

Interview #3 (Female, 15 years old, Romanian)

Interviewer: Okay so let's start. First of all, can you walk me through a typical day in terms of skincare and makeup?

Interviewee: Okay, so, uh, usually in the morning, I use thermal water, and then I use some serums, and then I go with sunscreen and makeup over, and when I get home from school, I usually take my makeup off, wash my face, and I wash my face in the morning too. And again, apply some thermal water, and then only at night, I wash my face again, and then use an exfoliating toner, the same serums that I used in the morning, hydrating moisturizer and lip mask.

Interviewer: Okay, that's a crazy routine there. How long does it take you to get ready every morning?

Interviewee: Every morning, probably like 20 minutes, half an hour, maybe.

Interviewer: Okay, and how about at night? How much does it take you to get unready?

Interviewee: At night, I don't know, the same, I think. 20 minutes.

Interviewer: Okay, do you feel like this time is well spent for you?

Interviewee: Yes.

Interviewer: Is it a problem for you that you have to wake up earlier in the morning to do this?

Interviewee: No, because I actually enjoy doing this. Like, it's one of my favorite parts of the day, getting ready just makes me feel better.

Interviewer: Okay, yeah, that makes sense. I get it. Is your skincare routine different in the morning at night?

Interviewee: It's not that different. It is just that in the morning I use sunscreen and at night I don't and also at night I use a toner. That's the only difference, I think.

Interviewer: And why do you think those differences are important for your routine?

Interviewee: Well, because during the day, I need sunscreen because I walk outside and the sun affects my skin. And then, like, there's no sense using it at night because anyways, I stay in the house. And also, at night, I use an exfoliating toner, because I can only use it 3 or 4 days per week and also, it's just recommended to use it at night. I don't really know why, but I just read it somewhere.

Interviewer: Okay. Do you often add steps to your routine without knowing what they're meant for?

Interviewee: No, I usually research, like, I don't want to add steps that are useless or that hurt my skin.

Interviewer: Okay, okay. Do you have steps that feel essential and steps that feel optional?

Interviewee: I don't know, I didn't think about it in that way, but let's say there are some steps that might be optional. Like I really need to use, for example, I really need to use a moisturiser, right? So, like, that's not optional. Because otherwise my skin gets really dry, but I feel like, I don't know, I can sometimes skip the lip mask or serums.

Interviewer: Okay, and are there any days when you skip everything?

Interviewee: I used to skip, but at the moment, I don't think I do. I usually remember to do it, only if I'm very tired, I skip the skincare thing.

Interviewer: Okay. Are there any products that you constantly reapply throughout the day?

Interviewee: Yes, the lip mask and thermal water. I think that's what I usually reapply.

Interviewer: And do you know why you do that?

Interviewee: I need the lip mask because my lips get dry sometimes and I don't like them to feel chapped and the thermal water, I think is just, it refreshes my face and I just like the feeling of it.

Interviewer: Okay, and has there ever been a time when you wanted to apply it but didn't have it with you? If so, why don't you have it with you?

Interviewee: Yes. I sometimes forget it at home and also thermal water is pretty big and I cannot get it to school with me.

Interviewer: And what do you do instead? Do you just skip that, or do you have something else?

Interviewee: No, I just skipped that. For the lip mask, I did have other lip products, but they're not the same.

Interviewer: Okay, okay. And how do you deal with your skincare while traveling? Because taking products with you is also kind of hard while traveling.

Interviewee: While I'm traveling, I usually just bring with me the important parts of the skincare or I put them in different containers that are smaller, so I can carry them with me.

Interviewer: Okay, that's great. Do you have any ongoing issues with your skin's health? Do you mainly use skincare to prevent problems or to treat existing ones?

Interviewee: Well, I also use it to treat my problems because I have, um, I don't think it's acne, but I do have some pimples on my face, and also I use it because, I don't know, I just want to prevent other things, like my skin getting dry and things like that.

Interviewer: Okay. Have you ever been to the dermatologist? Or have you been there recently?

Interviewee: No, I have never been to the dermatologist. I didn't think I needed to, because my skin is not that damaged.

Interviewer: Okay. Roughly, how much do you spend on skincare products?

Interviewee: Um, I don't know, let's say if I re-buy them every 2 months, I think, uh, I don't know, €50, something like that, €50 every 2 months.

Interviewer: Okay, and do you usually re-buy the same product, or do you like trying new ones?

Interviewee: Well, uh, usually I just re-buy the same product, but sometimes I like to try new things.

Interviewer: Okay, and how influenced do you feel by social media trends when choosing products?

Interviewee: Well, I am pretty influenced by social media because that's my main source of information. Because I don't really know where else to find this information. Maybe on the internet, but it's just the same thing because the internet tells me the same thing that social media does sometimes.

Interviewer: Okay, and do you usually choose just a product that is very popular or do you also research what they are made for and what they can help you with?

