

Interview Transcription 5

Wednesday, 27 March 2019 4:22 PM

Researcher ok, alright so, we'll start off, um, with, what languages do you speak?

TC 00:00:00.620 - 00:00:09.482

P5 well I- I speak English obviously, there's that, um childhood Czech, um, sometimes, um, I can get by with a tiny bit of French but it has to be so simple but that's just school French,

um, you pick up words that are similar or words that my Mum used to use. Uh, from German for example because WWII, they all had to speak German, and a lot of her friends when she came to

Australia ironically were German, migrants found each other, and they shared, like, they lived in the nearby streets, they shared food, they grew different things in their gardens and

swapped over recipes, that kind of stuff, so you know, [REDACTED], Frau [REDACTED] would come to our place, and I always remember she'd knock on the door and she'd say "halloooo", and Mum would

say "kommen Sie rein, Frau [REDACTED], kommen Sie rein", "leben Sie platz", you know? so [unint] I can hear her saying it, so sometimes there are words that my Mum interspersed, just like I -

I speak English I intersperse some Czech occasionally and vice-versa, Mum did the same with German. That helps a little bit, so it's only nouns. They tend to be nouns, things that you recognise, concrete things, tangible things, yeah.

TC 00:00:08.414 - 00:01:28.818

Researcher that were like, repeated often and that kind of thing, yeah

TC 00:01:28.103 - 00:01:31.355

P5 uh, Mum would say, I'm just to think of an example, now of course I can't, um, but there would be things that were- um, shif, for example, you know, lod' is what we say in Czech, Schiff,

is um, er, German, but Mum would always talk about when she came out on the Schiff, and I'd say, oh yeah, but then you'd just absorb that, and yeah, oh yeah Mum was talking about her sea

voyage out to Australia, so, there were a lot of things like that though, that, um became very commonplace, you just interspersed them, um, yeah

TC 00:01:30.560 - 00:02:04.903

Researcher um, and what would you rate your language proficiencies in each of your languages?

TC 00:02:04.653 - 00:02:11.369

P5 oh well, um, bugged all in German, and French, and probably very minimal, you know, if you're doing it on a scale of 5, I reckon I'm at a 1 or a 2, um, I can put the sentences together,

I can find out what I need to, and I can say to someone you need to slow down because I don't understand at all, um but I've not had trouble in the Republic, and most people don't pick

me for a native English speaker, um. When I went to Prague the first time with my husband, we went to a shop to buy mittens because it was cold, we didn't have the right gloves, and we

went into a shop, and we saw some in the window and I said to the woman, look, I'd like to have a look at those in the window please, "yeah, yeah, no problem, no problem", and she got

them down and I said to [REDACTED], in English, um, what do you think, are they what you want, try them on, and she sort of listened for a bit, and then she says to me "where did you learn to

speak English?" So, probably because my enunciation is very much of that part of the Republic. My parents were from - well my Mum was from Plzen, well the area around Plzen, tiny village

out behind Rokycany, and my father came from, um, Roudnice nad Labem, in a tiny village, so they're all in that Western part, which is very much like the Prague dialect, so, um, you

know, it's not difficult, but when I go to Olomouc, or I go to, uh other places, it's a bit more problematic. Then I have to ask them again, and yeah, I say slow down, and whatever else

but, generally it's not bad - and the Slovaks - I've got relatives where I have a half sister - I had a half sister, now her children, I go and visit them in Slovakia, and oh, that is

so hard. Since the Velvet Revolution, they've stopped learning Czech. And, previously they spoke Czech really well, so they've just split it between Slovakian and Czech now, gone, and my

Slovakian is *ppp*

TC 00:02:10.434 - 00:04:29.325

Researcher yeah I, I always found it amazing to think that um, like when I try and look at Slovak and stuff I'm like- I just have no idea you know? So, yeah even though it sounds similar - so similar - it's kind of divergent I suppose more and more

