

E: I'd like to ask you some questions, first of all, about yourself. Let's talk about what you do. Are you a student?

S: Yes, I'm a student at the Education University of Hong Kong.

E: What subject do you study?

S: The programme name is called Bachelor of Arts in Creative Arts and Culture, and specifically I major in Music.

E: What will you do with your degree after you've finished your studies?

S: Not necessarily what I will do in my degree. I actually plan on pursuing a master's after I graduate this summer.

E: Why?

S: Why? It's kind of hard to say, but ... in Hong Kong, it's kind of like a ... I wouldn't say, like a minimum requirement, but I feel like it's a social pressure that you must pursue a master's in order to secure a so-called more qualified job or more better job for ... that pays well. Yeah.

E: Let's talk about free time activities. What do you like to do in your free time?

S: In my free time, I like to play tennis. I like to play the piano, obviously because I'm a Music major and I like to watch all of YouTube. Yeah.

E: Do you prefer to spend most of your free time indoors or outdoors?

S: Really depends on the weather. If it's like now, I prefer to spend it outdoors. But if it's really, really hot, then I prefer indoors with air-con on.

E: What did you like to do in your free time when you were a child?

S: From what I can remember ... also playing tennis, watching TV and spending time with my sister. I have a younger sister.

E: What do you plan to do in your free time this weekend?

S: This weekend ... probably preparing for the semester that is starting on Monday. Yeah.

E: Let's talk about travel. Do you like to travel?

S: I do like to travel when I'm allowed to. But ... I love exploring places and, yeah.

E: Why?

S: Why? I feel like it gives like ... it gives me a sensation that you can't really experience when you're homes ... you ... I see ... it opens your ... sorry, I think it ... it kind of ... broadens your ... field of thinking. I don't know how to describe. Like it makes you think a lot more ... makes you ponder about the world. See what you haven't explored.

E: When tourists come to your country, where do they like to go?

S: When tourists come to Hong Kong, they like to go to the peak. They like to go to Victoria harbour, Central. The star ... they like to take the Star Ferry. They like to go to the city.

E: Is traveling abroad popular in your country, in Hong Kong?

S: It is popular, I'd say, majority of us are fortunate to be ... fortunately to be able to afford it. Yeah.

E: Where would you like to travel to in the future?

S: I'd like to go to Europe. I'd like to take a tour around the whole of Europe if I'm allowed to and if I am fortunate enough to, because it's just ... there's so much to explore.

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E: Alright. Now I'm going to give you a topic. And I'd like you to talk about it for one to two minutes. Before you talk, you'll have one minute to think about what you're going to say and you can make some notes if you wish. You understand? I'd like you to talk about the type of clothing you like to wear. So first of all, you have one minute to prepare. (*After one-minute preparation*) All right. Now remember, you've got one to two minutes for this so don't worry if I stop you, I'll tell you when the time is up. Can you start speaking now, please?

S: The type of clothing that I like to wear ... I like to wear just T-shirt and jeans, just because it makes me feel comfortable. It's ... there's a lot of variety in T-shirt and jeans, I mean, you can pair with any T-shirt and any pair of jeans and you can wear in the summer or in the winter and it's not too overwhelmingly warm or it doesn't overheat you, unlike some ... maybe heat-tech or some kind of sweatpants that may be too warm, and it also just fits around your torso ... your body really comfortably. I normally like to buy my clothing ... I like to try it in the store first and then I like to buy it online. It's kind of a trick that I like to do because normally I, I feel really pressured to buy stuff in store because the sales are kind of ... in Hong Kong, especially, they're like ... they angle you from a distance, and they're like, 'oh you must buy this' or 'you must try this' or 'what do you want?'. And I'm just like ... I just kind of wanna try stuff by myself and I just like to, you know, explore the options that they have to offer. And so I buy them online. And there's a lot of discounts co, codes online. And yeah, I own quite a few pair of jeans and for a girl, it's pretty comfortable and it's ... you can match it with any type of shoes and outerwear. And like I'm wearing ... I'm actually wearing jeans and a T-shirt today. Obviously, you can't see it because it's under a lot of layers. But yeah, those are the types of clothes that I like to wear.

E: Alright, thanks.

E: So we've been talking about the type of clothes you like to wear. And I'd like to ask you a few more general questions related to that. Let's talk about designer clothes. Are designer clothes popular in Hong Kong?

S: I don't think they're popular in Hong Kong compared to designer bags. Yeah, designer clothes are ... they're really rarely seen. Yeah.

E: Why are designer bags popular?

S: I think it's because it's more long-lasting, like you can, you can actually just wear it out a lot more compared to clothes where it's a really seasonal thing. And I think designer bags are generally more worth it in terms of money when you spend money on it. Yeah.

E: For those people who do buy and wear designer clothes – as you suggested it's expensive, what motivates them to do that?

S: What motivates them to, you mean what motivates them to buy designer clothes?

E: Yes.

S: I think to be able to show to other people that they have the ability to afford them. They're capable that they maybe have a really stable job. They can afford it. That really motivates them. I think they also ... in Hong Kong, especially trends ... to show people that you're on top of a trend or that you have the most ... the latest showpiece that is on, that is on display in a designer store is what motivates them to buy these designer clothes.

E: So it doesn't really have very much to do with what they actually think of the clothes themselves?

S: I think it does, but it doesn't really ... it's ... the proportion isn't as ... large or I think they might like the clothing, but I think they might like the brand more or the feeling that it brings them as opposed to the clothing itself.

E: Let's turn now to the kind of clothes people wear to work. Do you think that people at work make judgments about their colleagues based on the kind of clothes they wear?

S: If you mean by judging by age, then ... like judging how old they are, they are, then yes. I do feel like in the workplace, how you dress yourself can really reveal the age that you are at, but I think it also shows how confident of a person you are, especially for woman. Obviously, guys ... you're all dress in suits, but for woman if ... whether ... how revealing on your dress is or how revealing on your outfit is ... can really show how confident of a person you are and how people can judge by your

outfit in the workplace.

E: Should people be forced by their employer to wear certain types of clothes to work?

S: I think it really depends on your ... the nature of your job. I think if you're in, like, a really formal setting, then obviously, there should be requirements, because it's a form of respect that you respect the people you're seeing, you respect the company that you're working in. But I feel like if it's not ... if you're not going to attend a meeting with a really special person, then by all means you can dress whatever you're comfortable in. Yeah. There shouldn't be a limit to that.

E: So, in Hong Kong, do you think that companies tend to be quite demanding about what people wear to work?

S: Yeah, I feel like as I've grown older and just kind of semi, semi-stepping into the job field like in an internship position, I kind of feel pressured to dress like them because if I dress less formal, then I feel like 'oh, I'm not respecting the opportunity that I've been given' or, I feel like just stepping onto the MTR, you see a lot of people just wearing suit and just wearing really formal dresses and you feel like, 'oh, am I under dressed?', as ...

E: Is it changing in Hong Kong, the way that people dress for work?

S: I don't think so actually. I think that ... it's maintain a really high standard. You never see a person under-dress for work, or maybe ... if the weather is slightly odd, then they may be wearing trainers to commute to work and then changing into, say, dress shoes for woman when they get to work. But no, they're still wearing ... like a really formal dress, regardless of the weather or whatever.

E: Alright. Thank you very much. That's the end of the test.

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