

ONG VANG XIONG

Narrator

MAI NENG MOUA

Interviewer



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ORAL HISTORY OFFICE

Hmong Women's Action Team Oral History Project
Minnesota Historical Society

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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.

Hmong Women's Action Team Oral History Project
Minnesota Historical Society

An Interview with

**Ong Vang Xiong
Narrator**

**Mai Neng Moua
Interviewer**

**On
January 17, 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.

Hmong Women's Action Team Oral History Project
Minnesota Historical Society

Ong Vang Xiong

MNM: What is your name and clan name before you were married?

OV: Ong. I was of the Vang clan.

MNM: So, which clan was your husband's family from?

OV: You mean, just the one marriage or both?

MNM: How many husbands did you marry?

OV: I was married to two of them...

MNM: Two of them, how about the one...

OV: The first one was from the Vue clan.

MNM: How about the second one.

OV: The second one was from the Moua clan.

MNM: How old are you now?

OV: I am 54 years old.

MNM: When you married the Vue husband, how old were you?

OV: I don't know.

MNM: Since you lived in Laos, is that right?

OV: I lived in Laos, lived in Mong Nha.

MNM: So what happened to the Moua husband? Was he sick?

OV: That husband, we had moved, he was caught by the Communists.

MNM: So, you just did not see him again, you do not know what happened to him, right?

OV: They said the Americans caught them already, got five of them, so they told us that our husbands were caught by the Communists. Our husbands did not die, so they did not allow us to get married again then, they did not allow us to date for ten years exactly.

MNM: Oh!

OV: So they said that when the country was free from war, then they would come back, but when we got to Thailand, the Hmong communists said that our husbands will not come back, for real, they were caught at Na Hia, behind the immigration building, and they killed them all.

The Vang clan did a custom ceremony for all the dead people right away, and it was after that that we could get married again.

MNM: So when did you marry the Moua husband?

OV: We have been married since we got to Thailand.

MNM: So do you remember what year that was?

OV: 1980 or what year was it?

MNM: 1980 right?

OV: Yes.

MNM: Okay, right now how many children do you have?

OV: Right now, with the Moua husband, I have only two.

MNM: How about with the Vue husband?

OV: The Vue husband and I had only three.

MNM: So five of them?

OV: Yes.

MNM: Have you had schooling or been in higher education?

OV: I have never been in school.

MNM: So you have never been in school, is that right?

OV: I've never been in school at all.

MNM: When you lived in Thailand, our elders have never been in school, is it right?

OV: They never studied, just farming only.

MNM: Since you came to this country, have you been in school?

OV: When I came to this country, I just went to school because I just wanted to learn English.

MNM: Right, right now are you working?

OV: I am not working at all, I am very old, so I am unable to work.

MNM: How much money would you say you get each year for yourself only?

OV: Me, I don't have any income at all, it was my daughter that sponsored me to come by passport only, so I live with my two children only, our family gets \$500 only.

MNM: Yes, each how much?

OV: Each month we get \$500, but in January, they cut my social security benefit, so now, it's only my younger child and me, so we get \$400 only.

MNM: Do you live by yourself, do you live with your children or whom do you live with?

OV: I live with my two children.

MNM: When did your husband die?

OV: He died in 1977 or when...

MNM: 1987, maybe...1987...

OV: No, I came in 1993. It was that year. It was 1993.

MNM: Since 1993...then, your husband died, so you stayed with the children only, is that right?

OV: So then, we just came to this country.

MNM: How long have you been in the United States already?

OV: Maybe, we have been here four years already.

MNM: Only four years?

OV: We came, the year of 1990...we came the year of 1985 or something like that...

MNM: 1995 maybe...

OV: 1995.

MNM: So you came since 1995 is that right?

OV: Yes.

MNM: Where and in what city were your parents when you were born?

OV: My parents had me in the city of Mong Nha.

MNM: It's over in Laos right?

OV: Yes.

MNM: So what kind of Hmong are you?

OV: I am Hmong Vang.

MNM: But is it Green Hmong or White Hmong?

OV: White Hmong.

MNM: White Hmong, right?

OV: Yes.

MNM: So what kind of Hmong did you marry into?

OV: When I married the Vue husband, he was White Hmong, too, then the Vue husband died. Then, I went and married the Moua husband, he was Green Hmong.

MNM: What religion do you believe in?

OV: Meaning, believe in god, or the way you believe in yourself?

MNM: The way you believe in god, and you, or like...do you still believe in the traditional way or do you believe in the new religion?

OV: For myself, I believe in the new religion already. I came to this country. It was very hard to find a shaman, so it was very, very hard for me. That is why I went to believe in the new religion, so I do not have any more hard times.

MNM: Did you attend school when you were a little girl and were not married yet?

OV: Never, when I lived in Laos, I never held on to a pen to write.

MNM: Yes, okay, when you were little, what were the duties in the house that you did?

OV: Your parents taught you the duties, back then you would pound rice, sweep the floor, carry water, grind pigs' food...getting the pigs their food...

MNM: Did you do any baby-sitting, things like that?

OV: I baby-sat, too.

There was grinding, rice pounding, sweeping the house...

MNM: When you were a girl, did you ever do embroidery, too?

OV: Yes, I did it. I did embroidery, did everything that a bride...

MNM: Was there any volunteering help that you did to help the communities, relatives or anybody with?

OV: You went to help your sisters, the sister-in-laws, brothers with baby-sitting...at the farm, too.

MNM: Yes, when you were little, being a girl, how did you learn some of the jobs, so you knew what they were?

OV: The first thing you learn is to learn how to do embroidery.

MNM: At that time you were doing embroidery, how old were you? Did you do it only when they taught you?

OV: You did not even know how to thread the needle, so your mom would teach you.

MNM: So how important is the embroidery, what happens to the girls that do not learn?

OV: They said you must do embroidery for you to wear. You are a girl, so you should know how to do embroidery by the time you get married. If you don't know how to then they won't like you.

MNM: Okay, that is one thing girls have been taught to learn. What else did your parents teach you?

OV: And the parents taught how to do embroidery, parents taught how to cook, make salty vegetable soup, make mild vegetable soup, cook rice so that it is well done...make vegetable soup, sweep the house, haul water, feed the chickens, feed the pigs, wash clothes.

MNM: Yes, when you were single, what was your way of going out for fun?

OV: When you become a teenager, you and your cousin started working together on each other's farms, then the men follow you, we do farming....

So you farmed until dark on this farm field, then came home, went back to the other's farm field, you did that, worked with me one day at my field, then went to work one day at your field.

MNM: Yes, so what was your way of dating with friends, boy friends, did you date with a lot or just one?

OV: Back then, you talked to many...at night you talked, if he came, if you like him for sure then you talk seriously, you answer seriously only.

MNM: So if you did not like him, then you just didn't answer them.

OV: They talked to you from outside your home, so if you did not like them, then you just don't answer them.

Then if it is the one you like, then you answered only to that one, so you knew...

MNM: Yes, that's right, so you talked to only one or did you talk to a lot?

OV: You talked only to the ones you like, during night time, but during the daytime, everybody is there talking face to face, so you talked to everyone of them, talked to everybody.

MNM: Okay, when you were single, were there things that you wanted or would have liked to have for yourself when you were grown, what were those things?

OV: When you were young, you wanted to dress the nicest of all...and wanted to be the best, but back then because we were very poor, we did not have enough clothes to wear, things that you like most....

You have coins to wear, but no shoes to wear, being a single young lady...

You still hung the toothbrush on your neck. [Laughs]

At that time many were very poor, so if you had a toothbrush, you still clipped it on your silver necklace...

MNM: Yes, did you want something else for yourself?

OV: Yes, you really wanted, but there wasn't much to have. You really wanted to impress, that's why we hung the toothbrush on, and wore a white shirt. The soldiers threw out the parachutes, we would take the parachute and sew, make two shirt necks from this, so that when you wear the Hmong shirt then the white collar will show, the very white parts only...

Really, we really wanted to have clothes to wear, have shoes to wear.

You really wanted that, even if you have shoes, have clothes, you never wear shoes at all, the richest ones only have shoes to wear during New Year, at ball tossing time.

Some of them didn't even put shoes on.

MNM: Okay, what were women's jobs?

OV: Women's jobs were cooking, making breakfast, making dinner, washing dishes, cleaning the house, making the beds, feeding chickens, feeding pigs, cleaning about the yard, going to get pig's foods only.

MNM: How about during the war, did women's jobs change or did it not change at all?

OV: During the war, when the war started, we had soldiers, and so airplanes were dropping rice, and all kinds of supplies. So we had good clothes, but at that time, we just stayed at home only, so the ones that were good were being really good, too.

MNM: About when...

OV: So the ones that were poor, they didn't have any problems anymore.

MNM: During the war, you didn't have to do any more farming?

OV: During the war, we did it too, but the people who had a husband or someone in their family that went to be a soldier, then they ate rice that was provided for the soldier.

So they did not do any more farming, they did a little...planting, but only one basket of rice so that they would have some rice to make soup only.

MNM: How about during the war, did you go to sell products?

OV: We went to borrow stock and sell, too. We went to sell Pepsi. We went to sell candy at some small tables for the soldiers to eat.

MNM: In your family, who makes the decisions?

OV: In my family, women. So my parents, my sister-in-law, brothers, they make their own decisions for living. You wanted everyone to know you were good enough to decide for yourself. I was good enough for myself only, too.

MNM: I see, but in your family. Who is the one that makes the decisions like, when will we farm, we should do this, our family, we must go and do this?

OV: Of my brother and sister-in-law, I am the older.

MNM: Yes.

OV: So I decided when to have a farm, if we should have an opium field, rice field, if we must have chickens, pigs, have cows, have buffalos.

MNM: Was it the oldest in the family who decides?

OV: The oldest in our family.

MNM: Okay, how about your relatives, who is the one that makes decision for those relatives?

OV: Within the cousins, are my uncle and my aunt, my mother and father-in-law, and many of our relatives, too.

MNM: How about the communities? Who makes decisions for the community?

OV: The ones that make decisions for the community are village's leaders, the brothers who had education, those that knew a lot of things, so they knew what we would like this village to be, what are the women like, to celebrate for new year, so the men are the leaders.

MNM: I see, when you lived in Laos, were there any women leaders?

OV: Our life in the past, women have never been leaders, women were just housewives only.

MNM: There has never been a woman who became a leader, right?

OV: Never have women become leaders, so there were no women, they were not considered. Women were only the housewives. If you have a party then, women just arrange for the daughters and sons to wash the dishes, and be ready to set up the food for the party.

That was the best thing.

MNM: When you lived in Laos, over there, were women able to go to school, too?

OV: Women have never been to school at all.

Even men still did not attend, in our village. The city council wrote letters to our village, no one could read it. We still had to walk for a whole morning to find someone to read that letter.

MNM: Oh! You mean in the village, there were not any men who had education, right?

OV: There were groups of men, but no one had education at all.

MNM: Oh, yes.

OV: So when the leader sent the letter over, there was no one that knew how to read, they still walked a whole morning away from the village to find someone to read it.

MNM: Okay, so what was the women's way to support the family, what did they do?

OV: Back then, the women's way of helping to support was taking care of the cooking and having children.

MNM: Okay, so the women back then, like you mentioned earlier, you did art embroidery, did farming, so did any women do business, too?

OV: In the past we did not do any business, we are very old-fashioned people, so even if you had some chickens and pigs, you still didn't kill them to sell.

MNM: What about now?

OV: If you can make some opium, each year the Laotians brought some fabrics to sell, so you would be able to buy a roll of black fabric to sew everyone some new clothes.