TC 00:04:28.369 - 00:04:44.611

P5 I - I probably have a little smattering of Polish as well because my godparents were both - both sets were Polish, and I grew up in a Polish household - we shared a house, so um, when my parents were on um - up at the river, as those Commonwealth migrants, you know, you got placed um, on fruit blocks, factories, wherever for the 2-3 years, and then, you know, you came to the city, and, um, I spoke a lot of Polish in fact, I moved between them, but, again, as a very small child. And by the time I was four, the- my godmother's son started school. He would come home, and he would talk in English. So, it was kind of like, you know, I started to lose the Polish. But if they speak reasonably well, I recognise some words. I don't read it at all, but if I go to a stand or something and I think - and I pick up a packet and I think oh yeah, that's that, and that'll be that, and yeah yeah, so some of it has stayed, maybe more than any of the stuff I did at school.

TC 00:04:42.852 - 00:05:45.644

SD (0.05)

Researcher did you - when did you start speaking, um English?

TC 00:05:45.694 - 00:05:50.743

P5 probably around about 4 and a half, 5. That's - that's the period where I was introduced to English, um, I guess people spoke to me before then, and I would not have necessarily understood, then when Mum was working at Phillips, and my father was on afternoon shift, Mum was on day shift, Mum would take me to day care, and there was a woman not far from Hendon who ran a - like a little creche. And there would've been about 5 or 6 kids there, and that was just English, so very broad Australian, and that was, you know, probably the best thing that happened, because when I went to school, it wasn't an issue. [unint] smooth between things, without being aware of it. You didn't develop anything more with your own language - there was no school, for example, there was no Czech school here at that stage and that came later, but by then, you know, as a teenager, "I'm not doing that"

TC 00:05:49.534 - 00:06:53.271

Researcher it's often - yeah, exactly, it's so hard to get um kids and older children to learn their second language and then they often regret it later, it's a very common thing, um, ok, and what is your opinion on mixing between language in speech?

TC 00:06:52.579 - 00:07:14.337

P5 and then you regret it, you know

TC 00:06:53.460 - 00:06:55.141

SD (5.69)

P5 yes yes

TC 00:07:00.836 - 00:07:02.946

SD (10.32)

P5 you mean, uh - just in general conversation?

TC 00:07:13.268 - 00:07:17.858

Researcher yeah like, with um, whether you're speaking mostly English and putting some Czech in, or speaking mostly Czech and putting some English in, or if - differing perceptions on those two different things

TC 00:07:16.710 - 00:07:30.084

P5 um, I guess if you're a purist and you're trying to encourage people to develop their language skills, it probably goes against the grain. It's like the French with their - the

Anglicising of their language has become such a big thing with them, they feel like they're losing their identity. So, I can see why someone who is born in Czechoslovakia - or the Czech

Republic now, would be very upset by that, I think the longer you lived in Australia, the less people felt so strongly about it, because they did it themselves. Um, you know, you

couldn't change names for example, um, you just simply accepted that Woolworths was Woolworths - you couldn't pronounce it, but you knew it was Woolworths or Coles [ko-less], that kind

of thing, so, for survival, I don't really give a damn. But I don't want to see Czech disappear, but at the same time I'm not fanatical about it.

TC 00:07:29.256 - 00:08:35.994

Researcher I mean- I sort of more so mean, here in Australia, so, like not necessarily over in the Czech Republic, but just how you feel about it occurring here, so

TC 00:08:33.882 - 00:08:46.934

P5 I regret it for myself - I would prefer to have better skill, um, when I worked in the kitchen for uh close to, oh about six months, I worked with Mrs [REDACTED], and she - she flits

between things when she needs to because you know, her kids are, you know, born here- not born here but they went to school here. Um, but she certainly helped me a lot, I mean my Czech wasn't too bad while she was around because I - every Friday, um, we'd be speaking

