khiav rau cov pej xeem naj?

Y: Kuv xav hais tias lawv kuj yog ib cov txawj ntse, thiab, kuj yog zoo thiab.

I: Yav tas lawm uh cov hmoob zoo li tseem tsi tau ua tej ntawv nev tam sim no zoo li muaj ob peb tug, muaj coob me tsi los ua thiab poj niam los ua tib siv thiab os.

Y: Ua li ntawm lawy, lawy yeej muaj peem xwm kawg, ghoy ntawd zoo kawg.

I: Uh hm thaum tseem nyob teb chaws nplog tej ntawd, koj puas hnov thiab paub txog tej uas tsa tawm hauv qab ntuj no, tej es ib yam cov news tej me ub me no?

Y: Tsi muaj es, tsi nov txog li.

I: Es thaum uas nej twb muaj vib, vib thub nyus thiab nev.

Y: Vib thub nyub nyuam qhuav tsi ntev no xwb.

I: Oh...

Y: Muaj vib thub nyub tshaj tawm hais txog kam xov xwm teb chaws sib ntaus sib tua

I: Ws, hm.

Y: Nyab Laj muaj ces, Vaj Pov los muaj thiab.

I: Tiam sim qhov ntawd zoo li nyuam qhuav....

Y: Qhov ntawd xov tooj cua xwb ab ntawv nas...

I: Uh hm.

Y: Tsi yog, tsi yog newspaper ab.

I: Ah! Haj, ces xov tooj cuam ntawd nyuam ghuav tsi ntev los no xwb puas yog?

Y: Nyuam qhuav yog thaum uas... xyov yog thaum twg lawm xwb, thaum Nais Phoo yuav, thaum Nais Phoo tau xab hab los xwb.

I: Hmm, ces uh, qhov xov tooj, xov tooj cua ntawd ces yus, yus yog yus mloog ces yus yeej paub hais tias tsov rog ntawd teb chaws Nplog ntawd zoo li cas no puas yog. Es yuav ua li cas thiab es thiaj paub thiab maj, nyias nyob nyias ib qho ne, yuav...?

Y: Es yus twb yuav us lub thev ne, yuav lub thev ces...

I: Es sawv daws yeej thaum, thaum ua tsov rog ces sawv daws yeej siv li xov tooj cua ntawd xwb lov?

Y: Siv xov tooj cua ces ib leg yeej muaj ib lub thev lawm ne.

I: Oh!.. ces yuav xa xov, yuav xa xov ces hais rau hauv xwb?

Y: Lawv xa xov lawv xa puag tim hauv paus loj ces koj qhib koj lub ntawd ces txais lawm mos.

I: Uh hm es puas muaj, puas muaj tej tug sau ntaub ntawv, los puas muaj tej tug ho caij nees mus ghia lawv lwm lub zos rau lub zos maj?

Y: Tsi muaj.

I: Ces sawv daws yeej mloog xov tooj cua xwb puas yog?

Y: Uh hm.

I: Okay, thaum koj hnov txog lub um...es thaum koj hnov txog hauv xov tooj cua, koj hnov uas lawv sib, sib tua sib tua rog ntawd nav, koj ho xav li cas xwb?

Y: Uas...yeej nyuaj siab, thiab thaum ntawd yeej muaj kev ntxhov siab nyuaj siab hais tias tsov rog nias quj qees tuaj lawm thiab no naj. Xav txog hais tias peb yuav swb xwb los xyov peb yuav yeej li, nyob nruab nrab.

I: Uas, thaum nyob teb chaws Nplog ntawd puas muaj tej tug, muaj cov neeg es koj hawm txog tshaj plaws?

Y: Nyob uh... yuav hawm huab tais, hawm nom xwb, hawm cov niag thawj coj xwb.

I: Lawy yog leej twg maj?

Y: Cov niag huab tais tuaj ces sawv daws mus nqa paj hmab paj ntoos mus rau es lav huab tais xwb.

I: Cov huab tais, huab tais Nplog huab tais Hmoob, huab tais ab tsi....?

Y: Huab tais Nplog xwb, huab tais Nplog hos tej nyuag nom uas tej nyuag nai thab ham los peb kuj mus, cav mus lav lav thiab laiv....lav Nais Phoo

I: Oh !..lov es Nais Phoo, oh Nais Phoo thiab leej twg xwb, Nais Phoo thiab cov ntawm tus ntawd xwb lov?

