**APPENDIX A: INTERVIEW QUESTIONS** – **ENGLISH VERSION**

**Participant information**

Age; marriage status; immigration status; length of stay in Ireland; occupation in Ireland.

**Interview theme 1:** **Pre-arrival adjustment**

**Motivation and expectations**

When did you come to Ireland? Whom with?

Why did you choose Ireland?

What was your prior knowledge about Ireland?

How did you prepare yourself for coming to Ireland?

**Interview theme 2: Socio-cultural adjustment**

**Culture shock**

What’s your impression of Ireland and Irish people?

What do you like most/least about living in Ireland?

What makes life here easy /difficult?

**Help and support:**

Whom do you consult when you have a personal related or work-related problem?

Are your families, including children, here in Ireland?

Are you living with Chinese people?

Have you made new friends in Ireland? Which nationalities?

Was it hard to find accommodation/work?

What difficulties did you have at first?

Have you adapted to life in Ireland now?

Do you often cook Chinese food?

Do you often read Chinese newspapers or listen to Chinese radio?

**Gender**

Being a woman:

How is this different in Ireland and China?

Being a Chinese woman:

Is it easier to adjust to Irish life for Chinese women than for Chinese men?

Are you in competition with other migrant women?

**Cultural identity**

What does being Chinese mean to you?

What are the similarities and differences between Chinese culture and Irish culture?

Are there any influences on your life?

Have you changed since you lived in Ireland? What kind of changes?

Do you have an English name? Do you often use your English name or Chinese name?

**Outcome of migration**

What did you expect from life in Ireland?

Have your expectations come true?

**Interview theme 3: Personal psychological adjustment**

**Homesickness and loneliness**

Are you homesick? Do you miss China?

Do you go back China every year?

Do you often make phone calls to family members or friends in China?

Do you often read Chinese newspapers and listen to radio?

**INTERVIEW QUESTIONS** – **CHINESE VERSION**

**采访问题中文翻译**

**参与者个人信息**（年龄，婚姻状况，教育背景，移民状况，在爱尔兰居住时间，职业）

**采访主题1: 到达前期的调整适应**

**移民动机**

你什么时候到的爱尔兰？

为什么选择爱尔兰？

来之前对爱尔兰有什么了解？

来爱尔兰之前作了什么准备？

**采访主题2: 社会生活的调整适应**

**文化冲击**

你对爱尔兰和爱尔兰人的印象？

你最喜欢或者不喜欢爱尔兰什么？

**受到帮助和支持**

什么因素使得生活在爱尔兰容易或者困难?

刚到爱尔兰的时候有什么困难？

你现在适应了在爱尔兰的生活了吗？

找住房和找工作：

谁帮助你找住房和找工作？

你有生活上或者工作上有困难的时候找谁帮忙？

**性别**

作为一名妇女，在爱尔兰和中国的待遇有什么不同?

作为一名妇女， 和男性移民相比，更容易或者更难适应爱尔兰的生活？

你觉得中国移民妇女和其他移民妇女有竞争吗？

**文化特征**

作为中国人对你意味着什么？

你觉得中国文化和爱尔兰的文化有什么相似或者不同之处？

自从到爱尔兰生活，你有什么改变吗？

对于你特征的影响？

你有英文名字吗？你经常用你的英文名字还是中文名字？

**移民的结果**

你对爱尔兰的生活有什么期望？

你的期望实现了吗？

**采访主题3: 个人心理调整适应**

**思家病和孤独**

你想家吗？你想念中国吗？

你每年回中国吗？

你经常打电话给在中国的亲朋好友吗？

你经常读中文报纸和听中文电台的广播吗？

**APPENDIX B: PROFILES OF THE PARTICIPANTS**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **Age, marital status**  **and children** | **Reasons**  **for coming to**  **Ireland** | **Prior cross-cultural experience** | **Length of**  **stay**  **in Ireland** | **Level of English** |
| 1. Ling | 29, single, no children. | Study | None | 2 years | Basic |
| 2. Hong | 41, married with one child. | Study | Traveled to Thailand, Singapore and Malaysia for short period | 5 years | Inter-  mediate |
| 3. Ming | 27, single, no children. | Study | Studied in Finland for one year | 2 years | Advanced |
| 4. Jin | 20, single, no children. | Family reunification | None | 2 years | Basic |
| 5.Cai | 39, married  with one Irish-born child | Family reunification | None | 4 years | No English |
| 6. Hua | 55, married with one child. | Family reunification | None | 2 years | No English |
| 7. Elli | 30, married  with two  Irish-born children. | Study | None | 10 years | Inter-  mediate |
| 8. Wei | 26, married, no children. | Study | None | 4 years | Inter-  mediate |
| 9. Sunny | 42, married  with one  Irish-born child. | Visit her sister | Traveled to Singapore Malaysia, Hong Kong and Macau for short periods. Studied in Moscow for one year | 3 years | Inter-  mediate |
| 10. Ying | 27, married, no children. | Study | None | 9 years | Advanced |
| 11.Amy | 35, single, no children. | Study | None | 7 years | Inter-  mediate |
| 12. Xia | 47, married with two children. | Family reunification | None | 2 years | No English |

**APPENDIX C: INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPTS**

**This Appendix contains transcripts of 12 interviews with Chinese women who live in Ireland. The interviews were conducted in English and translated into English by the researcher. The names of participants have been changed to ensure anonymity and confidentially.**

**Transcript 1**

**Personal background**

**Name:** Ling

**Age:** 29

**Marriage status:** Single, no children

**Immigration status:** Student visa

**Education background:** Bachelor’s Degree of Chinese language

**Occupation in Ireland:** Post-graduate student in a university; part-time lecturer in university.

**Length of staying in Ireland:** 3 years

问：你好。请你谈一谈你在国内的教育背景和在国内的教学经验。

答：我在国内的读的是中文专业的本科，然后毕业以后参加工作，做别的文案和市场营销之类的工作，还有关于策划。后来转行做对外汉语教育，有一年多。在一个北京的汉语中心工作。

Q: Please introduce yourself.

A: I have Bachelor’s Degree in Chinese language. I was working as a secretary after I graduated from Tianjin Normal University. I started teaching Chinese as a foreign language in a Chinese language centre in Beijing. I worked there for more than one year.

问：你后来在国内教中文，有什么样的经历呢？

答：我教的都是成年人大部分都是工作性质的有少部分的是学生背景，他们一般都是比较积极主动地态度不是为了考试而来的，而是为了提升工作的需要，所以比较有学习动力。

Q: What’s your teaching experience in China?

A: I was teaching adults Chinese. They were highly motivated because they wanted to study Chinese to get more opportunity and promotion for their jobs, not for exams.

问：你在这个国内工作的时候，有没有什么跨文化的经验呢？

答：没有。我在国内的时候就是去的地方比较多, 差不多大半个中国都去过，但是在教汉语之前有和外国人有长时间的沟通。

Q: Did you have cross-cultural experiences before you came to Ireland?

A: No. I had never been abroad but I had been to many places in China. I had communication experiences with foreigners when I was teaching them Chinese.

问：你在在国内教汉语期间，你和外国的学生有什么样的沟通？

答：他们也就是在中国的一些有趣的事情，还有询问中国的事情，也没有涉及太多的他们的本族文化，主要是在中国遇到的一些问题和一些新鲜的事情，我们的一些探讨。

Q: What kind of communication did you have with your foreign students?

A: We discuss some problems and interesting things in China. They were curious about China. But I didn’t know about their culture.

问：你是怎么到爱尔兰来的呢？

答：是因为一个机会，我接触的一个老师，然后他正好要在爱尔兰教中文，然后他推荐我来这个学校，我就申请了硕士研究，然后他们接受我了。

Q: How did you choose to come to Ireland?

A: I got an opportunity to study in Ireland. I knew a teacher who happened to be teaching Chinese language in a university in Ireland. He recommended me to study in that university so I applied for the postgraduate research and I got the offer.

问：你读这个硕士的话，这个学费是非欧盟的学费，很贵是吗？你自己的这个一部分钱是父母帮你付的还是自己的

答：对，我是自己交了一部分钱，然后我学校出了一部分的奖学金。因为我毕业以后工作三年在国内，没有这么多积蓄，父母帮我付的。

Q: Did you pay non-EU fee for MA research? Was it expensive? Did you pay the fees yourself or your parents helped you to pay the fees?

A: Yes. Part of fees was paid by scholarship. I paid the other part of the fees. I didn’t have so many saving because I only worked in China for 3 years after graduation. My parents helped me.

问：你自己的生活费是自己打工赚的吗？

答：对，所以就在这边教书，就是我的打工。假期的时候我也在咖啡馆工作过两个假期, 最近比较忙所以没有做。

Q: Do you have part-time job to pay for you living expenses?

A: Yes, I have part-time teaching job. I also worked in a Cafe Bar during holiday time but at the moment, I am too busy to do this extra work.

问：你觉得打工是不是很辛苦呢？

答：对于我来说我不是天天做那份工作，只有假期做，可以接受。

Q: Do you feel that work is very tiring?

A: I don’t need work everyday except holidays so I can put up with it.

问：那对于你来说经济压力不算是一个问题？

答：也不算太大的问题，但是也是问题。只不过我比较节俭，然后在这边教课的收入也还可以，可以支持我的日常开销。

Q: Was financial pressure a big problem for you?

A: Not a big problem. But it is a problem. However, I was saving hard. My income of my teaching job can support my living expenses.

问：你在没有到爱尔兰之前在对这里有什么期望呢？然后你的期望有什么差别呢？

答：没有太大的差距，我并不是觉得来这边有很高的期望，只不过是一次学习的经验，所以也没有觉得很失望，生活方面我觉得和国内差不多。我没有太高的物质期待，就是舒适安静一些就行了。和我当时在国内的普通水平就差不多，没有具体的物质期待。工作方面就是对学生的期望不太一样，在国内可能都是教的成年人，他们对自己学习目的和学习态度都有比较好的把握，在这边都是二十左右的大学生，他们也刚刚迈进大学校门，所以也可能没有仔细思考过这些问题。

Q: What was your expectation before you came to Ireland Did you realize it??

A: There were not many differences between my expectation and reality. I didn’t have too many expectations before I came here. I thought it was my study experience so I am not disappointed. I didn’t expect too much about material aspect. I hoped that I would have a comfortable and quiet environment. However, I found that I expected too much from my students. My students in China were adults and they had strong motivation and study attitude. My students in Ireland are university students in their early twenties. They just started their university and they didn’t think about the problems carefully.

问：你觉得和当初在国内教的学生有什么不同？

答：这边的学生是那种比较自由散漫的那种还像孩子不太懂事也没有找到自己的方向，不管是生活还是学习都还在成长，对我来说就是我概念中的中学生。

Q: What’s the difference between the students here and in China?