TC 00:08:45.226 - 00:09:19.289

Researcher yeah yeah, you would see her, yeah

TC 00:09:16.148 - 00:09:19.292

P5 it's when you don't have anyone to converse with, with whom to converse blblblbl - you know what I mean

TC 00:09:19.289 - 00:09:26.780

Researcher yeah then it starts to get - oh, it doesn't matter, I'm not a purist myself, so

TC 00:09:21.930 - 00:09:32.089

P5 yeah, no, so, I've just sort of corrected myself there but I can't do that in Czech, sometimes I know I've made a mistake, sometimes somebody's face goes *makes a face* um, but generally

it's not bad, you know, they're pretty understanding, so yes I do regret it, on that score, but its also a survival, erm

TC 00:09:28.368 - 00:09:49.662

Researcher yeah well, I mean, generally a lot of linguists who've looked at this kind of thing are of the opinion that code-mixing is not wrong or bad in any way, and it's like, just something that

occurs when two languages are in contact, and it kind of forms - it can form almost a new way of conversing as well, you know, that is special to that group

TC 00:09:49.472 - 00:10:14.230

P5 English is exactly that, English is exactly what's happened with every group that has come in, you know, you've got Celts, you've got all sorts of people coming through, and that's

changed that language forever, it's not the original language that was spoken, it's certainly modified

TC 00:10:11.974 - 00:10:29.486

Researcher It's unique

TC 00:10:28.445 - 00:10:30.667

P5 I mean, there probably are things that are very unique about Australian Czech

TC 00:10:29.486 - 00:10:37.810

Researcher yeah, I hope so!

TC 00:10:34.501 - 00:10:39.512

P5 you know, I mean, to be able to say "ten je takovej bogán"

TC 00:10:37.810 - 00:10:43.082

Researcher yeah, no, yeah yeah yeah

TC 00:10:41.742 - 00:10:48.320

P5 you can't say just bogan, you've got to say "bogán", you've got to have the inflection so it's European

TC 00:10:43.082 - 00:10:49.927

Researcher oh that's hilarious - so that that person doesn't understand

TC 00:10:49.269 - 00:10:55.665

SD (0.25)

Researcher that's so good, I love that

TC 00:10:55.920 - 00:10:59.574

P5 there are lots of those examples, I mean, um, you know when we've been describing say something that's happened politically, things, sort of come in and I can't think of a better word

because you don't have that - but when I listen to [REDACTED], oh he is so good, because he's got that artistic, his vocabulary is amazing, and he finds exactly the right word, you know, some people are just - just use a lot of um, rude words, you know? And that's their way of - but there's no descriptive element to it, but you can't visualise it, you just, oh yeah, "sedni si na prdel", yeah that kind of thing and you think yeahhh no no no he's very good, he has some excellent um, similes, metaphors, you name them he's got them, and they are - they are so appropriate yeah

TC 00:10:59.000 - 00:11:51.969

Researcher so, and that's in Czech that he expresses that

TC 00:11:51.969 - 00:11:56.227

P5 mm, yeah, but he drifts a lot, he drifts a lot between because he is always aware- he- he - and this is where it comes in as well, you have a sense of audience, and he- he's aware that the people sitting at the table don't all speak Czech, so he's -

TC 00:11:54.212 - 00:12:12.674

Researcher ok so he's - tries to- yeah

TC 00:12:11.774 - 00:12:14.833

P5 he just blends it so that - he hopes that they can pick up enough of the keywords to understand what he's saying, you know, so, yeah, it's clever, he's got great language skills in both languages, um, which makes it very different, yeah

TC 00:12:14.076 - 00:12:31.877

Researcher and, uh, this is kind of leading through that but - in conversation with other bilinguals, do you notice yourself using both of your languages, so you've sort of said, you've seen that happen with the kitchen lady and ... mmhmm