Y: Nais Phoo xwb.

I: Peb hmoob no puas muaj tej tus nom tswv uas ua hauj lwm nrog cov ntawd thiab maj?

Y: Muaj thiab los mav.

I: Nwg yog leej twg?

Y: Kuv tsi paub.

I: Tab sis yus yeej noo qab mus hwm hwm lawv thiab puas yog?

Y: Yuav mus uas, nqa nqa paj mus lav lawv, hos nim cav tu qaib tua npua, ua mov rau lawv noj thiab, nom tuaj lawm no, ua mov rau nom noj.

I: Hm, okay, hos nyob teb chaws no koj pom hais tias poj niam kev ua tusthawj coj ntawd ho pauv li cas lawm?

Y: Poj niam tus kev uas pauv thawj coj ntawd.

I: Uh hm.

Y: Pauv lawm ntau tab sis kuv ho tsi paub hais tias pauv li cas, tab sis vim zoo tshaj tim ub lawm thiab.

I: Es koj hais teb, zoo li thaum i kuv noog, puag ta kuv noog koj hais tias tim teb chaws Nplog puas muaj tej tus poj niam ua thawj coj ntawd koj tias tsi muaj no paus yog?

Y: Tsi muaj os.

I: Hos tim teb chaws no, puas muaj lawm maj?

Y: Tim no muaj los mas, poj niam ua tus thawj coj kuj muaj Thaib los mas.

I: Es koj ho pom cov poj niam ua thawj coj ntawd....txoj hauj lwm twg thiab lawv ua thawj coj li cas?

Y: Ua thawj coj, nws ua thawj coj niam tsev, ua thawj coj ua koom haum, ua thawj coj qhov txhia chaw li os, tom company thiab.

I: Ws, hos tuaj nyob teb chaws meskas no lawm poj niam muaj cai ua tej yam hauj lwm dab tsi es ib yam nyob tim teb chaws Nplog thiab Thaib teb los ua tsis tau, tab sis tim no lawv ua tau cov, cov ntawd ho yog ab tsi?

Y: Ua nyob txhua yam li, yuav los mus nrog luag sib xeem ua tus niam no tus tuav ntaub tuav ntawv los muaj hos ua muaj.

I: Uh hm.

Y: Ua uas niam no, xyov ua ab tsi los yeej muaj tas li os.

I: Hos doctor, lawyer cov no muaj tib si thiab...

Y: Doctor, los lawyer, los muaj tas nrho, muaj cai tag nrho.

I: Ws, hm, tej no koj xav tias yog yus nyob teb chaws Nplog thiab teb chaws Thaib es yus muaj sij hawm mus kawm ntawy tej ntawd yus ua puas tau thiab maj?

Y: Lawy, lawy tsi pub cov poj niam muaj hwj chim npaum li ntawd, ntshe tsi laib thiab Mal History ho, under nkaus xwb oj.

I: Uh hm.

Y: Kawg nkaus mas tau Doctor.

I: Uh hm.

Y: Ws, tsi muaj ib tug yuav los ua tau ib tug uas thawj coj nyob rau hauv lub koom haum es ua kev muaj, muaj muaj koom haum poj niam li oj.

I: Los yog ib lub koom haum es cov txiv neej ua hauj lwm under yus naj puas yog?

Y: Uh, poj niam ntshe vuav tsi muaj li oj

I: Ws, koj pom hais tias poj niam hmoob kev txawj pab, txawj pab peb haiv neeg hmoob ho yog dab tsi?

Y: Txawi pab peb haiv neeg hmoob ces hais kom sawv daws nyob tsi txhob muaj kev sib tua, kom sawy daws txawj sib coj, sawy daws txawj sib hwm xwb.

I: Uh hm uh hm, hos tej kev txawj pab cov sab nraum zoov ntawd nav, nraum, nraum sab nraum hauv vaj loog hauv tsev, ho vog dab tsi?

Y: Pab hauv vaj hauv tsev ces pab, seb yus tsev neeg noj li cas thiab kuv tsi paub hais tias yuav hais li cas as, tsi tau mus nrog lawv cov ntawd kawm.

I: Uas, puas muaj, koj puas muaj lus dab tsi ntxiv... koj puas muaj lus ab tsi hais ntxiv?