A: The university students in Ireland lack discipline. They are childish and they don't know what they want in their life. They are immature in both study and life. My impression of them is that they are like middle school students.

问：你来到爱尔兰是怎样适应的呢？

答：没有一下子就适应，主要是有语言障碍，因为本科是学的中文，在国内也没有太多的环境说英文，然后工作几年也没有接触这个东西，又要一下子捡起来，刚来的时候就是这个比较困难一点。

Q: How did you adapt to the life in Ireland?

A: I didn’t adapt to life here straight away. The main problem is the language barrier. Because my major was Chinese in the university and I didn’t have the right environment to speak English when I was in China. I didn’t use English in my work for a few years so I found it was very hard at the beginning.

问：生活中间有困难吗？

答：因为没有什么朋友，所以要从头开始。

Q: What kind of difficulties do you have?

A: I had no friends here so I had to start from zero.

问：你觉得到了爱尔兰与中国的文化有不同吗？

答：当然有不同但是没有特别震惊的感觉。

Q: Are there many differences between Chinese and Irish culture?

A: Surely there are differences but I didn’t have a culture shock.

问：那么你基本上都适应了这边的文化？

答：可以接受。因为每个人的想法和经历不一样，可能有的人认为比较奇怪，不过各种地方都有不同的文化现象。

Q: Have you adapted to Irish culture?

A: I can accept culture here. Everybody has different thoughts and experiences. Maybe some people have strange thoughts. However, different places have different cultures.

问：你能不能举一个例子，就是说你觉得有什么不同的文化？

答：这个很典型的就是这边的爱喝酒，来了之后就觉得这种感觉更真切一些。

Q: Can you give me an example?

A: A typical one is that people like drinking alcohol here. I had true feelings after I came here.

问：你经历过一些非常迷惑或者有一些挫折什么不愉快的经历吗？

答：当然有不愉快的经历但是主要就是没有什么朋友，有共同讨论或者是商量。像一些人来了这里是有认识的朋友之类的，而我是要重新建立一个生活圈子，所以这一点对我来说有一点困难。

Q: Did you have unpleasant experiences or setbacks?

A: Of course I had unpleasant experiences. I don’t have heart-to-heart friendships in Ireland to discuss things with. Some people already had friends or relatives before they came here. I have to build a network myself after I came here. It’s difficult for me.

问：你是怎么适应这个不同的文化的呢？你又交了新的朋友吗？

答：对，但是不能说真的适应这里的文化，因为我认识的朋友大部分也还是中国人，所以大家都一起分享一下在这里的学习工作的经历，不能说是适应了爱尔兰，因为我们还是中国人还是中国的文化。

Q: Have you made new friends here?

A: Yes, I have. Most of my new friends are Chinese so we shared the experiences of study and work here. I have not adapted to life in Ireland because we are Chinese so we still represent Chinese culture.

问：你觉得你适应这里的生活方式吗？

答：对我来说一样，我没有太大的改变，因为我不是每一种文化都那么快的兼容，我本身是学中文和教中文的，所以我对自己的文化的认同感比较强，我并不是不接受另外一种的生活方式，只是我本身学习比较紧张一点，没有机会去接触这一个部分，真正的所谓爱尔兰生活。

Q：Have you adapted to the life style here?

A: To be honest, I haven’t adapted to the life style here. It’s not easy for me to get along well with other cultures. My major is Chinese and I am teaching Chinese language and culture so I identify myself strongly with Chinese culture. I am busy studying and I had no opportunity to get to know the so-called real Irish culture.

问：其他的教学环境呢？

答：教学环境我认为我想象的这个有一些差距，我理解的教育和教学环境应该是有组织有系统的，但是实际上我感受到的没有这么强烈。

Q: What do you think about teaching environment here?

A: The teaching environment was quite different from my expectation. I thought that the teaching environment would be well-organized but I didn't find it so in the university in Ireland.

问：你在教学的过程中有没有得到一些同事的帮助？

答：没有，我帮助别的同事还差不多。因为我是教的我们的母语，就在教学的内容的本身上面虽然不能说是权威但是标准，所以在选教材还有中文在这边是刚刚起步，还没有太多人教过，我没有觉得他们给我任何的指导。我觉得落差比较大的地方就是，他们没有办法站在我的这个角度来给我介绍一下这里的学生文化背景，因为我们是文化背景不同的人，所以他们没有把角度放到这里。在这边所接触到的学生都是真正的普通人，像是在国内碰到的学生可能是比较特别的外国人。然后这是一种让我对更大的一个群体，面对汉语教学的一个以后的工作会有一个调整，和自己的想法都会有一些改变

Q: Did you get any help from your colleagues during teaching process?

A：No, I didn’t get any help from my colleagues. On the contrary, I helped my colleagues. I was teaching my native language so I am the standard. Ireland just started teaching Chinese not long ago. They don’t have much experience. Nobody gave me guidance. They didn’t introduce the students’ cultural background to me. I came from different cultural background and I need to know about this. However, I will adjust myself in my future teaching work when I face students from different cultural background.

问：你觉得你和国内的同事交流和爱尔兰的同事交流之间有什么不同呢？

答：国内一般我们是年轻的老师，我都一般比较倾向于和年纪稍微大一点有经验一点的老师去探讨经验，和教学中遇到的问题，然后我们年轻的老师之前也就是互相分享一下教学经验，也没有什么特别的，在这边就是自己做自己的工作，没有很多的交流。国内的交流比较多。我不知道是因为我自己的语言障碍还是他们本来就很少交流。

Q: What’s the difference between communicating with colleagues in China and Ireland?

A: In China, young teachers learned from the teachers who have more teaching experience. I often discussed problems with my colleagues and shared my teaching experiences with them when I was teaching in China. However, everybody does his/her own work in Ireland. I didn't have exchanges with my colleagues in Ireland. I don't know the exact reason. I guess one reason is because I am not a native speaker and also because my colleagues in Ireland seldom communicate with each other.

问：你有没有觉得自己归宿的感觉？

答：没有。我打算今年回国。

Q: Do you have the feeling of belonging?

A: No, I don’t have a feeling of belonging to Ireland. I plan to go back to China.

问：你觉得到爱尔兰的这段经历对你以后有什么帮助？

答：我觉得这个不是所有人都能拥有的一段经历，是一段财富，比如说你在国内教外国人和你在国外教外国人是不一样的，你在这里要面对更多的大众，在国内可能是接触个别的外国人，所以就把他作为全部，在这就会有一个不一样的认识。在教学方面的话就是以后就会思考到面对更多的人。我不会把标准再订的那么高，但是可能还是要根据每一次教学的环境不同吧。对于个人的影响和帮助，我要从更积极的角度来看问题，然后也会变得更加坚强，不管是遇到什么困难，很多问题也知道怎么处理，包括也打开视角了去更多的了解一些不同的生活方式和文化。我认为跨文化交流要很长时间的工作需要很多人在中间不断的沟通，就像如果要世界大同，还是有很长的路要走，包括我们教中文也是很长的路要走，文化之间就是要一点点地渗透和改变。

Q: Will the experience of living in Ireland help you or influence you in the future?

A: I think not everyone can have this kind of experience. This is my treasure. For example, I gained different experiences between teaching foreign students in China and teaching foreign students here in Ireland. I have to face different people. In China, I got to know some individual foreigners and I regarded the individual students as the whole group of foreign students. I have different view here. In my future teaching, I will think about different groups more. I will not set my standard of expectation of my students too high. I will use different teaching methods according to different teaching environment. From my personal aspect, I become more positive and tougher. I know how to deal many problems when I encounter difficulties. I have also broadened my mind to see different lifestyle and culture. It is a long journey for cross-cultural adaptation. It needs time and communication. I think it is the same as teaching Chinese as a foreign language.

**Transcript 2**

**Personal background**

**Name:** Hong

**Age:** 41

**Marriage status:** Married with one child (Husband and child are in China)

**Immigration status:** Student visa

**Education background:** Graduated from vocational nursing school; also has a diploma of accounting and computer science.

**Occupation in Ireland:** Studying English in a language school; part-time care-assistant in a nursing home.

**Length of staying in Ireland:** 5 years

问：请你介绍一下你自己的姓名、年龄、家庭和家庭背景和教育背景。

答：我叫红，今年四十一，我在国内有护士文凭，我还有一个财经文凭和计算机文凭。我来爱尔兰五年了，当时来的时候是三十七岁，我出来的比较晚，但是对我来说是一种挑战。我觉得在中国的生活很安逸，上班下班、家庭、朋友，还有我平时也做一些学习，当时觉得很没劲，越来越没劲，后来我先生觉得我一点都没有兴趣了，然后鼓励我想不想出去看看，然后我说好呀，我就出来了。当时真的是一种冲动，然后发现了有一个中介在做爱尔兰的出国，然后我就跟着出来了，虽然中介介绍的信息和到了爱尔兰之后的信息有一些出入，但是我还是比较感谢那个中介的，给了我一个桥梁，让我从中国到了爱尔兰，这是最主要的，我开始了我新的生活。

Q: Please introduce yourself.

A: My name is Hong. I am 41. I graduated from vocational nursing school. I also have a diploma of accounting and computer science. I have been staying in Ireland for 5 years. I was 37 when I came to Ireland. I was not very young so it was a challenge for me. My life in China was very comfortable. I had a steady job, a happy family with my husband, my son; and many friends in China. I also took part-time course to study. But I felt that my life was boring. My husband found that I lost interest for life so he encouraged me to get out and see the world. I made an impulse decision to go to study abroad. I heard that there was an agent specialized in getting people to study in Ireland. I made application and got the visa. I am grateful to that agent because it built a bridge between Ireland and China. Although I found the information the agent provided was different from the reality after I arrived in Ireland. However, I came to Ireland through them and started a new life.

问：当时你的儿子多大？

答：我儿子当时十二岁在上小学四年级，当时我在中国很宠惯我的儿子，我先生觉得不能这样宠惯儿子，他觉得我这样会把儿子宠坏。因为我在儿子小学一年级开始还给他穿衣服，做早餐，没有一点自己独立的习惯。所以说这是给了我一个挑战也是给了儿子一个挑战。我先生是一个很开明的人。

Q: How old was your son when you left China?

A: My son was twelve years old and he was attending primary school. When I was in China, I spoiled my son and my husband felt that I should not do that. I put on clothes for my son and prepared his breakfast every morning. My son depended on me too much. I chose to study abroad. It was a challenge for me and it was a challenge for my son as well. I am very proud of my husband because he is very open and wise.