MNM: Okay, I see.

OV: So that was very good.

MNM: Okay.

OV: So if someone had an opium field but it was not too good, they did not have the fabric to make clothes to wear then.

MNM: Okay, in your family, who is the one that does family planning?

OV: It was my mom and my brother and sister-in-law only.

MNM: How about between you and your husband, who was the one that did family planning and preferred to have how many?

OV: My husband and I both made decision for how many children we planned to have, how many sons, how many daughters.

MNM: So your husband also arranged it with you, too, right?

OV: My husband also talked with me, too. My husband said that in a lifetime, you are a woman you must have all the children, so that in the next generation, you can become a man. So it did not matter how many of them we had, we had to have all of them.

MNM: So how do you have the time to take care of the children?

OV: We just have them and leave them there.

MNM: So the women did not have time to take care of the children at all, right?

OV: We did have time, too.

MNM: That is right, after that you could have about twenty or thirty children.

OV: Well, hmm! You had children until you were too old, even then you still could have them.

MNM: So did that make you very tired?

OV: Yes, it made you very tired! Having children in Laos was very tiring, you would also breast feed only.

You breastfeed a couple of times only, then you feel hungry.

MNM: So what if you said, you don't want any more children, what would your husband say?

OV: If you said you don't want any more, then they said that's fine, but in the next generation you will come back to have all the babies, too. Even if there is only one left, you still need to come back and have all of them, so you can become a man in your next life.

MNM: Oh! So that means you have to have all the children, so that in the next life you can become a man, is that right?

OV: Yes, the next time you come back, then you will be a man.

MNM: Okay, if you don't want to be pregnant anymore, was there any thing you can do or you can eat to prevent that or what can you do to not have children?

OV: Hmm...when we lived in Laos, maybe, never had it at all.

MNM: So the Hmong, when they lived in Laos, were there any ideas on what to do if you only like to have four or five children?

OV: We never had that idea, some of men still said that they had too few children, then they still went and married a second wife to have more children.

MNM: But you said before that between you and your husband, you make the decisions of how many children you need to have...

OV: Yes, you think it is like that, but then someone says that you must have a lot...so your children can make up a whole village, this is why they did not protect the women from having children at all.

MNM: I see, so if you have a lot like that, do they help you take care of the children, too?

OV: Back when we lived in Laos, if you delivered a baby in this month, even if it was time for harvesting the rice, do farming, cut trees, or clear forest field, you would still stay at home for one month, after thirty days you go back to doing work. If they love you, and depending on how many chickens and pigs you had raised, they will kill them for you to eat until you reach thirty days. Providing you with meat means they love you, too.

MNM: During what situations did the communities or a family respect women?

OV: The situations that men respect women are few, but it is when women have delivered his child that they are respected.

MNM: Okay, so then they only respect you when you have delivered the child, right?

OV: Yes, when you have the child, then they will respect you. If their baby cries, they will tell you to take care the child....

MNM: So for that reason, that is the time you are the most important for them, right?

OV: Then you can sit, then if your baby has a fever, then they will say don't go farming, you take care of the baby, so then you have time to stay home.

MNM: Yes, how about when you were single, you are a girl, was there any situations, did the communities or family respected you, too, even though you are a girl?

OV: As a girl, nobody in the community respects you, but sometimes if they have the wedding going on, for example, their son got married, then they respect you as a girl and ask you to be a bride's maid for the wedding, so that was very nice, too.

MNM: What happens, when is the time they turned a girl down?

OV: I don't know that, and our way in the past, back in the past, why, they did not see women. They did not respect women like they do right now, living in the United States.

MNM: So there were just only certain times they respected the women, when the women had children only, other than that then they did not respect the women at all, is that right?

OV: They did not respect at all...

MNM: Okay, what do you remember while you lived in the refugee camp?

OV: When we lived in the Vinai camp and NongKhai camp you mean?

MNM: Yes...

OV: I remember that we got there, and then they provided some food for us to eat, and we were refugees, but some were very poor, yet some had a good life.

MNM: So how did they provide the food?

OV: They provided one fish for each person, a piece of chicken for each person, 1.5 kilograms of rice for each person only.

MNM: So depending on how many people, then you would get that much only right?

OV: Yes.

MNM: So they provided once a month right?

OV: They provided once a week, once a week only.

MNM: Did they provide enough for you?

OV: They provided enough, too, if they provided once a week then each person got five kilograms, so one kilogram per day was enough.

So if you had ten people, then you would get over ten kilograms right? Twenty kilograms is about half of bag.

MNM: Okay, how long have you been living in the camp?

OV: We came to live in the camp for 15 years.

MNM: 15 years exactly?

OV: Yes...

MNM: Why did you live there so long? What made you not want to come to this country?

OV: I did not want to come to this country, I did not know English, so I did not want to come.

MNM: Oh! Okay, so why after the 15 years did you then decide to come?

OV: Because we did not get the Lao country back, and Thai did not let Hmong live there any more.

So no funding, they cut it off 100 percent. They did not provide any more rice at all then.

MNM: So they asked you to go to the other countries?

What was good about the camp?

OV: The good things in the camp, when Thai sent things over for the people. They were the ones that received it directly from the U.N. so they would split for everyone to eat.

MNM: So then you mean the good things, is what?

OV: The best thing in there was, that they delivered a truck, a few trucks came, then they would instruct the men to act as a leader, one manager per building to distribute into pieces, just one manager did the distributing only.

So that was the best thing.

MNM: How about some of the things that were not good in the camp, what were they?

OV: The bad thing is that if you get [unclear] then you get killed.

MNM: You mentioned earlier that the good thing was that they delivered food for you to eat, is that right?

OV: Yes.

MNM: How about when you remember the time that you lived in the camp, some things that were not good, things that were not good to you, what was that, some things you thought about?

OV: Something that was not good was that we lived far too long in there, so they did not provide food for us anymore.

MNM: That is right, that was one thing, but did they allow you to go do some work or do other things so you can get money?

OV: We didn't have work to do at all.

They allowed you to sweep around the camp.

MNM: So you always stayed there, just stay only in there, is that right?

OV: Just stay, stay, then when the rice comes, then we went to get the rice and bring it home, then eat...

MNM: I see.

OV: So if you go out of the camp, they will catch you then, right...

MNM: They did not allow you to work, is that right?

OV: They did not allow us to work. They did not allow us to go outside. The Hmong always went out to find bamboo leaves and other leaves. They had a lot of the small bamboo shoots, if they came back and the Thai guards would see, then Thai would catch them. The officer that caught them would take them home and charge them from one to two hundred money.

MNM: I see.

OV: The Thai, they brought firewood for you to use. If you went to cut some firewood, if they see, then they still punish you.

MNM: How about staying in the camp, was there farming for you to do, like your life back in Laos?

OV: We never had...you could have a small area, like the gardens that we have here in America, then you could till those small rows for a garden.

Sometimes you didn't have anything, too.

MNM: So in the past, you invited your relatives—when you lived in Laos, then you lived together. So when you got to Thailand, did you have to live with them, too, or not?

OV: You saw them, too, you saw them live in different camp, some lived in separate building, so you did see them, too, but we lived separately. We made a living. Women came to live in the camp.

They competed to do embroidery to sell for Hmong Thai. Back then each embroidered piece got ten or more baht only, so you always kept doing that.

MNM: Okay.

OV: So when you were low on foods, you did embroidery only, you did not look for education. Even though some were very poor, some of them did not care, they just keep going to school, so they had education, too.

MNM: Okay, what did you do to help support your family during the time you lived in the camp? While you lived in the camp, what did you do to help your family?

OV: I stayed in the camp, you just did the embroidery all the time, then sold to get twenty some baht, so you went to buy one vegetable to cook for everyone to eat.

Then you went back to start some to do again. You did it like this only, sew, and sew, your hands were cut from sewing.

MNM: You sold to the Thai is that right?

OV: We sold to Thai only.

MNM: So there were no other jobs for you to do, is that right?

OV: There were no other jobs like this country?

We always did embroidery so...the people that were not lazy, they would go to dig... some of the grass root, then make a small garden then put on soil, so when it grow up then you bundle them and sell it.

So got three of them to sell.

MNM: Okay, when you stayed in the camp, about the women and men, which life was harder, the women's life or the men's life?

OV: When we lived in that camp, it was very hard, the same way for everyone because the men were also doing embroidery, too.

MNM: The men sewed, too, is it for real?

OV: The men did embroidery for real.

MNM: Were they good at embroidery, too?

OV: Always made embroidery, Kong made over ten pieces of embroidery. He sent it to sell in this country.

MNM: Right, that was something, men never did any embroidery right?

OV: Yes, it's because we just stayed so much only, and there was no way to earn money, so doing embroidery with the women, they then get paid fifteen baht—seven or eight baht can buy—so one baht can buy a bag of red water, the real red one to drink.

MNM: Oh...yes...

OV: The sun was very hot, so one baht can get a little papaya or something like that, to eat with a bowl of rice, too. Then the men and the teenagers would just do the embroidery for that.

MNM: Right. You mentioned earlier that there was a school in the camp, too, is it right?

OV: We had it, too, had school, had (Vi-Ha) a church, too.

MNM: Yes...so the learning was free, or did you have to pay money?

OV: For free only.

MNM: Yes...so they did not push everyone to go learn right?

OV: They did not push at all. They just said that they have openings for school. They did the announcement only. There was a very loud speaker. So they announced that, at this time, there will be open registration for school in this house and this house.

Whoever would like to learn, they will teach about—how many hours for the adult. So when it was time to teach the teenagers, then the kids would be in this hour exactly.

MNM: So you studied Hmong, Laos...

OV: Studied Laos, Thai.

MNM: Yes, so who were the teachers?

OV: They were Thai teachers also.

Some of the Hmong people who had good education, they used to teach, too.

MNM: So did you go to learn, too?

OV: Uh!...I did not go, work hard on the embroidery then, did not go at all...

MNM: So did you want to go too?

OV: At that time, you forget about going to school, because you are too old then, had nothing beneficial for learning it.

MNM: Oh! Okay.

OV: So did not learn it, if I had learned, I would be good already.

MNM: Okay, when you lived in the camp, what do you think about people. Were they respected differently because they were women or men?

OV: When I lived in the camp, for women and men, if a woman knows how support then the men respect that woman.

MNM: I see.

OV: So if the women is lazy, and did not know how support, then they did not respect that women. So if a husband knows how to make a good life then they also look at him as an important person, too.

MNM: I see.

OV: If a husband could not support his family, then that can mean that, that husband is not respected too then.

MNM: That's right, yes, your time in the camp looked like that. But it seems like before you said that, when you lived in Laos, it seemed like men did not quite respect women right?

At the time that we lived over there, they still did the same, or a little bit different?

OV: At the time we lived in the camp, there was no farming, the qualities men used to be a leader in the past was left in Laos already then.

MNM: Okay, so it seems like men cared more about the women then?

MNM: It depended on who was older.

OV: When we came to this country, then women have more seniority, too.

So men cannot do anything at all then...

MNM: Okay, why did your family make the decision to come to this country?

OV: Because we had no country to live in then, had no place to go live so, no way to go, then we finally said we had to come.

MNM: So, you did not want to come at all, right?

OV: I did not want to come at all.

MNM: So you lived in the camp for fifteen years, because you wanted to go back to Laos?

OV: We lived there waiting for our country so that we could go back to Laos.

MNM: Oh! By the time you made the decision, it seems like the Thai did not want to provide funding anymore, in Laos nothing happened, so you could do nothing at all, right?

OV: It was like that, so we made the decision to come, then my husband went back to Laos. He died in Laos, too. That was when our children, living in the United States, did not let me stay there anymore.