Y: Kuv tsi muaj lawm. Kuv tsi paub xyov yuav hais li cas.

I: Ws, hm, well, cov questions es nug koj puas ta nug koj tag nrho cov nov koj puas muaj ab tsi ntxiv rau tej ntawd maj, hais txog kev ua tsov ua rog, hais txog poj niam tej hauj lwm los yog tuaj teb chaws no ho zoo li cas lawm?

Y: Tuaj teb chaws no mas, kuv xav tias tej cov mas luag txawj ntse mas kuj zoo rau luag kawg li, yus tsi txawj ntse mas yeej tsi zoo rau yus li thiab. Ib yam li muaj tej qhov mas yus chim chim lo yus hais tau, zoo nkaus li yus tuaj nyob luag teb luag chaw, zoo nkaus li luag pheej saib tsi taus yus li ces yus pheej xav txog yus lub neej uas thaum ub es yus tsi muaj vaj huam nrog cov txiv neej sib txig tiam sis mas yus nyob ywj siab ywj ntsws, tsi muaj leej twg ntxub yus.

I: Uh...

Y: Ces zoo li yus nyob kaj siab lug hos tuaj teb chaws no mas tuaj kawm mas zoo kawg cov txawj ntse oj zoo rau lawv kawg tiam sis cov tsi txawj, tsi paub luas txuj luas ci es tuaj kawm yam ntsthiab es yuav siv ntaub siv ntawv, siv lej ntawd xwb, yeej tsaus ntuj ov, yeej tsi zoo kiag tiam sis yog peb rov tsi tau lawm. Ces peb rov mus los peb lub vaj lub tsev twb puas tas peb tej neeg twb tuag tas, peb tej nyiaj txiag peb tej nyuj lawv twb muab tua noj tas, lawv twb yuav tas lawm ces peb mam li yuav rov qab mus pib ces peb lub, lub zog twb ntaug lawm ne...

I; Uh hm.

Y: Ces peb pib tsi tau, ces peb thiaj tuaj noj welfare, ib yam li cov uas cov noj welfare li peb mas cov neeg tim uas meskas, cov tuav ntaub tuav ntawv es peb tej ntaub tej ntawv tim tsev welfare mas ntxub peb kawg, tiam sis kuv xav hais rau, kuv xav hais tias yog pauv tau no pauv lawv nyob peb qhov peb ho nyob lawv qhov es seb lawv ho zoo li cas yog. Yog lawv yog peb no lawv ho xav li cas naj, peb ho yog lawv no ntshe peb ho ntxub ib yam li lawv ntxub lawv thiab tiam sis lawv yog peb no xyov lawv ho xav li cas. Rau qhov peb lub neej puas tas lawm, peb, puag thaum peb me nyuam yaus es peb npaj, kuv ma kuv hais kuv tus kheej xwb thaum kuv me nyuam yaus kuv npaj kuv lub neej mas kuv yeej tsis xav txog hais tias ntshe yuav tau tuaj thov khawv noj li no no naj. Ntshe yus yuav zoo thiab yus txawm tsi muaj vaj huam nrog cov txiv neej sib txig los yus lub neej nyob ywj siab ywj ntsws yus yua mus ua daim teb twg los yus yeej tsi tau yuav mus them nyiaj yus, yeej yog yus li tag nrho, yuav ntov tus xyoob tus ntoo twg los yus liu tag nrho, tsi muaj leej twg tug naj.

I: Uh

Y: Tej hav zoov, tej phab tej pheev los yog yus li tas huv huv, tsi muaj tug li naj hos koj yuav mus ua daim teb twg los koj cia li mus pov noob rau hauv ces cia li tau noj xwb, tsi zoo li tim no es yuav mus rau rau chiv es ho yuav mus tua tshuaj thiab....

I: Tua tua kab puas yog.

Y: Ho yuav muaj cov kab noj thiab no naj. Peb nyob peb teb chaws Nplog mas muaj tib co kooj uas kooj es noj nplej naj, cov kooj ntawd mas yus kuj tsi paub tab sis mas coob leej ntau tus hais tias yog meskas tso tuaj.

I: Oh!...

Y: Meskas tso cov kooj ntawd tuaj es kom yuav cov tshuaj tua cov kooj ntawd ces meskas thiaj tau nyiaj thiab.

