

ENGLISH: CANTONESE

Dialogue

Domain: Social Services

Gender of English speaker: Female

Gender of LOTE speaker: Female

Scenario:

This dialogue takes place over the phone between a mother and Centrelink Social Worker, Melinda. Melinda wants to discuss the son's application for Youth Allowance. The son has told Melinda that he cannot live with his Mum and is applying for the Living Away from Home Allowance because of conflict in the home.

The dialogue begins now:

No.	Speakers	Segments	Words
1	ENGLISH	Hello, my name is Melinda, I'm a social worker at Centrelink. Do you have a minute to talk about your son?	21
2	CANTONESE	我啱啱想去超市買嘢，不過等一陣都得嘅。我個仔有咩事呀？	
Translation		I was just about to go to the supermarket but it can wait. Has something happened to my son?	19
3	ENGLISH	Everything is fine. Your son has applied for Youth Allowance and I need to speak to you about his circumstances. He said that you had an argument and you told him to leave the house.	35
4	CANTONESE	係呀，我地嗌過交。我話佢住喺我屋企就要乖乖啲，唔好再見佢嗰班朋友。聽講佢地搞毒品㗎。	
Translation		Yes, we had an argument and I told him that while he is living under my roof he has to behave and stop seeing some of his friends. I heard they are involved with drugs.	35
5	ENGLISH	Well, your son told me a slightly different story. He said that he wasn't allowed to return home, so I was considering granting him Youth Allowance at the Living Away from Home rate.	33
6	CANTONESE	佢唔乖乖啲先係咁啫！我自己一個人，仲有另外兩個細路要照顧。而家生活好艱難。我想佢生性，而且我淨係想佢安全啫。	
Translation		Only if he doesn't behave! I'm on my own and with another 2 children to look after. Life's tough right now and I want him out of trouble and I just want him to be safe.	36
7	ENGLISH	It sounds like it's been hard for you bringing up 3 children on your own. Would you like to come into the office to discuss a few options on how we could help you?	34
8	CANTONESE	我有時間嚟你地辦事處。我每日返幾個鐘頭工，然後要接啲細路放學。	
Translation		I don't have time to go to the office. I work a few hours every day and then I have to pick up my children from school.	27
9	ENGLISH	How about over the phone? I can refer you to some services, like mediation, parent support groups and community	20

		organisations.	
10	CANTONESE	好呀，我地可以約喺後日，等我先接咗啲細路放學。	
Translation		OK, we can make an appointment for the day after tomorrow after I pick up the kids from school.	19
11	ENGLISH	How does 3.30 sound?	5
12	CANTONESE	三點半好呀，咁我有時間整啲嘢俾啲細路食，佢地返到屋企都好肚餓架！	
Translation		3:30 is OK. That gives me time to make a snack for the kids; they are always starving when they get home!	23

End of Dialogue**Dialogue - Word Count**

Language	Total number of words	Number of segments with 20 or less words	Number of segments with 21-35 words	Number of segments with less than 10 words
ENGLISH	148	2	4	1
CANTONESE	159	2	4	0
Total	307	4	8	1