MNM: Oh, so at the time he was still living, your husband was still alive right, but before you came to this country, he went back to the border of Laos, then he died there. That was what happened before you came to this country, is that right?

OV: Yes, he passed away, then we had to come, if he did not die, we would not have come.

MNM: If he died, then there was no one there to take care of you, is that right?

OV: Yes.

MNM: Okay, how old were you, when you came to this country?

OV: I was born in May. This December, the end of one year and starting of the new year.

MNM: Yes.

OV: Then I celebrate the New Year only. So there are some things that are important for the Hmong, seems like age is not important, they did not care how old they are.

MNM: So what is important for them?

OV: For the Hmong people...

MNM: Celebrating the New Year, children getting married, right?

OV: Things like that, some women get pregnant, they just say that, they got pregnant in this month, seem like this month, day five or six, they did not know the date at all...

MNM: Yes.

OV: So you just keep waiting until it gets back to that month then go deliver.

MNM: Yes.

OV: So even they did not know the exact date, but they can tell by the Moon in the sky that today is the first day, second day, third day, fourth day, fifth day like that.

MNM: So 15, 16, 17 is the New Year.

OV: They did not know how to say, the first date, second date....

MNM: Yes, (that is right)

OV: So there was no education then, Hmong did not have any samples...

Back then there were a few leaders, each year they came to register.

So they asked, this village's leader, this year, how many more children did your people have, then how many more daughter-in-laws, they must come to register people. They asked them what were their single names, and the husband would say that, don't even use the single names, so embarrassing.

Use along with the husband's name, it's not like this country. In this country even when you are too old, they still call you by your name.

MNM: Yes, that is right.

OV: Never call with the husband's name, that's very good.

MNM: So when you got to this country, what was the easiest and fastest thing for you to learn?

OV: Oh, when we got to this country, I could learn nothing fast at all! I just brought the children over so they could go learn English. I am an old woman, so if their welfare comes on time, welfare sent money to you then that is the best thing.

MNM: So did you learn any English or learned how to drive, anything like that?

OV: I never learned it, I just went to learn a little bit, so I know how to dial the phone.

I learned only the numbers, so I can read the numbers on the telephone. The seven, the five, the six, so I know all the numbers on the telephone only, then...

MNM: Yes, that is an important thing, so that you can make phone calls to talk with other people.

OV: These are your people, if you need the phone numbers we will tell you, you write the numbers, it is this, and this. If you can do that, it would have been great.

MNM: So that is one thing you know already then.

OV: Yes.

MNM: What are the other things you had learn?

OV: Oh...in this country, I could not learn other things at all, I just know how to dial the telephone only.

MNM: Yes, that is very nice. What was the hardest thing for you to learn?

OV: English is the hardest to learn.

MNM: That is right.

OV: I can't learn any at all!

MNM: You speak English and write it, too, right?

OV: It is very difficult.

If you speak your language to an American, it is also hard for them, too.

MNM: Yes, okay, what skills helped you to adapt faster to your new life in this country?

OV: Nothing could help the new life in this country, if your children go to school and they know how to drive, they can help support you.

MNM: I see, so when you came to this country, some ideas or some things you learned very fast to support your life is what?

OV: What I learned very fast to support your life, that was driving, learned how to drive only.

If you know how to drive, and you want to eat something, then you can go get it. If you don't know how to drive, then you cannot go anywhere at all.

MNM: Okay, so how about the driving, who taught you how to drive, so that you know how to drive?

OV: There are those people who have already been in school. They received their licenses from the American already, so they come to do more training.

MNM: So the American taught them right?

OV: Yes, Americans are the ones that taught them.

MNM: So do they have any relatives that can teach them how to drive a car and teach them English?

OV: If you have any relatives that really love and care for you, then they will try to teach, but the ones that do not have, they said, next time, and say that you go to the Americans only, so you paid.

MNM: So the skills in Laos, the cultural ways, and the ideas of knowing how to do things back in Laos, those did not help you in this country, or did they?

OV: It can help some, helps a little bit like English, I already knew it over there before coming, this I can use only.

MNM: I see, how about the things you knew. Like how to do farming, how to do embroidery, how to make a living, things like that. Did it help you in this country, too?

OV: Those can help if you can make money from it, it can help, too.

MNM: I see, do you think that women's lives in this country are much better then over there?

OV: I think that in this country it is much better, but it is much harder for our older people, too.

MNM: So who is it easy for?

OV: It is easy for the young people.

MNM: Why is it difficult for the older people then?

OV: The older ones can't drive.

MNM: Okay, so if you are older, then it is difficult because you do not know how to drive, right?

OV: Yes.

MNM: But do you think life in this country is better for women, is it like—back in Laos, they did not respect women, seems like it was very hard for them, living in America, it is much better for the women, right?

OV: In this country if it is good, then it's good only when the women are younger....

MNM: Only for the young ones.

OV: Right...Our older people always worry a lot.

MNM: Right, okay, they worry very much. So the younger women, what can they do in this country that they cannot do over in Laos?

OV: In this country, they are young so they are strong and can work for a living. In this country, they are young, they also know how to speak the language, know how to drive a car, so it is not so hard for them.

MNM: I see. A little while ago I asked you that in the country of Laos, were there any women leaders, how about in America, are there any women leaders?

OV: In Laos we did not have them. There were only housewives in your family only, but in this country, there are some.

There are those women that do have education, that work in the office as a typist, do have equal rights along with the men.

So it is like you do have the right to sit with the men.

MNM: Yes, do you think that this country is your homeland?

OV: This country, I say it is only for Americans.

MNM: Only the Americans right, so which country is your homeland?

OV: Our country is Laos.

MNM: I see, if right now they allowed the people to go back to the country of Laos, would you go?

OV: If they open the country and they allowed people to go back to your own country, then I am going.

MNM: So you would go, right?

OV: Yes.

MNM: So what if your children do not go with you?

OV: If they do not go, they can stay by themselves.

I can go by myself.

MNM: Oh! Did you become a U.S. citizen?

OV: No.

MNM: So do you want to be a U.S. citizen?

OV: I do want to, but I don't know how to.

MNM: Oh! But it seems like—okay, so did you go with them. If you have not become a U.S. citizen then you cannot vote, is it right?

What do you think about the Hmong that go and challenge with the Americans to become a leader in this country?

OV: I do not know why Hmong go and challenge with the Americans, the Hmong do not have a country.

MNM: So because of that, do you think that it is good, if the Hmong that have completed school, they go to challenge with the Americans to become a leader?

OV: But I think if you have a country, then it is good, but you do not have a country?

So you just do it only, the American will not respect you.

MNM: Okay, do you hear and know about the things announced in this world?

OV: I heard it, too.

MNM: So did you hear news from the radio or from the newspaper?

OV: I never have had education so I just hear news from the radio only.

MNM: Okay, was it about the same as the way you heard of the war that was in Laos? How did you hear about it, so you knew what to do?

OV: I did not know what happened, just know why your country is like that, so the war just started, then lost the country, then came to work in this country only.

MNM: Okay, what do you think about when you listen to the radio and you hear about the country. That they are doing something like war, what do you think?

OV: When you hear, you think that if only the Americans can go help so that you can have a country to live in. See if the Laotian can divide the land, so you have your own land to live on like in the past.

MNM: When lived in Laos, was there anyone you respected the most?

OV: Yes, I had respect for the leaders.

MNM: So who were those Hmong leaders?

OV: They were only the Hmong leaders.

MNM: So what are their names?

OV: Because you do not have education, so you just know that it is the city council, the mayor, the governor, then the war leader, the soldier's captain only.

MNM: Okay when you live in this country, do you see the women's way of being a leader? What is the difference?

OV: The women's way of being a leader, that has changed a lot for women, but I do not know, it is not my country, so what can it be.

MNM: Okay, when you live in this country, women have the right to do things different then when living in Laos and in Thailand, back then they did not have the right to do things?

OV: Women that live in this country, women have equal rights with the men, if anything goes wrong then women will call the police.

MNM: Oh, that is right, so you mean like the Americans—

OV: The Americans also give women more rights.

MNM: Okay, so do you think that it is a good way or is it not a good way?

OV: I say one thing is good, one thing is not good.

MNM: Okay, so why is there good and bad?

OV: Because this is your husband, you also have children, but still you can call the police to come over, so you can't talk it out...the children, then you still put your husband in jail.

MNM: Okay, so sometimes the men say that is not good, is that right?

OV: Yes.

MNM: So do you see that Hmong women's education can help our Hmong in the house, what can they do?

OV: Hmong women help support their lifestyle, and they can help out to do some good things, too.

MNM: Okay, so then, they then want to do something outside the home, so they help the Hmong communities, and some other communities?

OV: They do help, too, some of them. They are related, so they support each other.

MNM: Yes, okay.

OV: So they help and those that are not related, they do not help each other.

MNM: But all of the Hmong women, do we do some things that is not in the house, but outside to help the communities?

OV: Some of the women do help, too, do help the elders, help the low-income people, but when they help, the Americans must help, too, so they will help.

MNM: They can help them, so they go another step, so they can help, is that right?

OV: Not that they just want to help, it is the American way to help, then the Americans support them, too.

MNM: Okay, you mean our Hmong, do we have a time, do we ever go out to help someone else, some people that are just Hmong, same as we always help our relatives, our cousins, do we have a time that we just go to help non-relatives?

OV: Sometimes if people believe in that, then they help.

MNM: Oh! How about the ones that are not believers?

OV: The ones that do not believe, they don't help.

MNM: Okay, you mean the people that believe in god, they can go out to help other communities?

OV: Yes, so that is why they have the communities help each other. If someone gets sick then everybody comes.

MNM: Not to mention all, not just relatives, but related in the spirit, is that right?

OV: The ones that believe.

MNM: Okay, thank you.

Hmong Women's Action Team Oral History Project
Minnesota Historical Society

Ong Vang Xiong

Interviewer (I): Koj lub npe hluas nkauj yog hu li cas?

Ong Vang (O): Oo, hmoob xeem vaj.

I: Ces koj ho los yuav txiv ntawm cov hmoob xeem dab tsi?

O: Hais yuav tib tug xwv los hais yuav ob tug?

I: Koj yuav pes tsawg tus maj?

O: Kuv yuav ob tug laiv...

I: Ob tug lov, es tus thaum...

O: Tus thib ib yog txiv hmoob Vwj.

I: Hos tus thib ob?

O: Tus thib ob yog txiv hmoob Muas.

I: Um, tam sim no koj muaj pes tsawg xyoo lawm?

O: Kuv muaj 50, uas niam no 4 xyoos.

I: Es koj twb, koj yuav tus txiv hmoob Vwj ntawd thaum twg lawm nab, thaum koj muaj pes tsawg xyoo?

O: Tsi paub li.

I: Thaum tseem nyob teb chaws Nplog xwb puas yog?

O: Nyob teb chaws Nplog, nyob Moos Nyaj.

I: Es ua cas rau tus txiv ntawd? Nws mob los cas?

O: Tus txiv ntawd ces, peb twb khiav lawm ces nyab laj txhom tau lawm xwb.

I: Ces tsis pom li lawm xwb, ces yus yeej tsis paub hais tias ua cas rau lawm no lov?

O: Ces lawv hais tias meskas txhom lawv, tau lawv 5 leeg diam nev, ces lawv hais tias peb cov txiv mas nyab laj txhom lawm xwb yeej tsi tuag li no, ces lawv yeej tsi pub peb yuav txiv li ces tsis pub peb tham hmoob tau 10 xyoo nkaus.

I: Oh!