TC 00:12:30.914 - 00:12:47.187

P5 yes, yeah, very much so, yes very much so, um, and I don't think - there are - some of the younger people who have come out more recently tend not to do it, and they tend to be a little bit more - ah, what's the word I'm looking for - slightly critical of people who don't speak Czech, um, so you know, there was an example, um, someone I know who was working here, um, said something or rather in English to the table, and the woman said *gasps* you should speak Czech here. In Czech. And this particular person said "I can actually speak Czech, but not very well", but she said it in Czech, um, and I just - I noticed that she was upset about it, but I said, don't worry about it, it's ok, people are a bit - because, it's a refuge for them, it's their place, yeah

TC 00:12:40.402 - 00:13:43.666

Researcher yeah yeah, yep, yeah, that's - interesting, you can- you can understand both sort of sides, although of course, people should be able to speak whatever language they want. But I mean, yeah, no, its- that's definitely interesting because I'm going to ask you in a bit about the social side of things as well but I'll just quickly finish this grammatical side, um, so,

because you've said you do notice yourself using both of your languages, so, um, I guess I'll ask you why you do this first and then maybe give you some ideas and you can say yes or no, whether or not you think, so, so first of all why do you think that you ... yeah

TC 00:13:41.125 - 00:14:28.445

P5 move between them? um, to maintain fluency and meaning, um, there would be huge pauses if I was having this conversation in Czech, I would be much slower, we'd be here all night. I would be really struggling to find the words that I need to use. And I'd be asking you - that's the other thing I do - if I get really stuck I'll ask the person, you know, what's the word for such and such, or, how could I express that, you know, that sort of thing, so, yeah, um, I think that's primarily why, because you're aware of your deficiencies

TC 00:14:24.968 - 00:15:06.118

Researcher yeah, that makes sense, um, ok well I'll list these out as well then and see what you think, so, so the first one is due to momentarily forgetting a word, so that's, yep

TC 00:15:03.185 - 00:15:14.620

P5 yes, definitely

TC 00:15:13.033 - 00:15:15.247

Researcher um, another word is more useful/better or more appropriate for the situation?

TC 00:15:14.620 - 00:15:21.537

P5 yes, sometimes that's the case. You know instinctively that there is a word but you don't know it, and again you just want to - to get across that particular viewpoint or ask the question that you've got so you - you go with a word that you think they'll understand anyway - you know, they will, if they speak both

TC 00:15:20.666 - 00:15:44.066

Researcher if they speak both, yeah, well that makes sense, and then yeah, so the next one is kind of the same, another word or particle expresses the meaning more fully, than one that you could find in either language

TC 00:15:39.740 - 00:15:56.314

P5 mm, true, yes you can flesh it out better

TC 00:15:52.179 - 00:15:59.653

Researcher and the last one is, uh, well it's kind of similar to the first one, another word or particle feels easier to express in that language

TC 00:15:58.510 - 00:16:06.502

P5 yes, yeah, it's a combination of all of those, there's no one particular factor, it's all of them

TC 00:16:05.719 - 00:16:14.054

Researcher ok, ok that's good, that's a good sign. Ok now, so the next question is how do you mix the languages, so I've got a couple of, erm, sub-questions so the first one is, do you feel that you borrow words from between languages, and which words - that's kind of a big question but

TC 00:16:12.711 - 00:16:39.270

P5 it's hard to - I have a lot of trouble with numbers. I'm fine with you know, 1 2 3 4 5 et cetera, but when it comes to saying 46, I have to think about that. So in the process of thinking about it, I'll just say 46 [in English], I don't say 6 and 40, but Czechs do, so um, you know I - I find that's the sort of thing, so sometimes it's the grammatical side, and at other times, yeah, it's hard to explain um, what was the question again - I lost-

TC 00:16:35.538 - 00:17:17.998

Researcher so it's, how do you - do you feel that you borrow words from between languages - but I've just noticed that you mentioned grammar, as well, and the next question is do you feel that you borrow grammar between your languages in a bilingual situation