Interviewee: I usually research what they are helpful with and like what they are made for. I don't just go by the popularity of the product.

Interviewer: Okay. And how many times have you bought a product and never used it again?

Interviewee: Mm. I don't know, I usually tend to buy products, and if I don't like them, I still use them sometimes, because I feel bad that I spend money on them. But that happens very rarely because I usually buy products that I really want and I really need.

Interviewer: Okay, and what if you buy a product, and that product is not good for your skin? Or it makes you break out. Do you still use it because you feel bad or do you just throw it away?

Interviewee: If it damages my skin and breaks me out, I don't use it.

Interviewer: And what do you do with it? Do you give it to someone else to try it or do you throw it away?

Interviewee: No, I just keep it in my room and never touch it again.

Interviewer: Okay. Are you usually able to finish the product you buy?

Interviewee: Yes, very quickly, like, I use a lot of them and they run out quite often.

Interviewer: And what makes you stop using a product.

Interviewee: Well, when I notice that it makes me look bad or it damages my skin.

Interviewer: Okay. How often do you see positive results after using skincare products?

Interviewee: Well, It depends on the results that I wish for. Like, I don't know, sometimes, If I use a product and I see that my skin is glowy or something, that it hydrates my face and I can see it really improves how I look.

Interviewer: Have you ever used homemade traditional or family skincare practices?

Interviewee: Okay, so, um, I've, I don't know, I don't remember. I know I did a lip scrub, like a few years ago, with sugar and honey and things like that, but I don't, I didn't use it a lot.

Interviewer: Where did you find this lip scrub recipe?

Interviewee: On social media and then I researched on the internet, if it's good, then they said that it does no harm.

Interviewer: Okay, what origin are the skincare or makeup products you use? Do you feel that some origins or brands work better for you?

Interviewee: Yes, I use some Japanese products, but the other ones I don't really know where they come from, like probably the US or something. But I really like the Japanese ones because they hydrate my face a lot and they make my face glowy.

Interviewer: Does sustainability or ethics matter in your choices?

Interviewee: Yes, because if the company does bad things, I don't want to promote that, and I don't want to buy products from them.

Interviewer: Okay, so you do a really deep research before buying stuff.

Interviewee: Not necessarily, but if I hear that the brand did something bad, I just stop using it, like, I just stop buying that product.

Interviewer: Okay, okay. Now related to makeup, do you feel that wearing makeup affects skin? And do you add extra skin care steps when you wear makeup?

Interviewee: I don't think I add extra skin care steps when I do my makeup, and I don't think that makeup affects my face because I usually take a lot of care, like when I take the makeup off and put it on. I just, I'm very careful with how I do those things because I know it can affect my skin and I also choose products that don't cause any harm to my face. I do research about it.

Interviewer: Okay. Do you think that the skin habits or skin health of people close to you affect your own routine? Or your own skin health? Like maybe if you hug someone or if you

kiss someone on the cheek or whatever, do you think that affects you and the other way around?

Interviewee: I don't think it affects me, but I usually take care, like, where I put my face and where I put my hands, if I put them on my face. But I don't think it necessarily affects my face if I hug someone or something like that.

Interviewer: Okay, do you ever share products with your friends?

Interviewee: I think I do sometimes, like when we have sleepovers, usually, we use each other's skincare product.

Interviewer: Do you think that that's okay, even though you have different skin types and different routines usually?

Interviewee: Well, usually I only use the products that I know might be okay for my skin. Like, for example, I won't use my friend's moisturizer that's for dry skin if my skin is oily, because that might cause harm.

Interviewer: Okay, okay, that makes sense. Okay, now some final questions. If you could change one thing about your skincare or makeup routine, what would it be?

Interviewee: I don't know if I would change anything about it. I feel like over the past few years, I've worked on it and I really like how it is at the moment. I don't think I would change anything right now.

Interviewer: If you could have any type of product and even extremely expensive ones, ones that are used by, I don't know, influencers and famous people, would you change it or would you still keep the one that you have now? Because you know that yours works.

Interviewee: Well, I feel like I would be influenced to get the ones that are more expensive, but mostly because of the packaging, because, for example, I tried some products from Dior, and it didn't work as good for me as the ones from the drugstore.

Interviewer: Okay, yeah, I get it. But you still bought them because they looked nice.

Interviewee: Yes, yes.

Interviewer: Okay. And one more question. Is there a recent moment you remember where skin care or makeup felt, especially frustrating or satisfying?

Interviewee: Well, I feel like, It feels very satisfying when I finish my makeup and it just looks really nice and like, it looks natural and not cakey at all. I feel like that's very satisfying to me. And it's quite frustrating when it starts to peel off my face sometimes. Like, if my skin is just dry, and the, I don't know, the moisturizer sometimes just doesn't work and doesn't hydrate my face. My makeup just comes off and I have to restart it from scratch. That's frustrating.

Interviewer: Okay. I guess that's all. Thank you for your answers.