

Interview for Chinese 101

Introduction:

I chose to interview Mr. Gao, my high school math teacher, because he is the only person that I know who speaks Mandarin. I wanted to interview him because I remember him telling the class that if we ever learn to speak Chinese he wanted us to visit him so we could talk to him in his first language. Mr. Gao is a very nice teacher, and he loves teaching math even when some of the more difficult students give him a hard time. He is always willing to help those who ask for help.

Detailed Transcript:

A: 您好。

B: 你好，歡迎，歡迎。請進。

A: 謝謝。

B: 不客氣。

A: 請問，您貴姓？

B: 我姓高[Gāo]。

A: 您好嗎？

B: 我很好，你呢？

A: 我也很好。您是哪國人？

B: 我是中國人。

A: 您作什麼工作？

B: 我是老師。

A: 您教什麼？

B: 我教數學[shùxué]。

A: 數學的英語是什麼？

B: [Math]

A: 很好，很好。高先生，我問你，你想不想家？

B: 我很想爸爸，媽媽。

A: 您常常給他們寫信嗎？

B: 是，我常常給家人寫信。

A: 您有沒有哥哥，弟弟，姐姐，妹妹？

B: 我沒有哥哥，弟弟，姐姐，妹妹。

A: 您有沒有愛人？

B: 我有愛人。

A: 您有沒有孩子？

B: 我有孩子。

A: 您有幾個孩子？

B: 我有三個孩子。都是男的。

A: 他們都好嗎？

B: 他們都很好。

A: 他們忙嗎？

B: 他們都很忙。

A: 他們在那兒工作？

B: 他們在[*different places*]工作。老大[*the oldest*]是工程師。老二在實驗室工作。弟弟在高中[*gāozhōng*: high school]。He told me he is proud of his boys, but wished he had a 女兒。

A: 他們喝茶嗎？

B: 他們喝茶，也和咖啡。

A: 您喝茶嗎？

B: 我喝茶。

A: 您也喝咖啡嗎？

B: 我喝咖啡。我常喝星巴克[*Xīngbakè*: Starbucks]的咖啡。

A: 您吸煙嗎？

B: 我不吸煙。

A: 您教多少學生？

B: 我教192個學生in total。Each班有三十二個學生。

A: 您有math書嗎？

B: 我有數學書。He gave me a copy of the new math book. It wasn't the same one that we used when I was in his class.

A: 她是誰？ I pointed to a picture on his desk.

B: 她是我愛人。

A: 你們圖書館有沒有漢語雜誌？

B: 我們圖書館有漢語雜誌。

A: 您看中國報紙嗎？

B: 我看中國報紙。

A: 您去商店買筆和紙嗎？

B: 我去商店買筆和紙。

A: 謝謝您。您是一個很好的老師！

B: 不敢當。

A: 再見高先生。

B: 再見。

Reflections:

A few days before I went to do my interview with Mr. Gao I emailed him the list of vocabulary words that I had learned, so he would have an idea of what I knew. This made it simpler for me because he tried not to use the words that I didn't learn. I also took my book, and he looked at the examples that were in there.

Mr. Gao said that he was surprised at what I had learned in just one semester, and he remembered when I was his student and he would say something in Chinese nobody would understand, or had any idea what he was saying. He told me he still does that every year, and no one has ever known what he was saying.

It was a good feeling to be able to understand his Chinese, and he could understand me.

It was sort of difficult doing the interview because I never learned or heard so much Chinese in my life. Learning so many new words in a small amount of time is amazing. Learning about the difference in culture from China to my culture was interesting as well. I am glad that I decided to take this class because I learned a lot, and I am going to keep studying everything that I learned so I won't forget it. I will also try to keep looking at the other lessons to see if I learn some new words.