TC 00:17:16.904 - 00:17:32.825

P5 not that I'm aware of but - let me think about that

TC 00:17:27.835 - 00:17:36.829

Researcher it's very hard - this is what I'm really looking at but it's very hard for people to realise when they're doing that

TC 00:17:32.827 - 00:17:43.562

P5 grammar grammar grammar um - I find that often if I've got something to say, I'll say it in the - yeah - the idiom almost of English but translated exactly into Czech

TC 00:17:36.880 - 00:18:01.581

Researcher ok, so like the syntax

TC 00:17:59.086 - 00:18:02.407

P5 yes, yeah, yes yes, and I'll put them in Czech but I'll know that that's not quite right, um, or there'll be old expressions that people use you know, uh, hard to say it, one example is uh you know, "it is what it is", that I - I - never translate that correctly, but for me it - it translates when I end up putting it into Czech it says "it is how it is", ok so there's a - yeah it comes out differently

TC 00:18:01.773 - 00:18:41.950

Researcher yeah, so like, so English word structure, but you'll just put the words in Czech

TC 00:18:02.454 - 00:18:07.655

SD (28.36)

Researcher yeah, it's slightly different

TC 00:18:36.021 - 00:18:38.870

SD (3.01)

Researcher I do understand that, I mean I, myself, do that in French, which is like I mean English is my first language but I've learned French and often I'll have not necessarily a French word

structure and that's one of the hardest things to get my mind around is how you need to actually change the way that you say things as well as what you're saying

TC 00:18:41.880 - 00:19:07.344

P5 there are expressions that are fixed, and you can't vary - and you can't interpret them and translate them, you have to learn them as they are, um, yeah and it's even like the structure of you know, putting a verb at the end, like Latin did, you know, at school, it always used to defeat me, that you know, Latin had its verb at the end and I had to then look at the case of everything in there, before I could actually work out what the sentence was about, even though the words were Caesar, Gauls, fight, you know, just-

TC 00:19:05.794 - 00:19:39.922

Researcher yeah, no, Latin is crazy like that

TC 00:19:38.184 - 00:19:42.290

P5 I loved it though, it's really good but, I loved it yeah, it helped a lot of stuff, you know you get- oh- another story, no, go

TC 00:19:40.373 - 00:19:52.202

Researcher yeah, I did it at Uni as well, yeah, it's fun

TC 00:19:42.290 - 00:19:46.637

SD (3.81)

Researcher no, it's ok, it's however long you want the interview to be really, so, um, ok so the little second part to that question is, do you say two words or two morphemes in the same sentence that express the same concept but use them both, for example for emphasis, so, do you know what a morpheme is?

TC 00:19:50.453 - 00:20:10.062

P5 no - not, no

TC 00:20:08.014 - 00:20:10.630

Researcher so, it's ok, because it's like, linguistic jargon, but basically so, um it's like a packet of meaning, so like the word dogs in English, one morpheme is dog, which is like the meaning of what that is, and the other morpheme is "s", and that - that shows that it is plural, so it's like "dogs", or I said um, like, maybe, holčička, so like holka is one packet of meaning but the čič bit makes it into a diminutive, like little, so say if you said like, little holčička it's kind of like saying the same thing, yeah, yeah, but some people sometimes do that for emphasis, so whether or not you've ever done that, or whether or not you've - dont

TC 00:20:10.066 - 00:20:57.081

P5 it's a redundancy

TC 00:20:47.090 - 00:20:50.554

SD (4.87)

P5 no, no

TC 00:20:55.426 - 00:20:57.089

Researcher don't think so

TC 00:20:57.081 - 00:20:59.313

P5 no, um, it's - I guess that that's one of the things that you do learn as a kid, um, that you are, um holčička, and um, you're not a big holka, sort of thing, you know, yeah, no that- that doesn't bother me too much

