

SpiCE Corpus Project: Cantonese Interview

Interview designed by Nancy Yiu, Ivan Fong, and Khia A. Johnson

These interview questions are a rough guide to what is covered in each of the SpiCE Cantonese interviews. Content was driven by what each participant was interested in talking about. Note that while many of these questions are designed to get participants talking about themselves, participants were instructed to refer to people and places in general terms (i.e., just say “my Aunt” rather than a name).

1. “Hometown” - you / parents / family
 - a. Dialect?
 - b. Identity? (Hong Kongese, Chinese, Chau Zhounese, Canadian, etc.)
 - c. How is your parents’ English?
 - i. Weird quirks? Accent?
 - ii. Do you correct them?
 - d. Do they ever comment on your physicality? (you should eat more / less)
 - e. Form of communication with parents / family
 - i. Do you keep in contact?
 - ii. Calling / whatsapp / wechat / skype?
 - f. Hometown specialties - food, products, souvenirs?
 - i. Can you cook them? does your family cook them?
 - ii. Do you even like eating them? Were you ever forced to eat them due to good luck/superstition
 - iii. Have you ever had a bad experience with eating traditional/hometown food and someone made a negative comment?
 1. Have you ever felt discrimination - called a ‘banana’ or had people say things like ‘go back to your own country’?
2. Love life
 - a. Are you single / dating?
 - b. Dream partner
 - c. Parents’ influence
 - d. Ever dated?
 - e. What language do you speak / do you wish to speak?
3. Specialization / major?
 - a. Learning style
 - i. Study habits - by cue cards, notes, in groups
 - ii. Lecture vs. labs vs. small groups
 - iii. Hands on learner / visual learner
 - iv. Paper or digital
 - v. How did your parents take schooling for you - strict about grades, gave incentives etc.?
 - b. Favorite thing about major

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- i. How did you decide on this major?
 - 1. Inspiring professors / lectures
 - ii. Majors you would've wanted to explore?

- 4. Extracurriculars – sports, art, dance, Chinese / language school?
 - a. Do you still pursue those hobbies / extracurriculars?
 - i. Did you do it with friends?
 - 1. Still friends?
 - b. Hobbies you'd like to pursue
 - c. Clubs - on campus or outside of school
 - i. Clubs you did in high school - ever in executive positions?
 - ii. What did you learn from these experiences? Anything applicable you've gotten from it?

- 5. Dream career / lifestyle / future
 - a. Current employment / volunteer work?
 - i. Favorite volunteering experience
 - b. More important to work / study something you love or financial prospect?
 - c. Weirdest / most fun / first job you've ever had
 - d. What would you do if you didn't have to work at all or won the lottery?

- 6. Do you enjoy travelling?
 - a. Where would you travel to?
 - b. Where have you travelled to?
 - i. New things you've tried - food, experiences, adventures?
 - c. Solo traveller / preferences

- 7. Any pets?
 - a. Do you take care of them or your family?
 - b. If you don't have one, do you wish for one?
 - i. Ever asked / begged for one?
 - ii. Similar situation but with toys?