I: Ws, yog mav.

Y: Ces yus kuj tsi paub hais tias yog, yog meskas tso tuaj tiag poj los kooj yeej muaj kooj naj.

I: Oh...es puag ta koj hais ib qho tias yus tuaj nyob teb chaws no muaj neeg ntxub yus muaj neeg tsi nyiam yus, koj xav tais ua cas lawv ho tsi nyiam yus thiab laawv ho ntxub yus maj?

Y: Lawv tsi paub txog yus txoj kev txom nyem lawv xav hais tias lawv teb chaw nplua nuj es ntshe yus cia li muab yus lub teb chaws rhuav es cia li tuaj noj lawv li no naj.

I: Um hm hm.

Y: Ces tsi paub txog hais tias yus txoj kev txom nyem npaum li cas txoj kev uas niam no lawv tso lawv cov meskas tuaj nrog yus nyob es kom Nyab Laj ntxub ntxub yus, es nyob tsi taus es yuav muab yus tua phim lawv naj.

I: Uh hm.

Y: Ntawm lawv tsi paub txog tej no naj, tam sim no lawv paub txog qhov hais tias yus pom lawv lub teb chaws vam meej es yuav tuaj nyob, tuaj txeeb lawv liaj lawv teb, txeeb lawv qav num ua, txeeb lawv vaj lawv tsev nyob, txeeb nyiaj txiag noj no naj, lawv tsuas pom qhov ntawd xwb.

I: Yog...

Y: Muaj ib zaug kuv pais tim uas tus uas kuv rov qab mus fill ntaub ntawv tim tsev thov nyiaj tid, es nej tsi mus, kuv mus xwb nav.

I: Uh hm.

Y: Tus meskas hais ntau rau kuv kuv yeej paub hais tias li ntawd, tiam sis kuv tsi muaj lub me nyuam thev ntawd koj kaw los rau nej mloog hais tias, kuv paub hais tias nws hais tej ntawd no es kuv tias, kuv tsi, kuv tsi hais lus li, kuv hais rau nws tias: "I know, America hate hmong people."

I: Hu..hu..hu...

Y: "I really know, America very hate hmong people" no rau nws, tab sis kuv paub nws cov ntsiab ntawd mas nws hais ntau ntau tsi paub lub tseeb tseeb tiam sis xav hais tias yog nws hais li ntawd lawm naj.

I: Um uh hm hm.

Y: Nws hais tias ua cas koj tsi mus ua hauj lwm es koj niaj hnub, koj tuaj npaum nov xyoo es cas koj tseem pheej noj nyia no naj, nws hais li ntawd.

I: Um.... hm hm.

Y: Tab sis mas nws tsi paub txog hais tias yus mob laug tag es nws twb tsi paub txog hais tias yus mas pus yus txoj sia tuaj pom nws mas twb yog zoo kawg, es cas nws tseem hais li ntawd rau yus naj.

I: Uh hm hm.

Y: Twb yog vim nws tuaj ua dev qhau tsu es yus thiaj raug Nyab Laj muab yus nphoo hmoov, ces thiaj tuaj txog teb chaws no, los nws tsi pom txog qhov ntawd li naj, nws tsuas pom txog qhov hais tias tuaj, nim tuaj noj nws nyiaj, nim tuaj txeeb nws teb chaws nyob txeeb nws vaj tse hos cov uas noj nyiaj li peb los lawv ntxub ntxub uas, cov mus ua Laj ua kam los lawv hais tias tuaj txeeb lawv qav num ua...

I: Es lawv xav kom yus ua ab tsi maj yom? Tsi xav kom..

Y: Yus nyob xwb los ho cem no naj... teb chaws meskas no naj.

I: Yog los mav.

I: Mus txog tom hoos kam los tias hej !.. cov niag asians no mas tuaj txeeb peb tej qav nwm ua peb thiaj tsi tau ua, hos cov noj nyiaj xwb los tias tuaj thov khawv noj xwb tsi mus ua hauj lwm no naj, ces zoo nkaus li uas tsi thaj yeeb li naj. Thaj yeeb rau cov txawj ntse xwb, hos cov tsi txawj ntse ces muab xav txog peb tsi muaj ib... qho av li peb tej tsev no los yog lawv tug peb mus ua teb tom tej tod los, los yog mus them nyiaj rau, yog lawv li nkaus xwb, them ib xyoos ua ib xyoos ces tsi zoo li no naj.