TC 00:20:57.089 - 00:21:18.253

Researcher and do you think that you ever put, something like a diminutive ending like, -ka or something on the end of any word in English, or you've just kept those types of things- they're separate, ok

TC 00:21:16.998 - 00:21:33.899

P5 they're separate, yeah, they're totally separate, I accept that that's what happens, you know that you don't necessarily need the word 'little', you actually change the word, and the ending of the word tells you that that means little, you know that kind of thing

TC 00:21:27.950 - 00:21:49.165

Researcher so it's just kept completely separate

TC 00:21:47.522 - 00:21:50.800

P5 it's like names - you know, Pantouš, Paní Pantoušová, you know, ová on the end, so those um, suffixes, are what gives you the clue, yeah, without like 95 other words to insert to tell you that so - it's more efficient

TC 00:21:49.472 - 00:22:08.934

Researcher yeah, of what's going on

TC 00:22:00.156 - 00:22:04.116

SD (3.83)

Researcher it is- I agree um, I totally agree, but so, when you speak in English you never really felt that you wish that you could bring that efficiency in?

TC 00:22:07.951 - 00:22:19.705

P5 oh you'd like to, but there is no way of doing it, yes yeah

TC 00:22:17.126 - 00:22:26.040

Researcher but yeah you just kept it with pure English when you're speaking English, ok, well that's interesting. Ok so a bit more sociolinguistic now for the second part, um, what places do you tend to be in when you borrow between your languages?

TC 00:22:19.705 - 00:22:37.424

P5 here at the Club, or if I meet Czech people, like you know, there was a funeral a few weeks ago, and having a chat to people then, uhh, very much when I go to Prague, or you know anywhere in the Republic, um I find myself um, doing those mental gymnastics, coming a cropper lots of times, but you know generally people are very accommodating, you know uh, yeah, and I think you spend a lot more time when you're in those situations actively listening by reading faces, mouths, listening for the um, intonations, and catching exactly those endings, because they really help

TC 00:22:37.424 - 00:23:32.373

Researcher it's - well - I suppose they help more for someone who has spoken Czech as a child, for someone who hasn't done that it's very difficult to learn the endings for the cases

TC 00:23:30.997 - 00:23:46.422

P5 I can understand that, yeah

TC 00:23:43.940 - 00:23:48.453

Researcher yeah, but, just have to learn them I guess

TC 00:23:47.182 - 00:23:51.638

P5 I know, it's- it's like in French, there are things that are just said, and I always found it very difficult because it wasn't the language that I was speaking constantly, so therefore those endings were kind of like meh, whereas at home, they just became part of what you did every day, you know, your conversations were um, mind you- those endings also were used as - you know, there's another level, how could I explain, you know Mum would be really cross with me about something, and you know, most of the time she would call me holčička, you know, pojď, jdeme, and that's the kind and the loving and the whatever; "holka, už máš dost!", you know? and you'd know the difference between - oh I'm favoured here - oh no I'm not, so, I think you tuned into those things, so it's not so much age, it's also a way of social feedback

TC 00:23:49.547 - 00:24:55.889

Researcher conveying how you are feeling about someone

TC 00:24:54.916 - 00:24:57.881

Researcher and, do you feel more relaxed in speaking when you can use both languages rather than-

TC 00:24:57.881 - 00:25:03.806

P5 yes

TC 00:25:02.030 - 00:25:03.191

SD (0.61)

Researcher well, rather than just Czech or rather than just English? Do you feel more relaxed speaking just English rather than a ?

TC 00:25:03.806 - 00:25:16.415

P5 I always have it in my head that when I'm speaking to someone who is a native Czech speaker, that it's courteous that we converse if its possible - depending on what the conversation is

about - to speak in Czech, I feel like, I don't just owe it to them, I owe it to me, to make an effort. It's like going to Japan, you learn the basics and you, you know, you learn them off pat, but by golly, you'll learn them, so it's very much the same here. I always feel - particularly with the older people, you know, to me they're like my parents, that age group, so that's why I like to do it, so I'm quite comfortable about doing that, but I'm not comfortable that I have the skills to do it. Um, you know, if I meet people that swear and whatever else, I'm quite happy to conduct it all in English, I don't have a problem, love it.