O: Ces lawv hais tias lub teb chaws tiaj tus ces yuav los no ces peb tuaj kiag rau Thaib teb ces cov hmoob nyab laj hais tias peb cov txiv yeej tsis los lawm tiag, xyov lawv txhom tau rau nram uas.

Niam no Naj Hiab, qab tsev thuj ces lawv muab tua tas lawm no...

I: Um.

O: Ces hmoob Vwj thiaj muab tso plig kiag ces peb thaj mam yuav txiv.

I: Um, es koj los yuav tus txiv hmoob Muas ntawd thaum twg lawm?

O: Yuav thaum peb khia los txog Thaib teb.

I: Es koj puas nco xyoo ab tsi mab?

O: Oh...xyoo 80 los xyoo ab tsi no...

I: 1980 lov?

O: Uh hm.

I: Okay, koj muaj pes tsawg tus me nyuam tam sim no nav?

O: Tam sim no tus txiv hmoob Muas ces muaj 2 tug xwb.

I: Hos tus txiv hmoob Vwj nev?

O: Tus txiv hmoob Vwj ces muaj 3 tug xwb.

I: Ces 5 tug?

O: Hum.

I: Um, koj puas tau mus kawm ntawv qib siab?

O: Kuv nim mus kawm li os.

I: Ces yeej tsi tau mus kawm ntawv li ntag puas yog?

O: Ws tsis tau kawm ntawv li os.

I: Thaum nyob Thaib teb peb tej laus yeej tsi tau kawm lov?

O: Tsis kawm hlo li, ua teb noj nkaus.

I: Nej tuaj txog teb chaws no koj puas kawm ntawd maj?

O: Tuaj txog teb chaws no ces mus lias mus kawm kawm, ces kuv lam pais kawm kawm.

I: Lov, tam sim no koj puas ua hauj lwm os?

O: Kuv tsis ua li os, kuv laus laus lawm ces kuv ua tsis taus lawm.

I: Um koj hais 1 xyos no yus cov nyiaj ho npaum li cas, ntawm koj tus kheej xwb?

O: Kuv ces, kuv yeej tsis tau nyiaj li, es kuv tus ntxhais ntawd tos kuv tuaj passport xwb ces, kuv nrog kuv 2 tug me nyuam noj xwb. Es peb cov niam tub laib \$500 xwb es.

I: Uh hm, ib, ib xyos pes tsawg pua?

O: Ib hlis, ib hlis tau \$500, ces lub niam no ib hlis ntuj xwb ces lawv muab kuv tus hlob txiav lawm, ces tshuav kuv tus yau thiab kuv xwb. Ces wb laib \$400 lawm xwb.

I: Um, tam sim no koj, um, koj nyob koj tus kheej, koj nyob nrog koj cov mes nyuam los yog koj nyob nrog leej twg?

O: Kuv nyob nrog kuv 2 tug me nyuam.

I: Um, hm, uh koj tus txiv twb tas sim neej thaum twg lawm?

O: Oh!...tas sim neej rau xyoo 1977 los xyov thaum twg es...

I: Hum...87 pob...87 pob...

O: Um, tsi yog um, kuv tuaj yog tuaj xyoo 90...2...los xyoo 93 ntawd pob...

I: 92 los...ces koj tus txiv, koj tam sim nyuam qhuav tas ces koj nrog cov me nyuam nyob xwb puas yog?

O: Uh, hm, ces peb thiaj khiav tuaj teb chaws no lawm xwb.

I: Ces nej twb tuaj teb chaws meskas no tau pes tsawg xyoo lawm maj?

O: Ntshe peb twb tuaj tau 4 xyoos lawm pob.

I: 4 xyoos xwb?

O: Peb tuaj xyoo 90...peb tuaj xyoo 85 los li cas naj...

I: 95 vob...

O: 95.

I: Ces nej twb tuaj xyoo 1995 lawm puas yog?

O: hum.

I: Uh hm, hos koj niam koj txiv yug koj qhov twg?

O: Kuv niam kuv txiv yug kuv puag teb chaws Moos Nyaj.

I: Puag thaum... tim teb chaws Nplog lov hm hm.

O: Ws.

I: Um, koj ho yog hmoob dab tsi nab?

O: Kuv yog hmoob Vaj.

I: Tab sis hmoob ntsuab hmoob dawb los?

O: Hmoob dawb os.

I: Hmoob dawb lov?

O: Hum.

I: Hos koj ho los yuav tus txiv hmoob ab tsi?

O: Yuav tus txiv hmoob Vwj yog hmoob dawb thiab xwb, ces tus txiv hmoob Vwj tuag ces mam mus yuav tus txiv hmoob Muas thiaj yog hmoob ntsuab, hmoob lees.

I: Uh hm, koj kev ntseeg yog li cas?

O: Hais kev ntseeg raws Vaj Tswv los yog kev ntseeg uas yus rov qab ntseeg yus tus kheej maj?

I: Kev ntseeg Vaj Tswv thiab koj, ib yam koj ua txoj kev cai qub los kev cai tshiab lawm naj?

O: Hais, kuv li kuv ua kev cai tshiab lawm, kuv tuaj txog teb chaws no tsi muaj neeg ua neeb ua yaig ces kuv nyuab nyuab siab, ces kuv mus ntseeg kev cai tshiab, ces kuv tsi nyuaj siab lawm.

I: Um, koj puas tau mus kawm ntawv, thaum koj tseem, uas, yog tus me nyuam ntxhais tsis tau mus yuav txiv ntawd naj?

O: Tsi tau li os. Nyob teb chaws Nplog twb tsis tau tuav txog tus xaum sau ntawv.

I: Uh hum..hum...okay, thaum koj tseem yog me nyuam yaus koj cov dej num nyob hauv um tsev yog dab tsi?

O: Yus niam yus txiv pais ua hauj lwm, ces yus tuav txhuv, cheb tsev, ev dej, zom npua qhauv...de zaub npuas...

I: Puas zov me nyuam tej maj?

O: Zov me nyuam thiab mas.

I: Uh hm.

O: Zom zeb tuav cos, cheb tsev...

I: Es koj yog tug ntxhais, koj puas tau ua paj ntaub tej ntawd thiab maj?

O: Ua los mas. Ua paj ntaub ua txhua tsav txhua yam, ua nkauj nyab....

I: Uh hum...hum...

O: Ua me nyuam uh ha ha...

I: Hos puas muaj tej yam kev pab uas koj ua pab zej zog, kwv tij nej tsa sawv daws?

O: Tsis muaj, yus pais pab yus tej niam laus, tej nyab, tej nus zov me nyuam...tom tej teb thiab.

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

O: Yus xyaum ua ntej tshaj plaws, ces yog yus xyaum ua paj ntaub.

I: Es thaum ntawd, ua paj ntaub ntawd, pes tsawg xyoo xwb lawv twb qhia koj ua paj ntaub lawm nab?

O: Yus nyuam qhuav, twb tsis tau txawj chob koob ces yus niam lawv twb qhia yus lawm ne.

I: Uh, hm, es qhov paj ntaub ntawd, nws ho tseem ceeb npaum li cas, es cov ntxhais yuav tsi, sawv daws kawm tauj maj?

O: Es lawv tias yus yuav ua paj ntaub kom yus hnav, yus yog me ntxhais kom yus txawj ua paj ntaub tsam yus pais yuav txiv lawm ces tsi txawj ua paj ntaub, ces luag tsis nyiam yus.

I: Um okay, uh yog cov, yog cov ntxhais ntawm koj ho kawm lawm, niam txiv ho qhia ab tsi rau koj thiab?

O: Thiab niam txiv qhia paj ntaub, niam txiv qhia ua mov noj, ua niam no zaub qab, zaub tsuag, ua mov es kom mov siav...es hau zaub tej, cheb vaj cheb tsev, ev dej, pub qaib pub npua, ntxhua ris ntxhua tsho...

I: Uh hm, um thaum koj ho yog hluas nkauj lawm, nej tej kev mus ua si kom lom zem ho yog dab tsi?

O: Yus tiav hluas nkauj lawm ces, yus tej viv ncaus thiab yus pais sib pauv zog ua teb. Ces hmoob tuaj caum yus pais ua teb...

I: Uh hum..hum..

O: Ces ua teb tsaus ntuj los tsev, rov qab mus sib pauv zog ua teb. Koj ua, nrog kuv ua ib hnuv kuv daim, mus ua ib hnuv koj daim no xwb.

I: Um, uh...hm...hm...es thaum es nej, nej txoj kev tham hluas nkauj hluas nraug ne, nej tham coob coob los nej tham ib tug xwb maj?

O: Ruab hnuv ces tham coob coob...thaum tsaus ntuj ces yus tham yog nws tuaj ces yog yus nyiam tiag tiag ces yus mam tham tiag tiag yus mam teb tiag tiag xwb.

I: Es yus tsis nyiam nws no ces yus tsis teb lawv xwb?

O: Hum, lawv los hu nraum zoov ces yog yus tsis nyiam lawv ces yus tsi teb lawv xwb.

I: Uh hm.

O: Ces yog tus yus nyiam ces yus teb xwb, es yuav paub naj.

I: Txawm yog mas es koj tham ib tug xwb los koj tham ntau ntau tus maj?

O: Tham tej tus yus nyiam xwb tiag, tsaus ntuj lawm naj, hos yog ruab hnuv mas sawv daws nyob ntawd, tim ntsej tim muag, ces tham tag rho txhua tus, hais lus rau sawv daws.

I: Uh hm, hum hum okay, thaum koj tseem hluas, tej yam uas koj xav tau thiab ntshaw rau koj tus kheej thaum koj tiav niam lawm ho yog dab tsi?

O: Thaum yus, yus hluas mas yus yeej ntshaw ua zam kom tshiab tshaj. thiab kom yus mas zoo tshaj, tab sis yog txom txom nyem es tsi tshua muaj ris tsho hnav, tej yam kom yus nyiam tshaj...

I: Uh hm..

O: Yus coj nyiaj, tsis muaj khau rau ua hluas nkauj...

I: Uh hm...

O: Tseem muab niag txhuam hniav dai ntawm ciaj dab...hi..hi..huuuu...hi...hi...

I: Hm hm...

O: Thaum ntawd txom txom nyem es yus tau tej tus txhuam hniav yus tseem muab tus txhuam hniav khawm ntawm yus lub niag xauv no...

I: Uh hm...hos koj puas ntshaw lwm yam rau koj tus kheej maj?

O: Es yeej ntshaw kawg nkaus li los tsi muaj li. Es txawm yog twb ntshaw ntshaw los thiaj muab tus txhuam hniav coj, thiab cia muab lub tsho dawb hnav ces cov neeg ua thab ham es pov pov cov kaus, ces tseem muab cov niag ntaub kaus coj los xaws, es xaws 2 lub niag ntsej no rau qhov nov es kom yus hnav lub tsho hmoob es kom pom lub ntsej dawb dawb xwb...

I: Ces ntshaw, ntshaw kom yus muaj khaub ncaws hnav, muaj khau nav...

O: Um, yus ntshaw kom yus muaj khau, muaj ris tsho, tab sis yeej tsis rau khau kiag, tej tus uas muaj kawg nkaus mas dhia qaib es rau nkawm khau xwb.

I: Uh hm..

O: Tej tus mas twb tsi rau khau...

I: Uh hm...okay, poj niam tej hauj lwm yog dab tsi?

O: Poj niam tej hauj lwm ce yog niam no ua mov noj, ua tshais ua hmo...ntxuav twj ntxuav tais, tu vaj tus tsev, kho txaj kho chaw, pub qaib pub npua, cheb qab vag tsib taug, mus de no zaub npuas xwb.