I: Hm... hm.

Y: Hos peb nyob peb teb chaws mas peb tsi tas them nyiaj li, peb ua tau ib lub tsev na tsi li lawv tej no es peb xuas peb tes ua, peb mus txiav txiav ntoo los ua tau los peb lub tiag tiag li, peb tsi muaj nqi them, peb tsi muaj fais fab them, tiam sis mas peb muaj roj taws thiab peb muaj peb ib co ntoo taws es kom pom pom kev....

I: Hm... hm.

Y: Tiam sis peb hos uas nyob ywj siab ywj ntws dua...

I: Hm.. hm...hm.

Y: Ces peb tsi tas yuav them nge vaj tse, peb khwv nyiaj los peb khwv los cia...

I: Hm...hm.

Y: Tu qaib tu npua coj mus muag tau me ntsis nyiaj, coj los pab rau tsev neeg, thaum twg yuav yuav khaub ncaws rau hnav lauj, yog tug twg yuav mus kawm ntawv los pab li ntawd rau xwb.

I: Hm.. hm.

Y: Hos peb tsi tau them nqi li, naj.

I: Hm... hm.

Y: Ces qhov ntawd yog qhov zoo rau cov ruam li peb no naj.

I: Hm...hm.

Y: Hos tim no mas yog, txawm yog ntse ntse los yog pais ua lawv Laj lawv kam xwb mas lawv yeej tsi pub peb uas yuav nyob kom siab tshaj lawv li.

I: Hmm.

Y: Txawm yog ib tug mus, twb mus kawm ntawv los yog nyob li tam sim no yog koj mus fias (fill) ntaub ntawv nav..

I: Hm... hm.

Y: Es koj mus fias (fill) Laj fias (fill) kam nav.

I: Hm.

Y: Lawy yeem muab rau lawy cov, ces lawy tsis txais koj thiab nav.

I: Hm...hm.

Y: Ces kuv pom hais tias lawv txoj kev tsi ncaj ncees lawm thiab.

I: Hm... hm yog mas.

Y: Lawv tsi saib sib luag, hos thaum uas peb nyuam qhuav tuaj txog teb chaws no es peb tsi paub lus li nav..

I: Uh.

Y: Ib yam kuv tuaj xyuas xyuas nej kawm ntawv tom uas hoos hias, nej twb yog cov xub tsa tes laiv, lawv tus niag kas tom nyob puag tim kaum tsev tid es nyuam qhuav ntawv dai pawj tag xwb lawv tseem mus pab lawv tus naj, lawv tsi pab yus tus naj, mas ib qho

no mas kuv pom tias lawv yeej ua kev tsi naj ncees kiag ov. Lawv cov uas niam no meskas no mas, thaum ub mas kuv xav hais tias thaum meskas tuaj nrog peb nyob mas, kuv xav tias meskas yog ib co zoo tshaj plaws, thiab yog cov tseem ceeb uas cas meskas tuaj nyob peb lub khaib thiab Thaib naj, peb nyob peb tau 10 tawm xyoo, 20 nkaum xyoo peb lub khaib tsi tawg li, ua cas Thaib thiab meskas tuaj nyob kiag tau 3 hlis xwb peb lub khaib tawg, vim li cas Nyab Laj ho ntxub lawv ua luaj, Nyab Laj paub lawv lub ntsiab naj, lawv lub ntsiab siab phem tshaj plaws naj, es Nyab Laj thaij li ntxub lawv ua luaj li ntawd naj. Ces lawv tuaj nyob thaum twg hnov kiag hais tias muaj ib co Thaib tuaj nyog rau lub khaib no lawm lauj thiab 4/5 tug nyuas tuaj nyob, ho tsi tuaj nyob kom yeej tsov yeej rog laiv, tuaj nyob kom uas niam no luag tuaj nphoo hmoov pias rau yus xwb laiv.

I: Puas tas ces nws ho khiav pais lawm thiab puas yog?

Y: Um...puas tas ces nws ho khiav pais lawm thiab, ces nws ho tsi yog yuav tuaj kom yeej kiag, nws ua kom yeej kiag mas peb kuj tau teb chaws nyob los mav, tuaj zes plaub tuaj nyob rau hauv es kom uas lawv tuaj tua xwb naj.