问：你当时过来的话、找中介花了一笔钱，是你老公出还是你们的家庭储蓄呢？

答：算是我们的家庭储蓄，因为我们没有买房子，那是因为我们的房子是祖上传下来的，所以当时在我们这一辈中算是富裕的了，因为我们没有银行按揭贷款。然后我们很喜欢出去旅游，在来爱尔兰之前就去过很多地方了，像泰国，马来西亚和新加坡，在国内也去了很多地方，所以说我出来对国外的生活多少有些了解，还有他的生意伙伴也有一些接触，都是外国人有联系的，他也有很多朋友在国外，总之是对国外的生活多少有一点了解，所以他鼓励我出来。

Q: How did you finance?

A: I used our family savings to pay my tuition fee. We didn’t buy a new apartment. We were living in the apartment that our parents gave us. We were counted as a rich family because we did not have the burden of paying a mortgage. We often went for travelling. Before I came to Ireland, my husband and I have travelled to Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore. So I gained experiences of staying in foreign countries. My husband also had business partners in many countries in the world. So he encouraged me to study abroad to see the world.

问：你来爱尔兰之前对这里有什么了解呢？

答：当时我知道的是，爱尔兰以前是英国的殖民地，后来它独立了。还有知道它是一个绿色的、非常环保的岛，在国内我们叫做“翡翠之岛”，爱尔兰这个国家相当漂亮，是宝岛。所以我觉得这是一个很好的国家，值得去看看。

Q: What do you know about Ireland before you came here?

A: What I knew about Ireland was that Ireland was British colony. It became independent later. I also knew that it was a beautiful and green Ireland. It was called island of jade. I thought it was a very good country and worth seeing.

问：你来爱尔兰之前对这里的生活有什么期望呢？

答：当时我来的时候在国内是护士，中介给我们描述了培训一年到半年的时间就可以在医院里边工作了，没有提到语言要求，当时我的英语水平也是不高的，我来以后一段时间是相当困难的，所以来了以后才知道爱尔兰的护士管理局是需要我们的雅思成绩，当时在国内我都不知道雅思是什么东西的，没有接触过，所以说后来有半年到一年的时候我都是在努力的学习英文，想提高英文水平，当时是相当的困难。

Q: What’s your expectation before you came to Ireland?

A: I was a nurse when I was in China. The agent described Ireland as “heaven for worker”. We were told that we could work in hospital after 6 to 12 months training. They didn’t mention about any language requirement. My English was not good at that time so I had a lot difficulty after I came to Ireland. I didn’t know that we should pass IELT until I came here. I had never heard about IELTS when I was in China. I spent one year learning English and it was very difficult time for me.

问：你能举例说明困难是什么吗？

答：比如说我连问路都不知道，然后我刚来的时候是和一个爱尔兰的家庭生活，他把问路语用纸条写好了，，然后就是买东西，我不知道什么东西在哪什么，然后都要自己去发现，这对自己也是一种挑战，在国内我大事小事都比较依赖我的先生，到了这里来了觉得对自己是一个相当大的锻炼。

Q: Can you give me some examples?

A: I even didn’t know how to ask the way when I got lost. I was living with a host family when I first came to Ireland. So they wrote a note for me: I want to go to (someplace), please tell me how to get there. I brought this note with me whenever I went out. Another difficult thing is shopping. I didn’t know where to buy the goods I needed and I had to find the shops myself. This was challenge for me. I depended on my husband a lot when I was in China. I enhanced my life ability through social practice after I came to Ireland.

问：你是不是一年之后就没有语言障碍了。

答：人们说什么我基本都能听懂了，我从一点水平都没有就到一定的水平，是要时间去提高的，我也一直在上课，听广播，也经常在网上看文章，读英文报纸，所以是一天天的在进步，所以这也是我最欣慰的。我现在算是不错了吧, 不过我还是很满意我自己的进步的。

Q: Did you overcome the language barrier after one year of staying in Ireland?

A: I couldn’t understand what Irish people said during my first year staying in Ireland. I started to learn English at zero level. I have been attending English classes, listening to English broadcast and reading English newspaper. My English improved a lot. I am satisfied with myself because I feel that I am making progress.

问：我觉得你说的英语都有爱尔兰口音了。

答：对的，我们的同事都说我现在越来越像爱尔兰的人了，各方面口音和习惯越来越像爱尔兰人了。但是我觉得我还是很有中国人的习惯的。

Q：You have an Irish accent when you speak English.

A: Yes. My colleagues tell me that I am becoming more and more Irish. I am getting Irish habits and Irish accent. But I feel that I am still Chinese.

问：哪些习惯是证明你像爱尔兰人了呢？

答：比如说我跟我们同事一起出去，也会去派队或者是酒吧，像爱尔兰就是喜欢去酒吧，像我们中国是茶文化，我们喜欢喝茶他们喜欢喝酒，虽然我酒量不大，但是我也可以跟着他们喝一点，但是不能喝醉。也就是说如果要和他们接触也必须接近他们的习惯，如果说一个人特立独行，和他们也就根本不可能有接触，想要了解他们，就必须熟悉他们接近他们，这也是一种途径。

Q: In which aspects do you become Irish?

A: For example, I go out with my colleagues to parties or pubs. Irish people like pubs. Chinese culture is tea culture. We like drinking tea and they like drinking alcohol. I can’t drink much but I try to follow the trend. I don’t want to get drunk. However, this is the way to get to know them, to get close to them.

问：你觉得你还有哪些中国人的特性呢？

答：比如说我喜欢中国菜，烧中国菜，但是也烧外国菜，我烧中国菜的时候我旁边的那些邻居还有我的外国朋友他们都喜欢吃我烧的菜。以前我们单位上有午餐，现在就是经济状况不一样了，我就自己烧菜带来吃，他们就都想吃我做的菜，所以我就给他们介绍中国的饮食，然后他们都不知道什么东西是哪里产的，我就告诉他们哪个菜是什么地方产的怎么做的，他们就会根据我的建议会去买回去做。虽然我一个人的能力有限，但是我影响了一部分的人，所以我也很开心的。

Q：What kind of Chinese identity do you have?

A: I like eating Chinese food and cooking Chinese food. All my friends and my neighbors like eating the food I cook. I brought the food I cooked to my work place and my colleagues like eating my food very much. I introduce Chinese food to them and recommend Chinese supermarkets to them so they can buy Chinese food. They got a recipe from me and learned to cook Chinese food. I am very happy that I can have big influence on them.

问：你喜欢爱尔兰吗？

答：是的。我很喜欢爱尔兰，我去了爱尔兰的很多地方，Dingle, Cork, Galway…..，我喜欢旅游和看一些东西，所以说我还是很喜欢这里的，他们的人际关系相当简单，我觉得他们相当的容易接近，但是要深入的了解他们，你必须相当的投入，如果你想成为他们的朋友，所以你必须让他们知道是很真诚的想做他们的朋友。

Q：Do you like Ireland?

A: Yes. I like Ireland very much. I have been to many places in Ireland. Dingle, Cork, Galway….. I like travelling and seeing things. The relationship here is very simple. They are easy to approach. However, you have to put your heart into them if you want to know them deeply and become their friend. You also have to let them know that you sincerely want to be their friends.

问：你喜欢爱尔兰的文化吗？

答：喜欢，我喜欢看爱尔兰的大河舞。

Q: Do you like Irish culture?

A: Yes, I do. For example, I like river dance.

问：你在工作中和你的同事相处的好吗？

答：相当的好，没有偏见，所以我在那里工作了四年多，有一段时间也是兼职，他们也没有偏见，虽然爱尔兰的政策上有对外国人的歧视，但是同事对我从来没有偏见。

Q; Do you get along well with your colleagues?

A: I get along with my colleagues very well. They have no prejudice towards me. I have been working there for more than 4 years. Although I am a part-time staff there, I never had experiences of discrimination. Irish national policy has discrimination to foreigners but my colleagues are fine.

问：你从来没有别人对你的种族歧视这样的经历？答：在同事中间没有，但是在欧洲的法律里面有，比如说我是用学生的身份过来的，所以不能接受作为欧洲人的条件，所以说我也只能接受这个事实。我们的同事都说这是不公平的，都替我打抱不平。

Q; Have you experienced discrimination?

A: I never experienced discrimination at my workplace but there is discrimination in European law. I came here with a student visa. I have to apply for a work permit if I want to have a full-time job. But it is very difficult to get a work permit. I have to accept the reality although my colleagues all think it is unfair.

问：你在生活中间交的朋友都是爱尔兰的同事还是其他的人呢？答：不是的，有中国朋友，也有意大利朋友，像我的这个意大利朋友就是很欣赏中国的风景，还有文化，去年还和我一起回中国还去了很多地方旅游。以前我们在一起工作过很短的一个时间，她是一个幼儿园的老师，现在还在幼儿园教书。我在爱尔兰交了一些朋友，但是有一部分人工作关系的，还交了一些残疾人朋友，他们也很鼓励我，我也很佩服他们很强的意志，很值得我学习，照顾他们的过程中也被他们坚强的意志所感动，激励我让我一点点变得更加坚强。Q; Are all your friends Irish?

A: No. I have Chinese friends, Irish friends and Italian friends. My Italian friend is a teacher in a kindergarten. She likes China and went to China travelling with me last summer. I also made friends through my work. Some of them are disabled people. I admire them. I was touched by their strong will when I was looking after them. They set good examples for me and I was inspired to become stronger.

问：你现在在爱尔兰是什么身份？答：学生身份，还在上语言学校，我觉得我的英语水平还不够，所以我就选择了语言学校，我觉得我可以去读硕士研究生 ，但是我觉得我的英语还不够，去上了也是空中楼阁，上了也会倒下来，所以我要打好基础再去学。

Q: What’s your immigration status?

A: I have a student visa. I am attending a language school. I am in the advanced class in the language school. I choose to stay in language school because my English is not good enough to take MA course. I have to make a good foundation before I take MA course. Otherwise it is like building a house in the air.

问：你现在同时也做兼职是吗？做什么工作呢？答：在一个慈善机构，照顾残疾人，他们这个单位挺好的。也没有歧视，每个人也一样，很平等，所以我觉得这个很重要，虽然是兼职，但是我在那里也已经工作了四年多了。有时候挺忙。但是工作起来挺开心，虽然忙可是开心，同事也相当好

Q; Tell me about your work.

A: I am working as a care assistant in a nursing home which is a charitable organization. We look after disabled people. I like my work place. There is no prejudice there. Everybody is equal. Sometimes we are quite busy but I am very happy. My colleagues are so nice and friendly.

问：你觉得中国妇女和爱尔兰妇女有什么区别吗？答：我觉得中国的妇女比爱尔兰的妇女更加独立，可能是政策的原因，因为爱尔兰政府的政策比较支持妇女儿童，没有工作也可以拿到失业保障金，或者有各种机会让你去提高自己，在中国没有那么全面的保障。

Q: What is the difference between Chinese women and Irish women?