I: Uas, hm hos thaum, ws, thaum ua tsov ua rog ntawd naj, poj niam cov hauj lwm nws pauv li cas los yog nws tsi pauv li, ib yam, yeej ib yam xwb lov?

O: Thaum ua rog ces tsis, thaum ua kiag rog es ua thab ham lawm ces nyob hoom ho tuaj pov txhuv, me khoom noj khoom haus los muaj, me ris tsho zoo los muaj ces thaum ntawd mas haj yam ho nyob xwb lawm, ces tus ua zoo los ua zoo kawg nkaus li lawm thiab...

I: Es thaum...

O: Hos nej cov txom nyem ces tsis muaj ab tsi lawm thiab.

I: Thaum ua tsov ua rog ntawd, nej ho tsis ua teb lawm lov?

O: Thaum ua tsov ua rog ntawd ces ua thiab mas, tab sis cov uas no muaj tub mus ua thab ham lauj, muaj txiv mus ua thab ham ces lawv noj mov thab ham xwb.

I: Uh...

O: Ces lawv tsis ua lawm thiab ne, lawv tsuas ua me me....cog ib nyuag kawg nplej txua, kom tau ua kua dis tej xwb.

I: Uh hm...uh hm...hos thaum ua tsov ua rog ntawd um puas, koj puas um, mus nrog lawv good care tej ntawd thiab muag ub muag no?

O: Mus ev, ua muag ub muag no...peb muag thiab mas, peb mus muag pepsi, peb mus muag qhob noom ntawm tej lub niag me nyuam rooj rau thab ham noj xwb.

I: Uh hm, hauv koj tsev neeg, poj niam kev txiav txim yog li cas xwb?

O: Hauv kuv tsev neeg poj niam ces kuv niam kuv txiv, kuv tej nyab tej nus ces nyias khwv noj khwv haus, xav kom nyias, koj zoo txaus koj kuv zoo txaus kuv thiab xwb.

I: Uh hm, tab sis hauv ntawm yus tsev neeg ntawd, tus twg yog tus txiav txim siab hais tias yuav ua teb, lub sij haum no yuav ua li no, peb tsev neeg peb yuav tsum mus ua li no?

O: Kuv tus nyab thiab tus nus, kuv tus hlob.

I: Um, uh hm..

O: Es txiav txim siab mus ua kom muaj liaj muaj teb, mus ua kom muaj teb yeeb teb npleg, kom muaj qaib muaj npua, muaj nyuj muaj twm.

I: Tus hlob nyob hauv tsev neeg hauv ntawd puas yog?

O: Tus hlob nyob hauv peb tsev neeg.

I: Uh hm, okay, hos ntawd, um, yus, um, pawg kwv tij ntawd ne ho, leej twg ho txiav txim siab rau pawg kwv tij ntawd?

O: Pawg kwv tij ntawd ces yog kuv tus txiv hlob thiab niam hlob. Kuv tus, niam no, um...niam pog txiv yawg, peb ib co neej tsa ntawd coob tus thiab mas.

I: Hos ntawd zej zog ntawd ne, leej twg ho txiav txim siab rau, txiav txim siab rau zej zog?

O: Txiav txim siab rau zej zog ntawd ces yog cov txiv zej txiv zos, cov nus, cov uas txawj ntse es lawv paub ub paub no, es hais tias lub zos no peb nyiam ua li cas. Poj niam nyiam noj ib cim tsiab peb caug yuav ua li cas. Peb yuav noj tsiab li cas, ces cov txiv neej yog cov thawj coj.

I: Uh uh hm, puag thaum um...theum nyob teb chaws Nplog ntawd puas muaj tej tug thawj coj es yog poj niam maj?

O: Um, peb yav neej thaum ub, poj niam yeej tsis tau ua thawj coj li, poj niam tsuas tau ua tus niam tsev.

I: Yeej tsis muaj cov poj niam ua thawj coj li nav puas yog?

O: Wb tsi muaj cov poj niam ua thawj coj, es poj niam yuav sab laj tau ib yam ab tsi li. Poj niam ces yog ua tus niam tsev es yog muaj puas noj ces tus niam tsev ntho...es kom tej tub tej ntxhais, seb yuav noj li cas, ua li cas es ntxuav twj ntxuav taig, rau mov kom puv tais puv choo xwb.

I: Um, uh hm.

O: Ntawd yog qhov haib tshaj plaws lawm.

I: Um, uh hm... yog, uh thaum nyob teb chaws Nplog tid, poj niam puas mus kawm ntawv thiab maj?

O: Poj niam es nim yuav muaj kawm ntawv li os.

I: Uh hm.

O: Txiv neej twb tsis muaj...peb...lub zos es kawg qhov hais tias no ib tug toj xeem ua ntawv tuaj es twb tsi muaj neeg txawj saib, es tseem pais li ib....tag kig kev, es thiaj muaj ib tug neeg txawj saib daim ntawv ntawd.

I: Oh...uh hm, koj hais hauv zos ces yeej tsi muaj cov txiv neej...tsi txawj ntawv li thiab?

O: Yeej ib... pawg txiv neej, yeej tsi muaj ib tug txawj ntawv li.

I: Oh...umm, yog.

O: Ces nom sau ntawv tuaj ces, tsi paub saib, ces tseem pais li ib tag kis kev pais saib.

I: Okay, hos poj niam kev pab txhawb, um, tsev neeg yog li cas?

O: Poj niam txhawb pab nqa ces, poj niam nthe ua noj ua haus, thiab yug me nyuam pab xwb.

I: Uh hm...okay, um ces cov poj niam ces ib yam puag ta koj piav: yus ua paj ntaub, ua teb, es puas muaj tej tug poj niam ua lag ua luam thiab maj?

O: Ws yav thaum i ces twb tsis muaj ua lag ua luam li es. Peb thaum peb npab npab nauj... tu tau qaib tau npua los yeej tsis tau muag li...

I: Niam no xwb...

O: Ws, hm niam yog koj khwv tau yaj yeeb ces ib...xyoos ces, ib co nplog ev ntaub tuaj ces koj yuav tau ib thooj niag ntaub dub coj los xaws ib leeg ib ce xwb.

I: Uh, hm, uh hm.

O: Ces twb yog zoo kawg li.

I: Uh hm, okay.

O: Hos tej tus uas daim teb yeeb tsis zoo ces twb tsi tau, um niam no ntaub hnav thiab.

I: Okay, ntawm koj tsev neeg ntawd, leej twg yog tus los npaj txog tej kev muaj tub muaj ki?

O: Yog kuv niam thiab kuv tus nyab, tus nus xwb.

I: Uh hm, hos ntawd yus thiab yus tus txiv no ne, leej twg yog tus los npaj txog tej kev muaj tub muaj ki, es hais tias yuav tsum muaj npaum li no tug?

O: Yus tus txiv thiab yus, 2 leeg niam txiv txiav txim siab hais: wb yuav npaj tsawg tus me nyuam, tsawg tus tub tsawg tus ntxhais xwb.

I: Es yus tus txiv yeej nrog yus tham tib si tso lov?

O: Yus tus txiv yeej nrog yus tham tib si, ces yus tus hais tias ua ib si neej no yus yog ib tug poj niam lawm yus yuav tsum yug kom tag me nyuam es fab lwm tiam yus thiaj tau ua txiv neej, es coob npaum cas los yug.

I: Es yuav ua cas muaj lub sij hawm es tas me nyuam maj?

O: He...he... ces yug tsuas nyob ntawm hmoov xwb.

I: Yeej tsi muaj lub sij hawm tas me nyuam li pob...poj niam naj?

O: Muaj thiab mas.

I: Txawm yog mas, tas thaum ntawv ces twb muaj 20/30 tus me nyuam lawm ne.

O: Hwv...muaj lawm mos, yug yug laus laus los tseem yug....

I: Es li ntawd sab rau yus heev....

O: Sab rau yus oh...nyob teb chaws Nplog yug me nyuam sab hos, yus ev yus, noj yus mis.

I: Uh hm.

O: Me nyuam noj yus mis 2 zog xwb ces yus tshaib plab kiag.

I: Es yog yus hais tias yus tsi xav yuav me nyuam ntxiv lawm ne, yus tus txiv ho hais li cas maj?

O: Es yus hais tias yus tsi xav yuav lawm no los luag tias tsi yuav lawm los yeej tau tab sis fab lwm tiam koj tseem rov qab los yug me nyuam thiab. Tshuav ib tug xwb los yeej rov qab los yug tag mam rov qab mus ua txiv neej.

I: Oh...ces hais tias yog yus yug tag nrho cov me nyuam no ces lwm zaug yus thiaj tau ua txiv neej no lov?

O: Aws...lwm zaug ces yus los ces yus los ua txiv neej lawm no xwb.

I: Okay, um, yog yus tsis xav yuav me nyuam ntxiv lawm no yus puas muaj tej yam yus ua, yus noj tau, los yog yus ua tau kom txhob muaj me nyuam maj?

O: Hum...peb nyob teb chaws Nplog ntshe tsis muaj li os.

I: Es cov hmoob thaud nyob teb chaws Nplog ntawd, puas muaj lub tswv yim hais tias yuav tsi muaj yuav 4 tug 5 tug me nyuam xwb?

O: Nim yuav muaj lub tswv yim li os tej tug mas tseem hais tias me nyuam tsawg, tseem mus yuav tus niam yau ntxiv kom yug coob no hos.

I: Ha...hiv, hiv. ces tab sis puag ta koj twb hais tias ntawm yus thiab yus tus txiv mas yus yeej sib tham hais tias seb yuav pes tsawg tus me nyuam lawm ne tab sis.....

O: Yus, muaj tej tus ces hais li ntawd mas tab sis muaj tej tus mas hais tias: yus no mas yus yeej yug kom coob coob.... Es kom yus sob me nyuam ua tau ib zog kiag no los mos, ces lawv tsi pub txuag poj niam li ne.

I: Uh, hm es yus yug coob coob li ntawd lawv puas pab yus... tu cov me nyuam thiab maj?

O: Ub, nyob teb chaws Nplog ces, nyob, koj yug tus me nyuam lub hlis no koj yug ces tab txawm hlais nplej... Ua teb, luaj teb ntov ntoo los koj nyob ib.... hlis xwb os, koj puv hli xwb ces yus, ces yog luag hlub yus hos, yus tu tau qaib npaum li cas yeej muab tua rau yus noj kom yus puv hli, ces vij yog luag hlub yus thiab los mav.

I: Uas zej zog, ib tsev neeg hwm poj niam tshaj yog lub caij twg xwb?

O: Lub caij uas txiv neej ib nyuag nav thwm poj niam ces yog lub caij poj niam los yug tau nws tej tus me nyuam dhia rnees xwb.

I: Uh, hum hum...ces thaum muaj me nyuam ntawd, lawv thiaj li hwm tau yus xwb puas yog?

O: Hwv, thaum muaj me nyuad, ntawv ces lawv thiaj hwm tau yus, hos lawv tus me nyuam quaj los lawv txawm tias "los ntxias me nyuam os...."

I: Ces qhov ntawd, lub sij hawm, es yus tseem ceeb tshaj rau lawv xwb puas yog?

O: Es thiaj tau zaum los zaum, hos yus tus me nyuam kub taub hau los luag thiaj tias "txhob mus ua teb es koj zov me nyuam" ces yus thiaj tau zoo zov tsev.

I: Uh, hm hos thaum yus tsi tau yuav txiv, es yus yog tus ntxhais xwb, puas muaj lub sij hawm uas zej zog los tsev neeg ho hwm yus thiab maj, tus ntxhais xwb naj?