I: Uh hm, qhov ko yog ib qho tseem ceeb.

Y: Ces, ... ces kuv xav hais tias tam sim no peb tuaj nyog teb chaws no es meskas ua li no nav kuv thiaj paub tseeb hais tias oh !.. meskas lub tswv yim tos Nyab Laj pheej tsaws tua ua luaj li ntawd los yog nws phem li ntawd nev, meskas thiab Nyab Laj thiaj sib paub zoo. Peb cov hmoob ces peb tsi muaj kev txawj ntse ces peb pom ib tug nyuas meskas los peb niam fwm fwm fwm cuag tug niag Yexus naj, fwm npaum nkaus fwm tug niag Yexus tab sis Nyab Laj thiab meskas mas lawv thiaj sib paub zoo hais tias Nyab Laj lub siab los meskas paub, meskas lub siab los Nyab Laj paub, ces Nyab Laj thiaj raws tua ua luaj li ntawd naj yom puas yog?

I: Uh hm...

Y: Ces Nyab Laj, ces tsi paub hais thaum peb yeej tawg peb lub khais es niam no uh coj niag meskas los mas Nyab Laj raws mas tsi paub hais lus. Nyiaj Laj mas xawb qab txag qab txees, xawb tus meskas ntawd, xyov lawv yuav muab noj los xyov lawv yuav muab rho nplaig li lauj, cas yuav xawb ua luaj li lauj, nrhiav lij pis liag mas me nyuam qaib mas quaj ua kiv thua rau qab vag tsib taug khiav nrov ntig ntig ntwg ntwg caum niag meskas ntawd xwb nyuam qhuav mus, nyuam qhuav muab tuav dhau plhaws tom ntug zos xwb laiv Nyab Laj twb raws los txog lawm naj, Nyab Laj raws ceev tsi ceev li naj.

I: Uh hm.

Y: Nyuam qhuav hnov tua pig pag pig pag tim xwb laiv, ib mi pliag li ib xuab moos lawv khiav los txog ntawd, ua cas es lawv nyuam qhuav dhau tom xwb, cas ib mi pliag xwb Nyab Laj txawm siv tsaws tuaj ti. Yus me nyuam yaus mas ntshai tsi ntshai li lauj, yus mas tsi paub hais yus xav tias ua cas meskas twb ho yog cov zoo es Nyab Laj ho ntxub ua luaj li ne, no, tab sis tom qab thaum peb tuaj txog teb chaws no es yus mam pom hais tias meskas lub tswv yim yog ib lub uas ntse tob tshaj plaws, thiab ntxub neeg tob tshaj

plaws, lawy saib, lawy saib lawy cov muaj nges tshaj naj. Luag saib luag cov neeg mas ib yam li peb mus ua hauj lwm pem tej uas, txhua txhua qhov nav, luag yeej saib luag cov neeg muaj ngis. Ntawm tsev hoos hias los luag yeej saib luag cov me nyuam uas niam no meskas ntawd muaj nges tshaj, yog hais tias yus tus, yog muaj kev sib cav sib ceg no los may, sib thab no los mas, yus tus twb tsi txhaum los lawv muab ua txhaum no nav...

I: Vim luag muab saib luag cov muaj nuj ngis...

Y: Uas, lawy saib lawy cov muaj nges tshaj no nay, ces ghoy noy yog ghoy tsi zoo rau cov uas, ib yam cov uas, peb ib txwm nyob peb teb peb chaws, peb tsi raug leej twg quab yuam naj.

I: Uh hm.

Y: Peb pom tej no ces zoo nkaus lawv quab yuam peb lawm xwb na

I: Yog los mav.

Y: Es ib tug meskas mas lus li cas mas yuav tsum hais kom yog yog li ntawd tiag nav, hais ib co, hais tias ua tau, lwm hnub hais tias ua tsi tau, ces zoo nkaus li niag meskas dag lawm xwb naj...

I: Yog los may, saib, ces yus saib nws tsi muaj nuj nges lawm puas yog?

Y: Los yog yus txawm xav tias yog tus no ntshe tsi yog meskas pob..meskas, ua cas intawd Northern School Control of the School meskas hais lus dag ua luaj li ntawd no nav..

End.