A: I think that Chinese women are more independent because of the policy of the two countries. The Irish government support women and children. They can claim social welfare and they are provided with a lot of opportunities to develop themselves. We do not have such benefit in China.

问：你觉得爱尔兰人的性格特征是什么呢？答：我觉得爱尔兰人比较随和，我从我朋友转达给我的信息当中觉得爱尔兰人比英国人要随和，英国人比较傲慢。

Q: What do you think about Irish people??

A: I think Irish people are amiable. My friends told me that British people are arrogant.

问：你觉得你有爱尔兰人的性格吗？答：我想我应该有吧，所以我跟爱尔兰人走的比较近，中国有句话就是物以类聚，人以群分，所以是有相同的特征吧。Q; Are you becoming Irish?

A: I think I am becoming Irish. I like getting along with Irish. There is a Chinese saying: People with same interests and personalities stay together. I guess I have same personality as Irish.

问：你觉得你从中国到爱尔兰的变化是什么？答：更加独立了，以前在中国都可以依赖别人，在这边就更需要依靠自己的能力。要去接受这种挑战。Q; Have you changed since you came to Ireland?

A: I became more independent. I could depend on other people when I was in China but I can only rely on myself here. I have to face the challenge.

问：你和中国人合租住在一起吗？答：很多中国人为了经济上面的考虑，就会合租住在一起，我觉得我不太喜欢和一种文化的人住在一起，毕竟到了这边来了就要接触一些不一样的东西，所以我总是喜欢和别的国家的人住在一起。所以我住的地方有各种不同的国家的人。我总觉得有不同文化的人住在一起比较好一些，可以相互交流不同的文化。

Q: Are you living with Chinese people?

A: Many Chinese people share accommodation to save money. I don't want to live with people who have the same culture as me. Since I came to Ireland, I want to contact different cultures. I would like to contact and get to know different people in Ireland. I am sharing a house with people from different countries: French, Korean, Italian and Irish. I think it is better to live with people from different cultural background so I can share their culture.

问：你经常想念中国吗？答：每个在外的游子都是会想念家的。我最想念我的家人。

Q: Do you often think about China?

A: Every person travelling in a place far away from home will miss home. I miss my family.

问：如果有可能的话你愿不愿意把你的丈夫还有儿子带过来呢？答：最好是根据他们的兴趣和爱好，比如说我先生的工作以国内为主，所以如果到这边来的话也不方便，他在国内有他的生意，没有必要来这边，我觉得主要的是要开心，儿子的话，要看他喜欢去哪里，看他的兴趣爱好，他想去哪里我不会阻挠他的。Q: Will you bring your husband and your son over here if it is possible?

A: Depends on their own interests. For example, my husband is working in China. It would be inconvenient for him to come here because he is doing his business in China. The most important thing is to be happy. My son can choose to go to any places he wants to. I would not stop him.

问：你决定以后自己在这里继续工作下去还是回国呢？答：我想这边的工作也是有一定的期限的，毕竟国内的环境现在也比较好，我也总想回家，一个考虑到家庭，还有就是父母年纪大了，总是需要有人在身边照顾，传统的角度上是这样的他们也都希望我能回家，所以说再待上一两年我就想回去了。现在国内也有很多的机会，国内也没有什么不好。Q: Will you continue working here or will you choose to go back to China?

A: I think the work here has a time limit. After all, the economic environment in China is better. I have always wanted to go back. One reason is to think about family, the other reason is my parent are getting old, they need to be taken care of. From traditional view, they also hope I can go back. So I decide to go back in one or two years’time. There are a lot of opportunities in China now. China is a good place.

问：你觉得作为中国妇女是不是比男性更能适应爱尔兰的生活？答：我认为是这样的，毕竟女人心思比较细腻一点或者是比较开明一些，男人在生活方面可能就没有女人那么细致，所以说妇女应该比男女人更会适应国外的生活，我是这么理解的。Q: Do you think that it is easier for Chinese women to adapt to the life in Ireland than Chinese men?

A: I think so. After all, women have more delicate feelings than men. Women are more liberal-minded than men. So I say that it is easier for women to adapt to the life in foreign countries.

问：你自己身边有这些例子吗？答：比如说我看到我朋友那边有中国男孩子，他们就简单吃一些方便面也打工，或者是吃一些外卖，他们不会自己做饭，或者家里弄的乱七八糟的，像女人就会整理房间，会弄的干净像一个家，男人就不会，进去他们房间到处都是乱糟糟的，我最讨厌他们这一点。

Q: Are there any examples in your life?

A: For example, some of my friends are Chinese boys. They eat instant noodles or take-away food. They don’t know how to cook and their rooms are quite messy. Women usually tidy and clean their rooms and make it feel like a home. Men do not clean their rooms. I notice that their rooms are quite messy. This is disgusting.

问：你觉得适应爱尔兰的过程中间，是什么因素让你可以很快的适应爱尔兰的生活？答：第一个是语言关，就能适应这里的生活，比如说交流都不会，怎么和人相处呢？语言很重要。还有就是需要一颗善良的心，中国女人比较善解人意，比较体贴人，我觉得这是一个很好的个人因素。

Q: In your opinion, what factors facilitating cross-cultural adaptation in Ireland?

A: The most important thing is to overcome the language barrier. If you can overcome language difficulties, then you can adapt to the life here. It is difficult to get along well with other people without communication. Language is very important. Second is to be kind-hearted. Chinese women are quite understanding and thoughtful. I think this is a very important personal factor.

问：那你觉得有什么外在的帮助呢？答：我知道中国在爱尔兰有一些机构，像华人社和华人机构，但是我和他们联系很少，因为我觉得我应该自己去解决自己的问题，不要老把自己的问题贴给人家，这样的话也是一种考验，如果我自己能解决的我就自己解决。

Q: Did you get any support from Chinese community?

A: I know that there are some Chinese organizations in Ireland, but I seldom contact them. I think that I should solve my problems myself. I don’t want to leave my problems to other people. I try to solve problems myself. This is a challenge for me. 问：你觉得到了爱尔兰之后对你的人生成长有什么帮助？

答：经历很可贵，我觉得人生就好像浮萍，把我从中国漂浮到爱尔兰，虽然在这边还没有植下根来，但是对我而言是一种人生经历，给了我开阔眼界的机会，比如说我去了很多国家旅游，欧洲的许多国家比如瑞士，西班牙，意大利，葡萄牙，捷克。我开阔了眼界，我觉得很开心。我在火车上与来自别的国家的人们交谈，墨西哥人巴西人他们都很直爽的和我交谈，我很开心。

Q: Is the experience of living in Ireland important for your life?A: This experience is valuable. I think my life is like duckweed which floated from China to Ireland. I haven’t taken roots (settled down) in Ireland. But this life experience broadened my mind. For example, I have visited many countries. These broadened my horizons. I am very happy.

问：你交了爱尔兰朋友吗？

答：是的，我交了一些爱尔兰朋友。有些是工作关系。比如我照顾残疾人，我从来没有看不起他们，他们的经历激励了我。他们意志坚强。参加体育锻炼他们还参加了2008年北京奥运会，我的朋友没有取得名次，但是他们的意志激励我变得越来越坚强。

Q: Have you made Irish Friends?

A: Yes, I have. I met some of my friends through my work. I look after disabled people. They have strong will and they inspired me. They participated in 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

问：你打算在爱尔兰还读一个高等学校吗？答：我想等我的语言彻底过关以后，我想读一个我喜欢的硕士，比如说财经方面的。

Q: Do you plan to study in the university in Ireland?

A: I plan to take MA course I like, for example in finance, after I pass my Language test.

问：需要自己交学费吧？答：对，学费比较贵，我打听过，我可能一年要交一万八欧元，所以对我而言这又是一个很大的挑战。我如果想读兼职的话是两年，但是也要一年交一万二。加上生活费房租还需要很多的钱。就需要节省。虽然说我家人肯定支持我，但是我喜欢靠我自己。

Q: Do you need pay non-EU fees?

A: Yes. It is very expensive. I heard that I need pay eighteen thousand Euros a year. This is another challenge for me. It is twelve thousand Euros per year for two years for part-time course. This is a lot of money plus living expenses. I have to work hard and save hard. My family will support me but I want to pay myself. I want to be independent.

问：你平时在爱尔兰休闲的时候有什么爱好呢？答：我喜欢看电影，平时喜欢和我的朋友们一起去电影院看电影。然后我还喜欢吉他，也学习弹吉他。我还喜欢编织毛衣围巾帽子。

Q: What do you do in your spare time?

A: I like watching movies. In my spare time, I often go to cinema to watch movies with my friends. I also like playing Guitar. I am learning how to play the Guitar at the moment. I also like knitting.

问：你去不去爱尔兰的教堂？答：去过，一两次，但是我们中国是佛教文化，要我一下子转变成基督教或者是天主教我总觉得不太可能，我觉得佛教是中国的根，不能丢。

Q: Have you ever been to churches in Ireland?

A: Yes, I have visited there twice. But Buddhism is the main religion in China. It is impossible to convert me into Christian or Catholic. I think Buddhism is the root of China. We can not throw it away.

问：你平时在家里看佛教书吗？答：不太看，但是我喜欢佛教的心语，是给人生的一种启迪，教人如何处事。还是比较喜欢佛教一点。我平时也练毛笔字，但是我写的不是太好，在有空余的时间可以练练。我还是比较喜欢中国的传统文化，比如说我的房间布置的就比较中国化，有朋友来我家看就觉得很有中国人的味道，有中国结、中国剪纸、中国雕饰。我还喜欢中国的古诗词，我还参加网上的诗词比赛，还有中国对联。但是也喜欢这里的杂志，像国家地理杂志，我还喜欢读BBC的新闻和评论，我喜欢看财经方面的报道，有关中国和世界的交流，有关中国的报道。或者英文的小说，我都喜欢看。我希望能了解一种文化，然后能把中国的文化介绍到西方来。这是一种对西方文化的贡献，哪怕这只是一小点，我就很开心。

Q: Do you often read books about Buddhism?

A: I like reading the book - Buddhism “Xinyu”. It is about the enlightenment of life and guidance of people’s behaviour. I like Buddhism. I like Chinese traditional culture. For example, I practice Chinese calligraphy in my spare time. I decorated my room in a Chinese style such as Chinese knots and Chinese paper-cutting. My friends were fascinated when they came to visit me. I like Chinese classical poems. I participated in a Chinese poem competition on the internet. I also like reading English novels and English magazines, for example: National Geography. I often listen to BBC news, especially reports about China and financial news. I would like to know Western culture and then introduce Chinese culture to the West so I can contribute to Western culture.