O: Tus ntxhais xwb yeej tsis muaj lub zej zog luag tsis tshwm thiab, tab sis yog thaum twg lawv muaj ib rooj tshoob es lawv tej tub yuav nyab no ces lawv kuj

hwm hais tias yus yog ib tug ntxhais, kom yus mus nrog tus nyab ntawd pais hais tshoob, ces kuj yog b qho zoo thiab los mas.

I: Hum, um thaum muaj li cas luag thiaj li saib tsi taus ib tug poj niam?

O: Xyov kuv tsi paub hais tias, thiab peb, yav thaum I, yav ntuj qub qab lawv tsis tshua, poj niam xyov yog li cas, tsis nav thwm, tam sim no peb tuaj nyob rau meskas teb.

I: Muaj ib lub sij hawm lawv nav nav thwm poj niam xwb, thaum poj niam muaj me nyuam xwb, lwm lub sij hawm ces lawv yeej tsis nav thwm poj niam li lov?

O: Lawv yeej tsi nav thwm li os...

I: Hm hm, thaum koj xav txog, thaum nyob hauv xoom koj nco qab txog dab tsi?

O: Nyob tim xoom Vib Nais los xoom Noom Qhais tej?

I: Um hm.

O: Kuv nco txog kev peb los txog es luag faib zaub faib mov peb noj, thiab peb los poob teb poob chaw, es tej tus kuj txom nyem, tej tus los kuj ho los tau zoo, tus puav thiab.

I: Es lawv faib zaub mov noj, lawv faib li cas xwb?

O: Lawv faib ces, ib tug neeg no ib tug pam thus, ib tug neeg no ib tug nqaij qaib, ib tug neeg no, niam no ib lus tsib (1.5 kg) txhuv xwb.

I: Ces yus muaj neeg npaum cas ces tau npaum li ntawd xwb puas yog?

O: Hwv...

I: Es lawv faib ntawd, ib hlis lawv los...

O: Lawv faib, um, niam no ib vas thiv ib vas thiv xwb.

I: Lawv faib puas txaus yus noj thiab maj?

O: Lawv faib txaus thiab mas, yog lawv faib noj ib vas thiv no ces yus ib leeg lawv faib tsib lus (5 kg), ces ib hnuv ib lus ib hnuv.

I: Um, ces ntawd...

O: Ces yog koj muaj 10 leej neeg tej ntawd, thiab ces niam no laib 10 tawm kis lus (kg) os, 20 kis lus tej hiab ces tau ib nyuag ntav hnab.

I: Okay, um, nej ho nyob hauv xoom tau ntev npaum cas?

O: Peb tuaj nyob rau hauv xoom tid mas tau 15 xyoos lawm os.

I: 15 xyoos nkaus?

O: Hwv...

I: Ua cas nej ho tsis...cas ho nyob ntev es tsi xav tuaj teb chaws no?

O: Tsis xav tuaj teb chaws no, tsis txawj lus, tsis txawj ntawv li tsi xav tuaj.

I: Oh...okay, es cas ho, 15 xyoos tas ho, uas cas ho txiav txim siab tawm tuaj lawm no maj?

O: Es teb chaws Nplog los tsi muaj, hos. Thaib los tsi pub hmoob nyob li lawm ne...

I: Um.

O: Ces lawv tsi yug lawm ne, lawv txiav tu nrho, lawv tsi yug ib khij mov, los lawv tsi yug li lawm ne...

I: Uh hm.

O: Ces lawv yuav kom tuaj txawv teb chaws xwb.

I: Uh hm...uh hm...um tej yam zoo uas nyob hauv xoom, ho yog dab tsi?

O: Tej yam zoo nyob rau hauv xoom ces neej... txog tej ua lawv nyob es taij as xaj xa khoom tuaj rau lawv es, lawv yog tus txais kiag ntawd paj xas xaj, ces lawv mam caim rau sawv daws noj xwb.

I: Es tsam yus, koj hais qhov zoo ces yog qhov ab tsi no?

O: Qhov zoo tshaj plaws nyob hauv ces luag xa tib...niag luv fai...

I: Oh...

O: Tuaj...ob peb luv fais, ob peb luv fai, ces lawv muab cov txiv neej ua nai, ces ib lub as qhas no ib tug nai faib ib pluaj qhov nov, ib tug nai faib xwb.

I: Uh hm.

O: Ces yog qhov zoo heev lawm no.

I: Hos tej qhov, tej yam es tsi zoo nyob hauv xoom hauv, ho yog dab tsi?

O: Tej yam tsi zoo ces muab ces muab tua.

I: Puag ta koj twb piav tias qhov zoo yog qhov lawm xa zaub mov tuaj rau yus noj nav, puas yog?

O: Hm hm.

I: Hos yog thaum koj nco qab txog lub sij hawm ntawd, es yus nyob hauv xoom hauv nav, tej yam es tsi zoo siab, tej yam es tsi zoo rau yus nav, es ho yog dab tsi, ib yam koj xav txog naj?

O: Es tej yam hauv tsi zoo ces ua rau peb nyob ntev lawm, es lawv tsi pub peb nyob lawm, lawv tsi yug peb lawm xwb.

I: Um uh hm yog los mav, uh hm qhov ntawd yog ib qho, rau qhov, lawv puas pub yus mus ua zog tej ntawd es kom tau nyiaj maj?

O: Tsi muaj ua zog li hos.

I: Hm hm.

O: Lawv tsuas pub, um, niam no yus mus cheb Npos Kaus...

I: Ces yus yeej nyob hauv ces yus yeej nyob li nyob xwb naj, puas yog?

O: Nyob li nyob, nyob li nyob, txhuv tuaj ces mus lav txhuv los ua noj...

I: Uh hm.

O: Leej twg tawm xoom los lwv yeej txhom li hos...

I: Lawv tsi pub yus mus ua zog li, puas yog?

O: Tsi pub tawm mus ua zog tsi pub tawm mus sab nraud. Cov hmoob mas yeej tawm mus xawb, nyuag nplooj xyoob nplooj ntoos...uas muaj muaj kaus ntsuag tej, mus lov, yog um thiab pom ces thaib yeej ntes, auv xaum ces auv xaum yeej ntes coj los mas lawv muab nplua lawm, tseem muab kom them li 1...200 nyiaj.

I: Uh hm.

O: Thiab lawv thauj thee tuaj rau yus rauv, yus tseem mus txiav taws los, lawv pom mas lawv tsi zoo siab, lawv tseem muab yus rau txim.

I: Hos lawv, um, hos nyob hauv xoom puas muaj, um, teb rau yus ua ib yam yus lub neej thaum nyob teb chaws Nplog naj?

O: Nim yuav muaj, yus pais ncaws ntawm tej qhov nyuag, tej teb peb nyob tim meskas no mas, es tej nyuag kem nyob ntawm yus tej, ces yog yus ua ces yus ua ib nyuag rub zaub...

I: Hm hm...

O: Tej zaum tsi muaj ab tsi li.

I: Hos yus caw yus tej kwv tij, tej niag neej tsa es thaum I...thaum nyob teb chaws Nplog, es nyob ua ke es los txog Thaib teb no, yus puas tau nrog lawv nyob thiab maj?

O: Yus pom thiab mas, yus pom ib leeg nyob ib lub xoom, los ib leeg nyob ib lub as qhas, yus kuj pom thiab, tab sis nyias yeej nyob nyias, khwv noj khwv haus ces poj niam los nyob hauv lub xoom hauv, ces sib tw ua paj ntaub, ces muab muag rau hmoob thaib, ces no ib daig paj ntaub no, um 10 tawm npaj xwb los yeej ua tas zaj tas zog li.

I: Uh... um hm.

O: Ces yeej txom nyem kev noj kev haus, ces yeej ua paj ntaub xwb, tsi nrhiav kev kawm ntawv li hos. Ib txhia ces txawm txom nyem npaum twg los lawv yeej tsi care li ces, lawv kawm ntawv tas zog ces lawv kuj ho tau ntawv lawm thiab.

I: Okay, um koj ho, koj, koj khwv noj khwv haus li cas los pab koj tsev neeg thaum lub sij hawm es koj nyob hauv xoom hauv?

Koj nyob hauv xoom hauv, koj ho, um, koj ua ua.. yuav ua li cas yus thiaj pab tau yus tsev neeg ua noj ua haus li ntawd naj?

O: Nyob hauv lub xoom hauv ces koj tag zog ua paj ntaub ces muag ib daig paj ntaub tau 20 tawm npaj, ces koj koj mus yuav ib puas zaub los hau rau sawv daws noj xwb.

I: Uh hm uh hm.

O: Ces ho rov qab mus lav dua los ua li no xwb, ua ua mi tes to tas.

I: Koj ua ces koj muag rau cov thiab es ntawd xwb puas yog?

O: Muag rau thaib xwb.

I: Ces yeej tsi muaj lwm yam hauj lwm rau yus ua li lov?

O: Tsi muaj lwm yam hauj lwm li teb chaws no li oj.

I: Uh hm.

O: Yeej ua paj ntaub tej ces... yog cov nquag ces pais khawb... tej nyuag hav nqeeb, ces ua me cub zaub, ces rau chiv, ces ua tau cov nyuag zaub, ces ho muab khi pob nyuag puav muag.

I: Hm hm.

O: Ces tau peb txhwb nyuag ntawd muag.

I: Hm hm, um hais nyob hauv xoom hauv, ws ntawm cov poj niam thiab txiv neej ntawd, lub neej twg thiaj nyuab tshaj es cov poj niam lub neej nyuab tshaj los cov txiv neej lub nyuab tshaj?

O: Peb nyob hauv lub xoom hauv mas, um, yeej nyuab ib yam nkaus li, kawg cov txiv neej ua paj ntaub lawm no mas?

I: Cov txiv neej ua lawm thiab ntag? Oh...es lawv lawv...

O: Txiv neej ua paj ntaub lawm kawg.

I: Lawv keej ua paj ntuab thiab?

O: Yeej ua paj ntaub, kuv tus Koo ua tau muaj 10 tawm daim paj ntaub xa tuaj muag teb chaws no.

I: Lov oh..ho... qhov ntawd yog ib qhov txawv thaum I... txiv neej twb tsi ua paj ntaub ne yom?

O: Txawm yog, es nyob xwb dhau xwb ces ah ha... khwv los tsi tau kev khuv ne ces nrog poj niam ua ua ib daig paj ntaub no tau 15 npaj... 7...8 ...xwb los ua tau ces, ib npaj no mas tau ib hnab dej liab uas cov liab liab i los haus lawm nev.

I: Oh... yog.

O: Ces tshav kub... kub...ces li ntawd, hos ib npaj no ces pais tuav ib nyuag qhov me nyuam qaub li no lawm thiab, ces coj ntxuag ib taig mov ntse lawm thiab no ces cov txiv neej, cov tub hluas los cia li huas ua paj ntaub li lawm thiab ne.

I: Lov...um, puag ta koj hais, muaj kev kawm ntawv nyob hauv xoom hauv thiab lov?

O: Muaj thiab mas, muaj kev kawm ntawv, muaj vis ham ib yam li tias yog church thiab mav.

I: Lov es qhov kev kawm ntawv ntawd, um, pub dawb xwb los yus tau them nyiaj maj?

O: Pub dawb xwb hos.

I: Lov...es lawv yeej tsis yuam sawv daws mus kawm lov?

O: Lawv yeej tsi yuam li as lawv tsuas hais tias muaj qhib yuav kawm ntawv ces lawv tshaj paj taub no xwb. Muaj ib lub paj taub nrov nrov... Ces lawv tshaj paj taub hais tias lub sij hawm no yuav cuv npe kawm ntawv rau lub tsev no.