TC 00:25:16.407 - 00:26:12.481

Researcher ok so, so, if you're just speaking to, you know, say, someone like me, or like - an Australian who only speaks English, then you are more comfortable speaking English than a mix?

TC 00:26:10.860 - 00:26:26.118

P5 yeah probably, yeah sounds reasonable, yes

TC 00:26:22.494 - 00:26:27.741

Researcher um, so this is kind of to do with what you were saying before about that lady, do you feel any form of societal or community pressure to mix two languages in a sentence, or to not do so, or in public, at home, would it be weird and when would it be weird?

TC 00:26:26.512 - 00:26:44.939

P5 um, it's very hard, you know, with my parents they were never critical - part of them was very happy that you learnt to speak English, um you know if you could converse in English, it was to their advantage as well because you could help them with what needed to be done, not that they were slouches in English, but

TC 00:26:44.907 - 00:27:14.131

Researcher no but yeah, that's a very common thing for immigrants to do with their children

TC 00:27:12.440 - 00:27:17.929

P5 yeah, so you've got that sense of responsibility that you do that but, I don't think I was ever put down, but you're very aware that if you go to say something that's reasonably formal,

there's an expectation that you don't do that very much, you don't mix those English words, I always say prominte, you know, just sorry, excuse me, I'm going to have to say this part in

English, and nine times out of ten people are ok, but I know that people - some people just don't like it, yeah but then you know, I probably don't have conversations with them. The purists probably don't want to speak to me, you know, and that's ok, you know.

TC 00:27:16.206 - 00:28:03.738

Researcher yeah, it's a hard thing, it's yeah, it's -

TC 00:28:00.662 - 00:28:08.930

P5 I mean it's - it's like those blessed things that you get you know those, English as it is spoken, that's the way it is, this is Czech as it is spoken

TC 00:28:07.047 - 00:28:22.121

Researcher it's about communication really, I mean as a non purist, language is really just about communication, if both parties know what's going on then, yeah

TC 00:28:19.992 - 00:28:30.984

P5 I do know my Mum was embarrassed once because we had uh, people who came over from, uh, after the '68, revolution, and a young uh, family came out and the girl was about 10 or something

and I would've been about 15, thereabouts, something like that, and um, I just launched into a conversation and I spoke to her Mum and I -without thinking, as soon as I said it I knew it

was wrong, and Mother's face was like *makes a face* - I said ty, instead of vy, you never say that to an older person and certainly not to people you don't know, like you never use that

familial, you know, casual, and I did, and my Mum's face was like *makes face*, and the girl laughed, I'd never been so mortified in all my life, she just laughed and she said "what a

faux pas", you know? yeah

TC 00:28:29.125 - 00:29:27.903

Researcher yeah, I've always wondered about that like whether or not that's a thing that people might actually find some relief that when they speak English they don't have to worry about that

social convention

TC 00:29:26.835 - 00:29:39.059

P5 yes, oh absolutely

TC 00:29:36.482 - 00:29:40.088

Researcher because for me - I would be so confused about - I guess everyone older than me but other than that, I just would be really confused about when I'm allowed to change or, what to use, or

TC 00:29:39.228 - 00:29:51.979

P5 it's interesting here, at least like for example with Mrs [REDACTED], my mother knew her, you know, and Mrs [REDACTED] and other people, my mother knew them, but I didn't know them, or if

I knew them, I, you know, I didn't socialise with them, so I wasn't entitled to call them my "friends", um, so, you know it was an expectation that you would speak formally, but then

people like Mrs [REDACTED] would say, stop with the formal stuff, you know, it's ty, my, ah ok ok, I'd still forget, and you know, it's no different to this business of, you call people

Paní [REDACTED], you know, calling them by first names, so you know, it's a social thing as much as it is a grammatically correct thing to do, there are sort of expectations socially,

well there were, these days my little niece calls me P5, yeah it's not

TC 00:29:50.339 - 00:30:54.172

Researcher does she?