问：你有没有和你的爱尔兰朋友分享中国文化呢？答：有，我会带一些中国结和具有中国色彩的小饰品，展示给他们看，他们也会很开心，还给他们带一些中国的生肖的东西，他们也很开心，还给他们介绍这些是什么意思，他们也觉得这很不可思议。Q: Did you share Chinese culture with your Irish friends?

A: Yes, I did. I showed Chinese knots and ornaments of Chinese zodiac to my friends. I also explain the meaning of Chinese zodiac to them. They were amazed.

问：你很享受在爱尔兰的生活吗？

答：是的。

Q: Are you enjoying living in Ireland?

A: Yes, I am.

**Transcript 3**

**Personal background**

**Name:** Ming

**Age:** 27

**Marriage status:** Single, no children

**Immigration status:** Student visa

**Education background:** Graduated from vocational nursing school; obtained a Bachelor’s degree in nursing in Finland.

**Occupation in Ireland:** Studying English in a language school; Part-time teacher in a language school.

**Length of staying in Ireland:** 2 years

问：请介绍一下你的姓名年龄、家庭背景教育背景，在爱尔兰是从事什么职业，什么身份。答：我叫明，27岁，来自上海，我是独生子女，我的爸爸妈妈都是上海的农村人，所以我是在农村长大的，性格比较开朗，像北方人的性格。我的教育非常传统，我的父母希望我中专毕业做个护士，不要受太高的文化教育，做一个护士就可以了。所以我那个时候是中专毕业，读的卫校，2000年毕业时教育改革，我觉得我受的教育太低了，就继续读了大专，读完大专，学校里面正好有机会可以去芬兰，交换一年可以修一个本科，我就乘那个机会去了芬兰读了一年的书，所以对我来说那个时候是非常幸运的，我的爸爸妈妈也很支持我，所以我有幸在欧洲生活了一年，毕业以后重新回到上海，对我的生活观和价值观有了很大的影响，在上海继续工作的两年里，我觉得我应该继续出国深造，所以两年前我再次来到了欧洲，这次就是选择爱尔兰，因为爱尔兰是讲英语的国家，芬兰是以芬兰语和瑞典语为主，不讲英文，那个时候很喜欢芬兰，有机会留在那里，但是因为语言不通，所以后来选择了爱尔兰，然后在爱尔兰两年，挺喜欢爱尔兰的，生活的挺开心的，很喜欢这边的文化，因为总体来说欧洲的文化他们享受的共同的理念，然后我有上海人的思想，比较小资主义，因为曾经是在上海的市区工作，所以发生的变化就是小资情结，在欧洲的小资思想特别严重，所以在这里适应得挺好的，去年生活在这里，又是学习又是打工，完全靠自己，因为已经是26岁了，不可能再依赖家人了，再说出来的时候问爸爸妈妈要了一些钱办签证和机票，出来之后就是全靠自己打工来养活自己，完全经济独立。然后刚开始第一年的时候还是需要去语言学校读书，那个时候生活还是比较辛苦的，但是现在第二年雅思考了7.5分，我可以通过注册爱尔兰护理的护士注册证，然后现在学校又给我一个机会可以留校做老师，所以我就觉得生活好像一下子开拓了好多，好像交涉面也广了和社会的接触也就多了，然后接触下来对爱尔兰的整个感觉有一种家的感觉，所以我目前的想法就是希望能够自己定下来，如果说能够找到自己生活的另一半，然后稳定的生活就是我一种理想的状态。

Q: Please introduce yourself: name, age, family background, educational background.

A: My name is Ming. I am 27 years old. I am from Shanghai. I am the only child in the family. My parents are from suburbs in Shanghai so I grew up in the countryside. My personality is very optimistic. My education is quite traditional. My parents hoped that I could study in a vocational nursing school and work as a nurse. I followed their advice. I graduated from vocational nursing school in 2000. There was an educational reform at that time. I felt that my education level was too low so I completed associate college degree. Then there was an exchange study in my college to get bachelor’s degree in Finland. I took the opportunity and went to Finland to study for one year. I felt that I was very lucky because I could have the opportunity to live in Europe for one year. I went back to Shanghai after my graduation. This experience changed my view of life and value. I kept thinking about studying abroad during my two years’ work in Shanghai. I came to Europe again two years ago. I chose Ireland because Ireland is an English speaking country. People speak Finish and Swedish in Finland. They don’t speak English. I liked Finland very much and I had the opportunity to stay there. But I chose to come to Ireland instead of Finland because the language barrier was there. I also like Ireland very much. I like the culture here because generally European cultures share the same idea. I am from Shanghai so I belong to ‘petty bourgeoisie’. I think ‘petty bourgeoisie’is popular in Europe. I enjoy staying here. I was 26 when I came to Ireland. My parents paid the fees for my visa and flight ticket. I couldn’t depend on them any more so I worked and supported myself. I am becoming independent. My first year was very hard because I was studying in a language school. Luckily I passed the English test and I got 7.5 point for my ELTS test in my second year studying in Ireland. Hopefully I can register as a nurse in Ireland next year. The school where I am studying also offered me an opportunity to teach there. I feel that life suddenly opened a door for me because I have more chances to meet more Irish people and contact the host society. I have a feeling that Ireland is my home now. My dream is to find myself “the other half”and settle down in Ireland so I can have a steady life.

问：来到爱尔兰之前你做了一些什么准备和了解呢？答：来爱尔兰之前我2004年已经去过芬兰了，因为芬兰是申根国，有机会去很多欧洲国家旅游，像德国法国比利荷兰瑞典瑞士，所以对于欧洲整体的感觉，觉得他们的文化都是差不多，生活的方式都比较放松，整体来说不像中国竞争那么激烈，环境那么拥挤，我还是比较享受和向往着过那种比较有情调的生活，我的准备就是，因为我是从事护理专业的，所以我比较有信心到了欧洲工作的问题应该是可以落实的，最主要的就是语言方面，所以我回到中国之后就是不断的提高自己的英语水平，我那个时候参加了很多英语的培训，然后还交了很多有出国想法的朋友，我们之间可以互相交流，所以我觉得我出国之前还是做了足够充分的思想准备的，我知道出国肯定会经历很多的磨难，没有亲人没有朋友完全就是要靠自己，就会觉得很寂寞。而且在语言学校的话，老师也不会像原来我在芬兰老师那么有支持有帮助，所以我的思想准备就是自己完全要靠一个人靠自己的努力挺过来。对于我而言是一个很强大的挑战，而且我是很乐于接受的，因为在我的想法里，年轻的时候吃些苦不算什么的，最主要的就是说，不要后悔就行，所以我觉得我在26岁的时候决定来爱尔兰是一个很好的决定，不会后悔，准备方面也做的蛮充分的。

Q: How did you prepare yourself for coming to Ireland?

A: I had been to Finland before I came to Ireland. Finland is one of the Schengen countries so I had opportunities to travel to many countries, such as Germany, Belgium, Holland, Sweden and Switzerland. My impression of European countries is that the lifestyle there is relaxed; it is not like China which has strong competition and crowded environment. I enjoyed and looked forward to the life with that atmosphere. Before I came to Ireland, I was confident to find work because my Major was nursing so it should be easy for me to find work in Europe. I focused on improving my English. I took part in many English training courses. I also made friends with the people who wanted to study or work abroad so we could exchange ideas. I prepared to experience hardship when I study abroad.

问：你在来爱尔兰之前期望能有什么样的生活呢？答：我的理想生活就是有一份稳定的工作，衣食无忧，然后我喜欢欧洲的文化氛围，很自由很开放，对知识都是抱有很崇高的敬意，我很喜欢这种理念，我不喜欢和别人勾心斗角混在一个小社会里面，整天就是耍心计。我喜欢欧洲是因为这边的文化氛围，所以理想生活就是衣食无忧，接下来就是提高自己的精神层次。也有小资情调，多听听音乐会，逛逛博物馆，去剧院看戏。

Q: What did you expect from life in Ireland?

A: My idea life is to have a steady job. I like the cultural environment of Europe. It is quite free and open. People respect knowledge. I do not like to live in a society that people fight each other. I would like to go to concert, theater and museum.

问：你的期望现在都实现了吗？答：已经迈出了半步，所以还是要有另外一大半步的努力，我正在向我的目标前进中，然后应该是不会很遥远了，因为我现在的工作基本上是能够完全维持自己的生活了，然后我的工作又是很有挑战性的，也是我很喜欢的职业，是作为教师，是用英文教课的，是教社会保健，正好也是我的职业，我觉得我是很幸运的，是我的梦想。我觉得很完美。

Q: Have your expectations come true?

A: Half have come true. I have to work harder. I am moving towards my goal. It is not far away. At the moment my job can support myself. My job is also challenging. I like my teaching job and I use English to teach the subject ‘social healthcare’which is my major. I feel very lucky. It is my wild dream. I feel that my life is perfect.

问：你喜欢爱尔兰吗？答：对，我非常喜欢。所以我很开心。我觉得生活是朝着我向往的方向发展，所以很喜欢。Q: Do you like living in Ireland?

A: Yes, very much. I am very happy because I feel that life is moving towards my dreams.

问：你喜欢爱尔兰的什么方面？答：很多方面，首先因为喜欢爱尔兰的生活，所以现在连爱尔兰阴晴不定的天气我都开始喜欢了，这里到了冬天整天都是黑夜，又潮又黑又冷。我的朋友会和我抱怨，但是我却觉得冬天就是这样子的，上海也很冷，至少在这边还没有上海那么冷，而且阴晴不定，下雨下了一阵子就突然停了然后就开始晴天了，我觉得这样挺好，因为我每天出门的时候它就晴天了，我一回家就下雨了，现在就发现这个天气也很合我的心意，就觉得各方面都很好。Q: What do you like most about living in Ireland?

A: I enjoy life in Ireland. I even like Irish weather. It is dark and wet in winter here and my friends often complain about it. But I think it is not as cold as in Shanghai. There were showers when I came back home from work but they stopped when I needed to go outside. I am satisfied with everything in Ireland.

问：你有不喜欢爱尔兰的部分吗？答：有的，那就是爱尔兰的人不够勤奋，他们对于事情都是比较懒散，可能是因为他们的经济比较好的关系，尤其是前十年凯尔特虎的经济，所以他们的生活一下子富裕下来，人心都涣散了，人心都不思进取，我觉得年轻人都好像很懒，然后尤其是我接触到的男生，他们不是那种很上进的人，也不喜欢做家务，好像整天都是想玩的那种，可能就是因为他们这一点让我觉得有点遗憾。我希望是的一个比较勤奋的民族，就像我们中国，大家都是用自己勤劳的双手去创造自己的生活。现在经济萧条了，他们可能会反思，可能会改变。

Q: What do you dislike about Ireland?