I: Uh hm.

O: Yog leej twg xav kawm, lawv yuav qhia txog niam no cov laus mas qhia npaum li no os xuab moos. Lub sij hawm no cov hluas mam qhia lub sij hawm no, cov me nyuam yaus kiag mas qhia lub sij hawm no, no nav.

I: Es kawm ntawv hmoob ntawv nplog...

O: Kawm ntawv nplog, kawm ntawv thaib.

I: Lov, es cov nais khu yog leej twg maj?

O: Cov nais khu thaib thiab xwb.

I: Hm.

O: Hos tej tus hmoob ho keej los lawv muab hmoob los qhia thiab xwb mas.

I: Es uas koj puas mus kawm ntawv thiab?

O: Uh...tsi mus hos, khwv khwv ua paj ntaub ces tsis mus li.

I: Es koj puas xav mus maj?

O: Es thaum ntawd ces yus, lawv hais tias pais kawm ntawv lawm ces tsi tau los kav liam os, laus lawm, kawm los tsis zoo qhov twg lawm no nawj.

I: Oh...uh hm.

O: Ces tsis kawm li, yog kawm no txawj lawm thiab mas.

I: Okay thaum koj nyob hauv xoom, koj xav hais tias tib neeg xav saib poj niam thiab txiv neej muaj nuj nqes txawv li cas?

O: Uh... nyob hauv xoom ces poj niam thiab txiv neej, yog tus poj niam twg khwv tau noj ces txiv neej kuj saib tus poj niam ntawd muaj nuj nqi...

I: Hmm.

O: Hos tus poj niam twg tub nkeeg, khwv tsi tau noj ces lawv kuj saib tus poj niam ntawd tsi muaj nuj nqi xwb, hos tus txiv twg ho khwv tau noj los kuj saib tus txiv ntawd tsim txiaj thiab.

I: Hm hm.

O: Hos tus txiv twg tsis tau noj los kuj zoo nkaus tus txiv ntawd tsi yog txiv li lawm thiab xwb hos...

I: Yog yom, uh hm, yus lub sij hawm ntawd ces tej zaum zoo li ntawd xwb tiag. Uh, hm, um, tab sis zoo li puas ta koj hais mas, thaum nyob teb chaws Nplog mas zoo li txiv neej muaj ntsis saib tsi taus poj niam ne.

O: Hwv...

I: Thaum nyob hauv qhov ntawd tsuas zoo ib yam los txawv me ntsis lawm?

O: Thaum nyob hauv xoom hauv ces niam no tsis muaj liaj muaj teb ua, txiv neej tej kev nom kev tswv... uas kev muaj ntsej muaj muag poob tag rau Nplog teb lawm thiab ne.

I: Um, uh hm.

O: Ces zoo nkaus li txiv neej ho ib nyuag rov siab taus poj niam me ntsis lawm thiab...

I: Txo hwj chim me ntsis hu..hu...uh hm hm...

O: Ces tuaj kiag rau teb chaws lub teb chaws no ces poj niam ho haj yam muaj xiv lawm thiab.

I: Uh hm.

O: Ces txiv neej cia li ua tsi tau ab tsi lawm thiab.

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

O: Es tsis muaj teb muaj chaw nyob lawm, ces tsis pom qab yuav mus nyob rau qhov twg li, ces um kev kawg lawm ces hais tias lam tuaj.

I: Ces yeej tsis xav tuaj li puas yog?

O: Tsis xav tuaj li.

I: Es puas yog nej nyob ntawm xoom ntawd tau 15 xyoos vim tias nej xav mus teb chaws Nplog maj?

O: Peb yeej nyob ntawd, lau tos yog tias muaj teb muaj chaws ces peb rov mus nplog.

I: Oh...uh hm, tab sis nej txawm, thaum nej, lub sij hawm nej txiav txim siab ntawd zoo li, um thaib los tsis xav yuav, pub noj pub haus, thiab teb chaws Nplog los zoo li tsi muaj ab tsi, tsis tau ab tsi li puas yog?

O: Huv...

I: Uh hm.

O: Li ntawd peb thiaj txiav txim siab tuaj. Thiab peb txiv los rov qab mus rau Nplog teb ces mus tuag Nplog teb lawm thiab, ces peb cov me nyuam nyob rau teb chaws Meskas no thiaj tsi pub peb nyob lawm.

I: Oh...ces thaum, um, thaum nej nyob ntawd ces tseem, tus txiv tseem nyob puas yog, hos nej, thaum lub sij hawm nej tuaj, nws rov qab mus rau lub ciam teb chaws Nplog, nws tub tuag lawm ces nej mam tuaj puas yog?

O: Huv nws tuag nws, peb thiaj laib tuaj, yog nws tsi tuag peb yeej tsi laib tuaj thiab ov.

I: Yog nws tuag lawm ces yeej tsi muaj neeg nyob tid lawm thiab, take care nej lawm thiab puas yog?

O: Uh hm.

I: Okay, koj muaj pes tsawg xyoo thaum nej tuaj teb chaws nov?

O: Yug los lub 5 hlis ntuj no xwb nav, lub 12 hlis no xwb nav, hmoob mas ib!... xyoos puag ncig los mas txog peb caug mas yog lub 12 hlis ntuj.

I: Uh hm.

O: Ces noj peb caug xwb no nav.

O: Ces tej qhov es tseem ceeb rau cov hmoob, okay nub nyoog zoo li pheej tsis tseem ceeb rau cov hmoob, lawv tsis care tias lawv muaj pes tsawg xyoo nav.

O: Hwv...

I: Ces, um, qhov twg lawv saib qhov twg thiaj tseem ceeb maj?

O: Ntawd mas hmoob...

I: Noj peb caug, muaj me nyuam, yuav txiv tej ntawd xwb lov?

O: Muaj li ntawd, hos ib tug poj niam xeeb me nyuam los lawv tsuas hais tias xiab nub thaum lub hlis no, saib lub hlis no xiab tsib los xiab rau, lawv tsi paub vas thib li ne.

I: Uh hm.

O: Ces rov qab tos tos txog lub ntawd npaum li ntawd ces yug xwb.

I: Uh hm.

O: Hos niam no lawv tsi paub vas thib li, lawv tsuas paub lub hli saum ntuj tias ; hnub no xiab 1, xiab 2 xiab, xiab 3 xiab 4, xiab 5 no xwb nawj.

I: Uh.

O: Ces niam no, um, 15, 16, 17 ces peb caug no xwb.

I: Uh hm hm.

O: Lawv tsi paub hais vas thib 1, vas thib 2 li.

I: Yog los mav.

O: Ces tsi txawj ntaub txawj ntawv, hmoob tsi muaj os niam no qauv cia li.

I: Uh hm um.

O: Ces luag muaj tus puav, muaj cov nom cov tswv ib xyoos no mas luag tuaj muab npas xis nav.

I: Uh hm.

O: Mas luag tsuas tias, no tus nai npab no, xyoo no koj cov neeg yug tsawg tug me nyuam ntxiv hos niam no, um, yuav tau tsawg tus nyab los ntxiv no mas, luag yuav tsum tuaj muab npas xis los yus tseem noog hais tias lub npe hluas nkauj hu

li cas no mas txiv tias oh...tsi txhob hais lub npe hluas nkauj os hais lub npe hluas nkauj txaj txaj muag no...

I: Uh hu...hu...yog.

O: Hais lub npe txiv xwb oj, tsi zoo li teb chaws no, teb chaws no twb laus laus los lawv hu yus lub npe nkaus.

I: Yog los mav.

O: Yeej tsi hais lub npe txiv li, zoo kawg.

I: Hos thaum koj tuaj txog teb chaws no, yam uas xyaum yooj yim thiab kawm tau sai tshaj plaws, ho yog dab tsi?

O: Ho...tuaj txog teb chaws no ces yeej tsis muaj ib yam tau sai rau kuv li, kuv tsuas yog hais tias koj tej me nyuam tuaj, es me nyuam kawm lus meskas, hos yus laus ces yog hais tias luag, welfare hluv es txog caij es welfare xa me ntsis nyiaj rau yus ces yog qhov zoo kawg nkaus li lawm.

I: Wj, ces koj puas tau kawm lus askiv, los yog kawm tsav luv fais tej ntawd?

O: Kuv tsi tau li, kuv lam kawm kawm nyuag ntawv dog dig kom kuv paub ntaus foos.

I: Uh hm.

O: Kuv kawm cov nyuag lej kom paub tus lej foos, es tus 7 tus 5 tus 6 kom paub tag cov foos xwb, es...

I: Uh hm, es qhov ntawd twb yog ib qho tseem ceeb ne, es yus thiaj hu tau lawv tus nrog luag tham ne.

O: Koj tus neeg yog tus no, koj xav yuav foos no peb qhia koj os, koj sau yog tus no tus no, no ces tau no xwb ces thiaj yog ib qho zoo.

I: Ces qhov ntawd twb yog ib qho kawm tau lawm ne.

O: Hwv.

I: Uh hm, hos lwm yam koj kawm tau ho yog dab tsi thiab?

O: Oh...tej teb chaws no ces lwm yam kawm tsis tau li lawm os, kawm tau tib qho ntaus foos.

I: Los, qhov ntawd qhov zoo heev, um yam twg xyaum nyuab tshaj plaws rau koj?

O: Lus meskas mas xyaum nyuab tshaj plaws.

I: Um, yog los mav.

O: Xyaum tsis laib hlo.

I: Uh hm, koj hais hais lus meskas thiab sau lus meskas puas yog?

O: Hwv...nws yeej nyuab kawg.

I: Uh hm.

O: Hos koj hais koj cov lus hmoob rau meskas los yeej nyuab meskas.

I: Hum hum...yog , uh hm, okay dab tsi pab koj yoog tau sai rau lub neej tshiab nyob teb chaws no?

O: Tsi muaj dab tsi pab tau lub neej tshiab rau teb chaws no, yog yus tej me tub me nyuam mus kawm ntaub kawm ntawv txawj tsav luv, ces mus nrhiav noj nrhiav haus rau yus xwb.

I: Uh hm, es tuaj txog teb chaws no tej um, tej tswv yim los yog tej yam yus tau kawm kom sai sai es kom pab tau yus lub neej no, ho yog ab tsi?

O: Kawm kom tau sai es pab tau yus lub neej ces yog kev tsav luv xwb, kawm luv fais xwb.

I: Uh hm uh hm.

O: Ces yog txawj luv fais lawm ces koj yuav noj dab tsi los txhiaj tau, hos yog tias tsis txawj luv fais ces txawm li cas los yeej nyob twb ywm xwb.

I: Uh hm uhm, okay, es tej, um, tsav luv fais tej ntawd, leej twg ho qhia yus es yus thiaj paub tsav luv fais maj?

O: Es yog cov twb pais kawm ntaub kawm ntawv ces pais xyaum licence ntawm meskas, ces lawv mam li los mus xyaum lawv paub xwb.

I: Ces cov meskas yog cov qhia lawv lov?

O: Hwv meskas yog cov qhia lawv.

I: Es lawv puas muaj cov kwv tij tej ntawd qhia lawv tsav luv fais thiab qhia lawv, um, lus askiv tej ntawd maj?

O: Yog hais tias muaj cov kwv tij es luag hlub ces luag yuav pab qhia thiab, hos cov tsis hlub ces luag hais tias luv sij hawm thiab, kom yus pais tom meskas thiab xwb, pais ntiav li no xwb.