TC 00:30:52.232 - 00:30:53.811

SD (0.36)

P5 its changed a lot, you know, my son-in-law calls me P5, none of this sort of Mum or Mum-in-law, it is changing, a lot, so yeah, yeah

TC 00:30:54.172 - 00:31:07.268

Researcher and I have one more question - do you feel any social pressure to conform to majority languages? Do you feel language pride for your own language, and how does this play out in your speech?

TC 00:31:06.442 - 00:31:21.636

P5 I'm not sure I understand the first part of that question

TC 00:31:20.913 - 00:31:24.218

Researcher I guess it doesn't apply to you as much because English - you speak it natively so you probably don't - yeah

TC 00:31:23.348 - 00:31:30.759

P5 it's my first language - well it's not my first -

TC 00:31:29.519 - 00:31:33.519

Researcher it might apply more to the other ladies who came here, they might feel pressure to speak English in public if people look at them

TC 00:31:30.759 - 00:31:40.798

P5 well certainly from my mother's experience, definitely. um, Mum would wait in the shop, because Australians, um, didn't know how to deal with migrants, so a country town like [REDACTED],

um, the shopkeeper would wait until everyone else has been served and then take, you know, that sort of thing, so, not, it wasn't malicious, it was just simply we have no idea how to

communicate, so um, it was a lot of point and stab, there were classes, people ran classes and when my parents were in camp, when they came here to Australia in the migrant camp, they

attended English classes, so there was a government initiative with books and things, you know to get people to speak English, it was not as though, yeah there was pressure but it was,

yeah very difficult, so I guess I understand it from that point of view, from theirs, but no

TC 00:31:38.960 - 00:32:46.849

Researcher not from your own, so um, and the second part is do you feel language pride for Czech, yeah

TC 00:32:44.963 - 00:32:52.537

P5 oh absolutely, yeah, you know, all things Czech, you know whether it's football, whether it's you know someone playing tennis, right through

TC 00:32:50.970 - 00:33:01.405

Researcher lot of tennis players

TC 00:32:59.607 - 00:33:03.024

P5 yes well, you know it's only a small country, don't have that many football fields do you? But you know, lots of things um, when I go to the Republic I love being there. And we go every

couple of years and um, we don't stay long, but, it's lovely um, we visit places we haven't been to, get on a train and go somewhere and, um

TC 00:33:01.930 - 00:33:26.524

Researcher it's a beautiful place

TC 00:33:24.733 - 00:33:27.661

P5 it's just magic, and I suppose everybody feels that way about their homeland, I see it as my homeland, and I'm really pleased to have found relatives, even though one still lives in

Sweden and whatever else but, first of all what unites us is, not just family but Czech heritage, we don't know all of the traditions but hey, it's fine

TC 00:33:26.524 - 00:33:51.554

Researcher yeah, and you do a lot of them, I see a lot of things come up on the club all the time on the website

TC 00:33:50.282 - 00:33:57.192

P5 yeah, yeah, yeah, it's good

TC 00:33:54.851 - 00:33:57.923

Researcher yeah, well I mean, that's great, thank you so much for your time

TC 00:33:57.832 - 00:34:04.406

Researcher also if you think of any more instances of anything else you'd like to share like grammatical borrowing, feel free to ring or email me, but if you don't that's totally cool too

TC 00:34:04.406 - 00:34:13.994

P5 well look, if I come across any, I will, there are specific examples of a lot of things that um, you know, you've made me think about, it all comes down to even things like the

pronunciation and things um

TC 00:34:12.479 - 00:34:27.861