A: I think Irish people are not working hard. That’s because economy was good especially Celtic Tiger. Young people are very lazy, especially Irish men I knew. They don’t strive to make progress and they don’t want to do housework either. They want to have fun everyday. It is a pity. I hope that Irish will learn from Chinese to work hard to create a better life. Now it’s recession time, I hope that Irish people will reflect upon their past and change their attitude.

问：你觉得爱尔兰文化和中国文化有什么相同之处和不同之处呢？答：其实很多人都和我说过，觉得爱尔兰的文化和中国的文化有一点接近，第一我们这两个民族都是很传统的民族，都有自己的文化，然后曾经都是从苦难中经历过来的，像爱尔兰在70年代的时候有过饥荒，他们那个时候也是很多都是大家庭，有7、8个子女，我们中国在父辈曾经也有过七八个子女，然后也是到了我们这一代经济一下子富裕上去了，子女也少了，都是核心家庭，爱尔兰也是这样了，经济也是到了富裕状态，但是我们两个民族都是在民族感的挣扎中来前进的，所以很多传统的价值观我们都还保留着，但是对于先进的思想都有影响，我觉得我们都存在同样的迷茫和价值的趋向，所以很多方面还是比较接近的。Q: What’s the similarity and difference between Chinese culture and Irish culture?

A: I think Irish culture is similar to Chinese culture. First, both nations have their traditional cultures; second, both nations were in deep distress. There were famines in both Irish and Chinese history. There were many big families with 7 or 8 children in Ireland and China in the 1950s. Now both Ireland and China have become rich and there are small families with one or two children in China and Ireland. Both countries keep traditional values but are influenced by advanced ideology at the same time. So I think they are quite similar.

问：你觉得爱尔兰人的性格特征是什么呢？答：爱尔兰人的性格都是比较开朗的，都是比较热情的，也可以从他们的酒吧文化中显示出来，他们的为人都是比较诚实诚恳的，所以我觉得这是很大的一个优点，和中国人勤劳友善热情是很接近的。Q: What do you think about Irish people??

A: Irish people are optimistic, cheerful and warm-hearted. This is reflected in their pub culture. They are also honest and sincere. They are similar to Chinese people who are hard-working, friendly and warm-hearted.

问：你觉得你现在具有爱尔兰人的特征吗？答：我理想就是能够取其精华去其糟粕，我现在还是尽力的保留自己的优点，然后爱尔兰的那种无所谓的态度我也学会了，比如说上班迟到，出勤迟到，这点不太好，太放松了，有时候觉得不太好，但是马马虎虎吧，反正生活就是这样，不要太刻意的强求自己。Q: Are you becoming Irish?

A: M y idea is to select the essence and discard the dross. I try to keep my good points but I have learned from Irish and becoming careless. For example I am often late for work. I think this is not good. I am not strict with myself as before.

问：你觉得在爱尔兰哪些方面适应的容易一些？答；因为生活嘛，我们是讲衣食住行，在衣服方面，价钱方面和上海也差不多，而且爱尔兰的衣服的式样比中国还多一点，所以我喜欢购物买了很多衣服。吃的方面当然没有在中国那么丰富，但是这边也有很多中国超市，再加上还有很多欧洲的食物，比如说德国的意大利的法国的，这些都是我喜欢的。所以我觉得选择方面还是很多的。我觉得和在上海的生活质量没有改变，只是这边自己动手的机会比较多一些。住的话，我觉得要比上海好，因为中国的居住条件太拥挤了，然后我在上海也是居住的一个比较繁华的地段，一到晚上就刻意听到马路上车来人往，声音比较吵，在这边的话我会觉得环境很好很安静，我住的房子后面那有一条河，河边经常会有天鹅和小鸟。每次在家附近散步一下都会觉得整个人的身心都放松下来。我觉得出行方面也是差不多，虽然很多人都会抱怨这里公车都很不准点，加上这里的轻轨和中国的地铁比起来差太多了，不过我住在市中心，我觉得总体还是满不错的。我自己是用的自行车，自行车去哪里都比较方便的。他们这边的出租车也蛮多的。我觉得在生活各方面还是不错的，生活质量和上海相比还是有保持有提高。蛮满意的。Q: What makes life here easy?

A: I am going to discuss daily necessities: food, clothing, accommodation and transportation. Price of clothes in Ireland is almost the same as in Shanghai with more fashion so I bought a lot of my clothes here. There are not so many varieties of food in Ireland. But it is convenient to go shopping at Chinese supermarkets. I buy Chinese food and cook for myself. I like western food as well. Accommodation is better in Ireland because it is too crowded and noisy in Shanghai. The place where I live in Ireland is very quiet. I take a walk along a river and enjoy the view. I feel very relaxed. Transportation: Many people complain that the bus service is not on time; Luas is not as good as subways in China. I find it is convenient to cycle everyday. There are also many taxis in Dublin. In general, the quality of life in Ireland is better than in Shanghai so I am satisfied with everything.

问：你想念中国吗？答：还好，因为生活是自己选择的，怎么样的生活方式是由自己决定的，所以我觉得不管我是在中国还是爱尔兰我都是在过自己想过的生活，所以还好。想家就是我怀念我爸爸的厨艺，因为在家里什么事情都不用自己做，我妈帮我打扫卫生，老爸帮我做饭。在这里什么事情都要自己做，所以比较想家。但是因为自己也二十多岁了，什么事情也应该自己独立了，对于我而言也是一种挑战。

Q: Do you miss China?

A: I live on the life I chose myself because I made choice about lifestyle myself. I miss the food my father cooked in China. I did not need to do anything at home whereas I have to do everything myself here. That’s why I miss my home. However, I am over twenty, I should be independent. This is a challenge for me.

问：家乡对你意味着什么呢？答：是我爸爸妈妈的呵护，还有我的邻居亲戚的问候，还有朋友的关怀。这就是家乡的含义。

Q: What does home mean to you?

A: Home means my parents babying me; greetings from my neighbors and solicitude from my friends.

问：你作为一名中国妇女，中国人对你意味什么呢？答：我很自豪，因为中国的文化有5 千年历史，我觉得我具备中国悠久传统的理念，再加上我一直在学英文，我觉得我基本上融入到西方的社会生活中，所以对于我来说是结合了两种元素在一起，对于西方人学中国文化和融入中国文化都很难，对我来说已经具备了东方文化，又接受了很多西方文化的影响，所以说我们比他们更有优势，比他们更加骄傲。Q: Being a Chinese woman, what does being Chinese mean to you?

A: I am very proud of (being a Chinese) because China has a long traditional culture. I possess Chinese traditions and I have been learning English and integrating to the Western life so I combine two elements myself. It is difficult for Western people to learn the Chinese language and to integrate into Chinese culture. Compared to them, I have more advantages. I am very proud of this.

问：你作为一名中国妇女，是否比男性更加容易适应爱尔兰的生活？.

答：更加容易。因为这边对女性很尊重的，再加上他们更加照顾，保护和帮助女性。我刚来的时候受到了很多朋友的帮助，作为一名东方女性还是很受用的。

Q: Do you think that it is easier for Chinese women to adapt to the life in Ireland than Chinese men?

A: I think it is easier for Chinese women to adapt to life in Ireland than for Chinese men. Because Irish people respect women and they are willing to take care and protect and help women. Being an Asian woman, I got a lot of help from my friends when I first arrived here.

问：和其他国家的移民妇女有竞争吗？

答：竞争是无法避免的，肯定是有竞争的。竞争对于我来说也是很积极的。有竞争才有胜出。当然东欧妇女属于欧盟，她们享有居住权和工作权，中国移民妇女在这一点竞争方面落后于人家。我可以举我的朋友的例子。我有两个朋友，一个是中国人，另一个是波兰人。都是护士。我的波兰朋友英文很差，我和她交流觉得很累，她在养老院找到一个护士的工作，工资很高，三个月后就把她的老公和两个子女都带到爱尔兰来了。他们一家很幸福的生活在一起。我的中国朋友也是和波兰朋友一样的年龄，35岁。老公在中国。她的英语比我的波兰朋友强，她的口语很好，发音也清楚。波兰人不需要考英语雅思，中国人要通过英语雅思考试。中国朋友考了一年多雅思考了6.5 分。我的中国朋友要求雇主办工作签证， 雇主让她回国去等工作签，她等了一个多月都没有。她打电话问雇主，雇主翻悔了因为要花钱不划算。雇佣波兰护士不要花钱。我觉得这很不公平，中国人处于竞争弱势，但是机会是给有准备的人给乐观向上的人的，毕竟在爱尔兰有更多的机遇。更利于女性的发展，这里尊重知识和文化，思想更加开放。

Q: Compared to other migrant women; is there competition with them?

A: Surly there is competition. My attitude towards competition is positive. There is winning steak after competition. Eastern European women attain in society living right and working right. Chinese migrant women fall behind of them because of this. I can give you one example to let you judge. I have two friends. One is Chinese, the other is Polish. Both of them are nurses. My Polish friend’s English is so poor that I find it is difficult to communicate with her. She found a job as a nurse in a nursing home. Three months later her husband and children came to Ireland to join her and they are living together happily. My Chinese friend is the same age as my Polish friends. She is 35. Her husband is in China. Her English is much better than my Polish friend. Her pronunciation is very clear. Polish do not need take the English test while Chinese have to take English test. It took my friend more than one year to pass English test.

问：你受到过歧视吗？

答：我比较幸运。可能会有吧。我没放在心上。我的同事都说我长得很东方，可能有歧视的含义。但是另一方面，中国人都很娇小漂亮。他们会问我如何保持苗条的身材，使我很开心。

Q; Have you experienced discrimination?

A: I am very lucky. Maybe I have experienced but I don’t mind. My colleagues told me that I look very Oriental. Maybe it is discrimination. But on the other side, Chinese people are slim so they always asked me how to keep slim and I am happy to hear this.

问：你有英文名字吗？

答：我有英文名字。 刚开始到爱尔兰我用英文名字。后来我遇到罗伟文，他是我在爱尔兰认识的一个朋友。他说你的中文名字很好听，为什么要舍弃中国文化而用英文名字呢？你要保持你自己的身份。他的话让我清醒下来，我的名字是我的父母给的，我应该尊重我的父母。我的名字也很好记，后来我用中文名字明芬。我觉得作为东方女性用中文名字有自己的独特象征，特性。我应该保持我的中文名字。现在我的同事还习惯叫我英文名字，改不过来了，但是我后来认识的朋友都叫我中文名字。

Q: Do you have an English name?

A: Yes, I have an English name. I used my English name when I first came to Ireland until I met a friend in Ireland. He told me that my Chinese name is pleasant to the ears and he asked me why I gave it up. He advised me to keep my own cultural identity. His words woke me up. My name was given to me by my parents and I should respect my parents. Actually my Chinese name is easy to remember. Then I started using my Chinese name. Now my colleagues still call my English name because they are used to it. But the friends I met later all call me by my Chinese name.