I: Um Uh hm, hos tej kev txawj tim Nplog teb, tej kev es tej tswv yim paub ua ub ua no tim teb chaws Nplog tid, nws tuaj puas pab tau yus teb chaws no thiab?

O: Awb...yawj pab los pab tau tej, pab tau qho me ntsis tej nyuag uas, nim no, tej uas twb yeej txawj ntaub txawj ntawv askiv tid tuaj lawm mas thiaj tau thiab xwb.

I: Uh hm, hos yus tej, uas, paub ua teb, ua paj ntaub, ua noj ua haus ntawd, tej ntawd puas pab tau yus teb cahws no maj?

O: Tej ntawd los kuj pab tau hais tias yog yus khuv tau nyiaj no, pab tau thiab.

I: Uh hm, um koj puas xav tias poj niam lub neej nyob teb chaws no zoo tshaj li tim ub?

O: Kuv xav tias teb chaws no kuj zoo tshaj thiab, tab sis ceev nyuab tshaj rau peb cov laus thiab.

I: Ces nyaib rau leej twg xwb?

O: Nyaib rau cov hluas.

I: Es ua cas ho nyuab rau cov lo, cov laus maj?

O: Cov laus tsav luv.

I: Uh hm, ces cov laus ces nyuab rau qhov nws tsis paub tsav luv fais tej ntawd lov?

O: Uh hm.

I: Tab sis koj puas xav tias lub neej nyob teb chaws no zoo tshaj rau poj niam, um, ib yam thaum tim teb chaws Nplog mas lawv saib tsis taus poj niam, zoo nyuab nyuab rau lawv, hos tuaj txog teb chaws no lawm, nyob teb chaws meskas no puas yog ib qho zoo tshaj rau poj niam maj?

O: Nyob rau teb chaws no mas yog zoo mas zoo thaum poj niam hluas xwb oj....

I: Cov hluas xwb.

O: Hwv...

I: Wj hwv...

O: Peb cov laus no yeej nyuab nyuab siab.

I: Lov, um...hm hm nyuab siab heev tiag, hm hm es cov poj niam hluas ntawd, lawv ho ua tau yam dab tsi teb chaws no, lawv ua tsi tau teb chaws, tim teb chaws Nplog?

O: Es teb chaws, los lawv hluas ces lawv muaj zog mus khwv noj khwv haus. Teb chaws no ces lawv hluas ces, lus los lawv txawj, luv los lawv txawj tsav, ces lawv, ua tsis nyuab lawv thiab.

I: Uh hm, um koj puas pom hais tias teb chaws, puas ta kuv noog koj tias tim teb chaws Nplog saib puas muaj cov poj niam thawj coj hos teb chaws meskas no puas muaj cov poj niam thawj coj?

O: Teb chaws Nplog mas tsis muaj, muaj cov niam tsev, hauv yus lub tsev khaub khuas xwb hos teb chaws no mas muaj los mav.

I: Uh hm.

O: Muaj cov poj niam yeej tsim txiaj, yeej nyob rau hauv tej chaw hoob kas ntaus ntaub ntaus ntawv, yeej...nrog cov txiv neej vaj huam sib luag.

I: Uh hm.

O: Es ib yam, yeej muaj cai nrog txiv neej zaum ua ke.

I: Uh hm, um koj puas xav tias lub teb chaws no yog koj lub vaj lub tsev?

O: Teb chaws no kuv hais tias meskas lub xwb.

I: Meskas lub xwb lov, es lub teb chaws twg thiaj yog koj lub vaj lub tsev maj?

O: Peb lub teb chaws Nplog.

I: Uh hm, yog tam sim no yog lawv qhib teb chaws Nplog rau cov neeg rov qab mus nyob tid, koj puas pais?

O: Yog lawv qhib es lawv tso kev hais tias nyias rov pais rau nyias teb nyias chaw, ces kuv yuav pais.

I: Koj yuav pais xwb lov?

O: Hwv.

I: Es tsam koj cov me nyuam tsi nrog koj pais ne?

O: Es lawv tsi pais los lawv nyob lawv.

I: Uh hm.

O: Yus pais yus.

I: Oh! koj puas tau ua tus xaj xam meskas?

O: Tsis tau os.

I: Es koj puas xav ua tus xaj xam meskas maj?

O: Kuv xav los kuv tsi txawj.

I: Oh! tab sis zoo li...um, okay, hos koj puas nrog lawv...yog yus tsi tau ua xaj xam meskas ces yus tsis tau nrog lawv pov ntaub ntawv xaiv, xaiv nom, nom tswv puas yog?

O: Hwv, es tsam ib ntsis niag Tswb twb los lawm es lawv pais lawm ne.

I: Tsi tau pais los pob, lawv lawm....

O: Twb los ntawd lawm hos.

I: Tab sis lawv yeej los ntawm no pais xwb ne, lawv los coob coob, lawv sawv pais. Um hos koj li cas rau cov hmoob es ho nrog cov meskas sib tw ua nom tswv nyob teb chaws no?

O: Ah!.. kuv tsi paub hais tias hmoob uas cas hmoob lam nrog meskas sib tw, tej hmoob tsi muaj teb chaws.

I: Es qhov ntawd, koj puas xav tias, qhov ntawd yog ib qho zoo thiaj maj. Yog cov hmoob nws kawm ntawv tas, lawv ho los hais tias muaj lub tswv yim hais tias yuav mus nrog meskas sib tw ua nom tswv naj?

O: Es kuv xav tias yog yus muaj teb chaws mas yog ib qho zoo, tab sis yus twb tsi muaj teb chaws ne.

I: Um.

O: Ces yus lam ua xwb os, meskas yeej tsi saib yus muaj nqes.

I: Um uh hm, okay, koj puas hnov thiab paub txog tej kev um tshaj tawm hauv qab ntuj no?

O: Hnov thiab los mas.

I: Es, um, hnov ntawm..lub xov tooj cua los yog ntawm cov ntaub ntawv nas xwm phee los maj?

O: Ntawm, kuv yeej tsis txawj ntawv ces kuv yuav hnov txog ntawm lub xov tooj cua xwb.

I: Uh hm, um ntawd, ib yam ntawm kev uas ua tsov ua rog ntawd nyob teb chaws Nplog ntawd, um yus ho hnov li cas yus thiaj paub txog hais tias yuav ua li cas maj?

O: Ah!...yaj tsi paub li cas li oj, tsuas paub hais tias xyov yog ua cas yus lub teb chaws cia li ua ntawd, ces cia li ua tsov ua rog, ces poob teb poob chaw lawm ces tuaj ua zog teb chaws no xwb.

I: Uh hm, hos thaum koj xav, thaum nej mloog xov tooj cua es nej hnov txog, um, lub teb chaws, yog lawv ua tej yam ua tsov ua rog, koj ho xav li cas thiab?

O: Es hnov, ces yus xav hais tias kheev lam yus lub teb chaws meskas mus pab es kom yus ho muaj teb chaws nyob, es kom Nplog ho faib kom nyias muaj nyias av nyob li yav tag lawm.

I: Hm hm..., um thaum nyob teb chaws Nplog ntawd puas muaj cov neeg uas koj hwm txog tshaj plaws?

O: Um, muaj hwm txog cov nom cov tswv.

I: Es cov nom cov tswv hmoob ntawd hos yog leej twg nab?

O: Es yog nom tswv hmoob xwb.

I: Es lawv cov npe yog li cas maj?

O: Es yus tub tsi paub ntaub paub ntawv, es tsuas paub hais tias niam no toj xeem, niam no cob moos cob kheem, hos nom rog, nom thab ham no xwb es..

I: Uh hm, okay nyob teb chaws ntawm no, koj pom hais tias poj niam kev ua tus thawj koj puas, ho pawv li cas lawm?

O: Ha...poj niam kev ua tus thawj koj ces kuj pawv los ntau rau poj niam lawm thiab, tab sis kuv tsi paub tias tsi yog yus lub teb chaws xyov yog li cas.

I: Uh hm uh hm...um nyob teb chaws no poj niam muaj cai ua tej yam dab tsi txawv uas thaum nyob teb chaws Nplog thiab teb chaws Thaib lawv tsi tai ua?

O: Poj niam, nyob teb chaws no poj niam muaj xiv tib yam li txiv neej, hos yog ib nyuag ua cas los poj niam mas khav hu police.

I: Oh..lov, hm hm, ces koj hais zoo li meskas um,...

O: Meskas los tseem tsa poj niam cai.

I: Uh hm es koj hais qhov ntawd puas yog ib qho zoo los ib qho tsi zoo?

O: Kuv hais ib qho zoo ib qho tsi zoo thiab.

I: Uh hm, es ho li cas zoo thiab ho tsi zoo?

O: Es no twb yog yus tus txiv es twb muaj tej niag uas me nyuam los tseem hu police tuaj, ces yus muab kho...tej me nyuam lawm hos, yus tseem muab yus niag txiv coj mus kaw ua li ub li no nej.

I: Um okay, tej zaum tej cov txiv neej tias ntawd yog ib qho tsi zoo thiab puas yog.

O: Hwv.

I: Hos koj pom tias poj niam hmoob kev txawj, txawj pab haiv neeg hmoob uas nraum, tawm hauv lub vaj lub tsev hauv nws ho yog dab tsi?

O: Poj niam hmoob pab kev noj kev haus lauj, um pab tau muaj tej yam kuj zoo thiab.

I: Uh hm, hos puas, lawv puas, puas xav ua tej yam uas sab nraud nab, es yuav pab tej kwv tij hmoob haiv neeg, haiv neeg hmoob?

O: Lawv kuj pab thiab, hos tej cov lawv sib txheeb ze lawv sib hlub.

I: Um uh hm.

O: Ces lawv pab thiab, hos tej tus lawv tsi sib txheeb ze lawv tsi sib hlub ces lawv tsi sib pab.

I: Tab sis teb, tag nrho tej ib pab poj niam hmoob no, peb puas ua tau tej yam tsi yog nyob hauv lub vaj lub tsev tab sis nyob sab nraum es pab cov pej xeeb hmoob?

O: Um muaj ib co poj niam kuj pab thiab mas, kuj pab... txog rau tej laus, kuj pab txog tej txom nyem li ntawd thiab, tab sis, txog txij lawv pab li ntawd los meskas yeej pab li ntawd thiab lawv thiaj pab.

I: Um, pab tau lawv, es lawv twb mus txog ib qho es lawv thiaj pab tau li ntawd puas yog?

O: Tsi yog lawv txhob txwm pab, yog meskas yeej hais tias nej pab no es meskas yeej txhawb lawv zog thiab.

I: Uh hm, koj hais ntawm peb cov hmoob no peb puas muaj ib lub, puas muaj ib zaug es peb mus pab lwm tus, ib co neeg es cov hmoob xwb nav, zoo li peb pheej pab pab peb cov kwv tij, peb cov neeg txheeb ze xwb ne, peb puas muaj lub sij hawm es peb mus pab lwm cov hmoob xwb naj?

O: Muaj tej lub sij hawm yog cov neeg ntseeg tshawj no pab.

I: Oh! Hos cov tsi ntseeg ne?

O: Cov tsi ntseeg lawv tsi pab li os.

I: Uh hm, koj hais cov neeg ntseeg tshawj lawv thiaj li muaj peev xwm mus pab lwm haiv neeg?

O: Hm, hm...es thiaj li muaj peev xwm sib pab hais tias nyob li ib tug mob li no los thiaj li sawv daws tuaj.

I: Hos hais tsis tas, tsi txheeb ze ntawm kwv tij tab sis txheeb ze ntawm ntsuj plig laiv puas yog?

O: Ntawm pawg ntseeg.

I: Um...