问：你交了爱尔兰朋友吗？

答：我交了很多爱尔兰朋友。我的语言学校的同事和同学， 打工的同事，邻居和室友，还有房东。没有朋友太寂寞了，人是群居的社会动物。保持社会的亲和力，对人际交往很重要。

Q: Did you made Irish friends?

A: I made a lot of Irish friends: My classmates and colleagues in the language school; my neighbors and flat mates; also my landlord. I will be lonely if I don’t have friends. It’s important to socialize with people.

问：你们在哪儿见面？

答：有时在中国餐馆吃饭。有时去酒吧，咖啡馆。有时在家做饭吃。

Q: Where do you meet?

A: Sometimes we have dinner at Chinese restaurant. Sometimes we go to pubs, Café bar. Sometimes we cook at home.

问：你和中国人住在一起吗？

答：我以前和中国人Share 房子，现在和爱尔兰人一起住，因为和他们生活得很清静，我有自己的独立空间。

Q: Are you living with Chinese people?

A: I was sharing accommodation with Chinese people before. I am sharing a house with Irish people because I can have my own private space and live quietly.

问：生活中有困难向谁请教？

答：工作中有困难可以请教老板和同事，生活中有困难可以请教朋友。 还是要独立思考，读书读报。

Q: Whom do you consult when you have a problem?

A: I consult my boss and colleagues when I have difficulty at work. I ask my friend for advice if I have personal problems. It’s better to think independently. Read books and newspaper more often.

问：中国社团有帮助吗？

答：我觉得到爱尔兰要和当地社会融合。我也不太念家，所以中国社团对我影响不大。

Q: Is there any support from Chinese community in Dublin/Ireland?

A: I think that we should integrate in the Irish society since we are in Ireland. I don’t miss my home very much so Chinese community has no big influence on me.

问：你经常回国吗？

答：对呀，我每年回家探望父母，孝顺父母。每年回家陪陪他们。我去年回家过年一个月。他们天天给做好吃的我很幸福。今年春节我也打算回家三个星期，飞机票都订好了。

Q: Do you often go back to China?

A: Yes, I go back home to visit my parents every year. I am a dutiful daughter and I went back to China to accompany them. I went back to China for Chinese New Year last year for one month and I was very happy because my parents cooked me everyday. I have booked the flights for this Chinese New Year. I am going back for 3 weeks.

问：你经常读中国报纸看中国新闻吗？

答：网络真的很方便。我经常上网看中国新闻，听中国歌曲。也听英语新闻。

Q: Do you often read Chinese newspaper?

A: It’s convenient to use internet. I often read Chinese news and listen to Chinese music on the internet. I also listen to English broadcasts.

问：你觉得在中国和爱尔兰妇女的地位相同吗？

答：我比较上海女性的地位和这里女性的地位，我觉得女性的地位都很高。这里男人结婚都听老婆的，都是好爸爸。上海男人也都是马大嫂。我爸爸就是购物做家务。女性地位整体都很高。

Q: Being a woman: how is this different in Ireland and China?

A: I can compare women in Ireland with the women in Shanghai. I think women in both places have high social status. Irish men love the wife and children and take good care of them. Shanghai men are model husbands too. My father is a good example. He often does shopping and housework.

问：女性比男性更容易适应这里的生活吗？

答：这取决于个人的心态和个人的努力。我觉得社会给每个人的机会都差不多，只要你肯吃苦向上，到哪里都能吃得开，对于男性和女性都一样。当然女性可能得到更多关注和关怀。

Q: Do you think that it is easier for Chinese women to adapt to the life in Ireland than Chinese men?

A: Depends on individual’s mentality and effort. I think that society gives everybody equal opportunity. No matter a man or woman, one can be successful if he/she can take hardship and have a mind to make his/her way up. Of course women possibly get more attention and care.

问：哪些因素使中国女性容易融入爱尔兰的社会？

答：这边的男性对于东方女性比较正面肯定，在和男性交往比较容易，他们更加接受东方女性的传统价值观念， 东方女性择偶方面比东欧妇女强。不利的方面就是语言和文化，双方需要共同努力和沟通，要提高交流技巧， 幸福的生活就在不远处。

Q: What things make it easier for Chinese women to integrate in Ireland?

A: Irish men have positive ideas about Asian women so it is easy to associate with Irish men. They accept traditional value concept of Asian women. It is easier for Asian women to find a partner than East European women. Disadvantage is language and culture barrier. It is easy to find happiness if both sides work hard together to communicate and to improve the communicative skills.

问：比较中国和爱尔兰男朋友。

答：我有过一个加拿大男华裔男朋友。他和爱尔兰男朋友一样很绅士，很诚实，不像国内的男人很滑头。别人给我介绍了很多中国男孩，见了一面，没有意思。他们都没有情调。很多人太自私，可能因为是独生子女。

Q: Please compare your Irish boyfriend and Chinese boyfriend.

A: I had a Canadian Chinese boyfriend. He is the same as my Irish boyfriend who is a real gentleman. They are honest, not so cunning as the Chinese men. My friends introduced many Chinese boys to me and I have met them once. They have no taste and too selfish. I guess that they are spoilt because they are the only child in the family.

问：你的爱尔兰同事给你提建议怎么找男朋友？

答：对，她40 多岁。她说要睁大眼睛，找一个疼你的老公。不要介意学历，工作和背景。

Q: Did your colleague give you some advice about finding a boyfriend?

A: Yes. My colleague is in her 40s. She told me that I should keep my eyes open to find a husband who really loves me. She asked me not to care too much about his education background and job.

问：你的男朋友必须叫你的中文名字吗？

答：对，他们必须接受我的身份，交往不平等，就不能继续相处，我就会甩掉他。我们必须互相尊重，必须尊重我的价值取向。

Q: Should your boyfriend call you by your Chinese name?

A: Yes. They must accept my identity. We must respect each other and be equal. Otherwise I will dump him.

问：你觉得你变了吗？

答：我觉得我国际化了。我受益于我的文化，我保留传统的中国文化，对于西方文化也不断学习。我希望一个和谐的社会，对我下一代也希望如此。

Q: Have you changed?

A: I feel that I am becoming international. I benefit from my traditional Chinese culture so I hope that I can keep it. Meanwhile, I have absorbed western culture and I will keep learning it.

问：你要找一个爱尔兰丈夫吗？

答：只要百分百爱我。不管什么国籍。

Q: Do you want to have an Irish husband?

A: I don’t care about his nationality as long as he loves me 100%.

问：在爱尔兰的经历对你的成长有什么影响？

答：我觉得在爱尔兰各个方面都得到锻炼。首先，英文水平提高。然后思想更加独立，学会独立思考，做出自己的决定。性格方面也不像在国内那么任性，衣来伸手，饭来张口。不再娇生惯养，处事稳重，有理性。更加脚踏实地。 经济上也比国内赚得多，衣食无忧，各方面都很好。

Q: Has the experience living in Ireland influence on your life?

A: I feel that I have enhanced my abilities in Ireland. First, my English has improved. Second, I learned to think independently and make decisions on my own. I was childish and impulsive when I was in China but now I handle matters with discretion. I was pampered and indulged since childhood but now I do things conscientiously and reliably. I also made more money than in China. I have ample clothing and food. Everything is good.

**Transcript 4**

**Personal background**

**Name:** Jin

**Age:** 20

**Marriage status:** Single, no children

**Immigration status:** Came to Ireland with a family reunion visa

**Education background:** Finished the fifth year study at a middle school in China

**Occupation in Ireland:** Studying arts in a college; part-time waitress in a Chinese restaurant.

**Length of staying in Ireland:** Two and half years

问：你好，请你介绍一下个人情况。

答：我叫金，今年二十岁，在国内的时候是高二毕业，在这里读了两年成人的学校，来爱尔兰有两年多了，周末的时候我有教过中国小孩画画，或者是在中国饭店端盘子。

Q: Hello, please introduce yourself.

A: My name is Jin. I am twenty years old. I finished the fifth year study at a middle school in China and I have been studying in a college for two years since I came to Ireland. At weekends, I teach Chinese children drawing; I am also a part-time waitress in a Chinese restaurant.

问：那你什么时候到的爱尔兰呢？

答：2007年八月，之前我爸爸在这里工作了六年多，他可以帮我和我妈妈办团聚签证，所以我过来的时候就非常的容易，我到爱尔兰之后读了高中，但是那一年我觉得英语非常的困难，很多科目我都学不懂，所以我读了一年就离开了，我没有读高三。

Q: When did you come to Ireland?

A: August 2007. My father had been working here for more than six years before we came here. He applied family reunion visa for my mother and I. It was very easy for me to come here. I started senior middle school after I came to Ireland but I found that English was very difficult and I couldn’t understand many subjects at class so I left school after I read the fifth year and did not continue studying for the sixth year.

问：然后你到一了个什么学校呢？

答：我到了一个成人教育学校学美术，为大学作品集做准备。

Q: Then what kind of school are you attending?

A: I transferred to an arts school for adult education. I prepare portfolio for entering university.

问：你在国内学过美术吗？

答：我以前在国内学过很多年的画画。国画、素描、色彩我都学过。

Q: Were you studying art when you were in China?

A: I studied art for many years in China. I studied Chinese painting, sketch and color.

问：你来爱尔兰之前对爱尔兰有什么了解呢？

答：来爱尔兰之前我没有对这里有特别的了解，只是在看一些外国的电影，我对父亲的事情也不是特别清楚。不过他曾经找过一个上海的留学生给我讲在国外生活。然后那个女孩说在国外生活特别的艰苦，但是也不是完全不行，我也是半听半信吧。后来觉得这边生活是挺单调的。

Q: What do you know about Ireland before you came here?

A: I didn’t know much about Ireland before I came here. I only watched some foreign movies. I was not clear about my father’s life either. However my father found a Chinese student from Shanghai who studied in Ireland to tell me the life in foreign countries. That girl told me the life in foreign countries was especially hard but not completely bad. I was half-believing and half-doubting. Later I found the life here is quite boring.

问：你在没有到爱尔兰之前希望这里有什么样的生活呢？

答：期望能够上一个非常好的大学。

Q: What’s your expectation before you came to Ireland?

A: My expectation was to go to a very good university in Ireland.

问：你的期望实现了吗？

答：现在有一点点吧。因为我已经得到DIT的录取了，是室内设计和家庭设计，不过我现在不再想学那个了，我想今年再重新申请一次。

Q：Have your expectations come true?

A: Yes, a little bit because I got the offer from DIT. My major is interior design. But I deferred it. I want to apply again next year.

问：你去年是因为什么原因没有去读？

答：学费，有人说我必须要在爱尔兰住满三年才可以享受欧盟学费，非欧盟学费是一万二，欧盟学费是四千三，明年我就可以交欧盟的学费读书了。

Q: Why did you change your mind?

A: Because of tuition fees. I was told that I can pay EU fees after I stay here for 3 years. There is a big difference between EU fee and Non-EU fee. EU fee is four thousand three hundred Euros per year; Non-EU fee is twelve thousand Euros per year. I have to wait until next year so I can pay EU fee.

问：你最喜欢爱尔兰什么方面？

答：空气和环境都很好，而且爱尔兰人比较友善。

Q: What do you like about Ireland?

A: Fresh air and environment. Also Irish people are friendly.

问：最不喜欢爱尔兰的部分是什么？

答：在爱尔兰生活比较单调比较无聊，没有什么特别好玩的东西，不像在中国，周末的时候可以去学习一些东西，但是这里没有。其次就是每个商店在每个区都是一样的所以没什么意思。因为我在语言方面并不能很好的与人交流，这样就会影响我表达自己。

Q: What do you dislike about Ireland?

A: I found life in Ireland was quite boring after I came here. There was no fun. I could take some classes to learn something at weekend when I was in China. But I can’t find any classes to attend at weekend in Ireland. When I was wondering on the streets, I found that all the shops here were almost the same. I cannot communicate well with Irish people because of the language barrier thus this prevented me from expressing myself.

问：爱尔兰和中国在生活方面上有什么相似之处?

答：大多数人之间交流的都差不多。但是不同之处就是外国人会看问题看得轻松一点，不会给人那么多压力。

Q: What are the similarities between living in China and Ireland?

A: Communication styles among people in Ireland are almost the same as in China. But the difference is that Irish people look at things from a different angle without burden and they would not put too much pressure on other people.

问：你觉得爱尔兰人的主要性格特征是什么？

答：性格特征就是比较友善，比较好相处，而且他们比较懒，就喜欢在家呆着，不喜欢工作也不喜欢上学。

Q: What do you think about Irish people?

A: Irish people are very friendly and easy to get along with. But they are lazy. They prefer to stay at home instead of working or studying.

问：你的同学他们是这样的吗？

答：对，他们就是这样的。

Q; Are your classmates like that?

A: Yes, my classmates are like that.

问：适应在爱尔兰的生活是容易还是困难呢？

答：容易就是在一开始去某些地方遇上什么同学，他们都非常的热情非常的友好，就感觉没有想象中的那么难，困难的地方就是语言方面不太好，再加上性格不是那种特别开朗的那种，所以就觉得和他们有隔阂。

Q: Is it easy or difficult to adjust to life in Ireland?

A: The easy part is that my classmates are warm-hearted towards me when I first arrived. Life was not as difficult as I imagined before. The difficult part is the language barrier plus my personality is not very open. I feel that there are misunderstandings between me and my classmates.

问：你作为中国人，中国对你意味着什么？

答：中国就是代表我从哪里来，有的时候觉得中国文化特别的渊博，觉得自己有自己的准则和标准，也觉得做中国人挺好的，有自己的原则。比如说平时不会像外国人那么疯，觉得自己还是很矜持的，但是每次要解决签证就觉得为什么自己是个中国人，如果我要是美国或者类似这些国家的就不会有这些麻烦事了，就不会浪费这些时间在这干等了。

Q: What does being Chinese mean to you?

A: Being Chinese means where I am from. I think Chinese culture is erudite and I feel it is good to be Chinese because we have our moral standard and principle. For example, normally I am quite reserved and not as wild as my Irish classmates. Every time when I need to get a visa, I would prefer to be American or another nationality rather than Chinese. I would not have all these troubles and waste my time to wait in the immigration office for nothing.

问：你想念中国吗？

答：经常想念中国。

Q: Do you miss China?

A: Very often.

问：想念中国的什么方面？

答：想念中国熙熙攘攘的街道、人群、房子、还有那种生活。还有假期的时候即便不和朋友去玩也会去亲人家团聚，觉得很有安全感，不需要找很多朋友否则就会觉得孤单。

Q: What do you miss about China?

A：I miss the crowded streets, crowds, houses and lifestyle in China. I went to China to visit my family and friends during my holidays. I felt much more secure when I was in China. I feel lonely in Ireland because I don’t have many friends.

问：你觉得和其他国家的同学之间有竞争吗？

答：有，他们都语言都比较好，学什么都比较容易，而且老师会更关注本国的学生，不过我在学校美术也比较好，所以老师也会很喜欢我, 去帮助我。

Q: Are there competitions between you and your classmates?

A: Yes, there are. Their English is better than mine. It’s easier for them to study. My teachers also pay more attention to the students from their own country. However, I am good at arts at school and my teachers like me and help me.

问：你有受过什么歧视吗？

答：有，在高中的时候有个历史老师是爱尔兰人就是总歧视中国人，他对本国的学生好很正常，对黑人也很好，但是他对中国人就像是当透明的一样，看不见那种。

Q; Have you experienced discrimination?

A: Yes, I have. There was an Irish teacher who taught history in my high school who always discriminated against Chinese students. He was very nice to Irish students and that’s understandable. He was also very nice to Black students but he treated Chinese students as if he did not see us.

问：对中国人是一种什么歧视的态度？

答：就是问你知道吗，然后如果说知道就这么过去了。

Q: Can you give me an example?

A: For example, he asked me if I understood and then he would not pay attention to me at all.

问：那你在这里交了很多朋友吗？

答：不是特别多，在学校里有一些同学。大多数都是爱尔兰人，因为我们学校都是爱尔兰本地人在去读，也有波兰人。我在高中也有一些同学，但是都不是爱尔兰人，有黑人，尼泊尔的，还有波兰的。但是之后都没有联系了。就是遇到了还是会认识并且问好那种。平时我们学校会有PARTY的那种，我就会跟他们一起去。

Q: Have made a lot of friends here?

A: Not many. Some of them are my classmates. Most of them are Irish. Some classmates in my high school are black people, some of them from Nepal and Poland. I did not keep contact with them. I would say hello to them when we meet and go to a school party.

问：他们平时是叫你中文名还是英文名？

答：本来在高中的那一年我是用的英文名，但是后来我就告诉大家的自己的名字。但是他们都觉得很奇怪，他们都不清楚这个名字。

Q: Do your classmates call you by your English name or Chinese name?

A: I used English name in my first year in high school. But I told them my Chinese name. They felt it was strange to call me by my Chinese name because they are not familiar to it.

问：你个人是更喜欢中文名还是英文名？

答：其实英文名字更容易让人接受，但是每次说出英文名都有一种不属于我的感觉，感觉本来就不属于我还要说出去，但是对于他们来说发音就比较简单，我现在告诉我叫HUAN他们的发音就特别听不出来是什么。而且他们也会在背后讨论你说你看这是什么名字之类的。以前的英文名字是从字典上找到的。英文名字到最后都不知道是不是我了，所以还是告诉别人中文名字比较好，最起码要用真实的名字吧。

Q: Do you prefer your English name or Chinese name?

A: An English name is more easily accepted by Irish people because my English name is easier for my classmates to pronounce. I guess that my classmates discussed my Chinese name behind my back because they couldn’t understand what it meant. I found my English name in my dictionary. I feel that my English name does not belong to me. Sometimes I don’t even know it is me when other people call my English name. So I think it is better to tell other people my Chinese name. At least it is my real name.

问：你平时有困难的时候是从哪里寻求帮助的？

答：以前就是只好找朋友问一些经验了，但是如果是家人知道的事情就会问他们，其次就是Crosscare大小事都可以问他们都可以帮忙解决。

Q: Whom do you consult when you have a problem? Help and support from whom?

A: I ask my friends or my parents for help if I have difficulties. I also consult the Crosscare. They help us to solve all sorts of problems in our life.

问：你经常回中国吗？

答：一年回去一次吧，因为我也才来两年多，回去过两次。去新东方学雅思英语。

Q: Do you often go back to China?

A: I went back to China once a year. I have been back twice. I went back to study in New Oriental School in Beijing to prepare ELTS.

问：你每天经常看中国的报纸、中国的收音机吗？

答：上网的时候我一般会看中国的网页或者是看一点中国的电视，但是我不喜欢读中国的报纸。因为报纸上登载的都是从网络上下载的消息。

Q: Do you often read Chinese newspapers?

A: I read Chinese websites on the internet and watch some Chinese TV programs. I don’t like reading Chinese newspapers because the news was downloaded from internet.

问：你觉得作为一名妇女在爱尔兰和中国有什么区别？

答：我觉得爱尔兰人非常有礼貌，像在学校我发现有的人在关门的时候总会看看后面有没有人确定关门不会伤害到别人，如果有一点距离他也会为你开门，都是陌生人他们都很谦让。在中国就不会。

Q: Being a woman: how is this different in Ireland and China?

A: I think Irish people are very polite. For example: I noticed that people always hold the door for other people coming behind or open the door for other people even if they are a bit far away from the door. They don't know each other but they are so courteous. In China, people won't do that.

问：你觉得哪些因素让你很好的适应下来？

答：其实我觉得不是特别适应，但是他们人比较开放，如果和别人说什么，他们绝对都会说不重要不要放在心上，他们会给你更多的空间让你去适应，他们用发展的角度去看问题，在中国人就觉得今天的事明天做好就是一个很大的障碍在面前，怎么想办法，马上就突破的那种。

Q: What factors make it easier for Chinese women to integrate in Ireland?

A: To be honest, I am not used to life here. However I found Irish people are very open. Whatever I told them, they would say: Don’t mind. They would give me more space to adjust and they see things in different ways Chinese people don’t want to leave today’s work until tomorrow. We want to solve the problem as soon as possible. Irish people’s attitudes towards work are different.

问：你觉得在爱尔兰生活有哪些困难？

答：语言是很大的困难。本来就不是那种特别会交际的人，加上有语言困难，就不解决。在中国会有一些基本的人际关系网，即使不出门，也可以找到很多帮助和经验。但是在这里就不一样了。我也在语言学校给别人替课，最开始的时候英语不好，正好可以把这个作为一份工作还可以去上课，对学习语言有帮助, 我觉得挺好。

Q: Is it difficult to adjust to life in Ireland?

A: The language barrier is the most difficult thing. I am not good at socializing; plus the language barrier does not help. The second difficulty is my social networks are in China. I could get help from my friends even without going outside. I don’t have friends here. I found my job in a Chinese newspaper. Some students were busy working and had no time to go to school. However, they need attendance for renewing their visa so I went to English classes in language schools for them. This was one of my part-time jobs and it was helpful for my English. I thought it was a good idea… I also put an advertisement in a Chinese newspaper to say that I can teach children painting and I got some students.

问：你觉得平时打工有意思吗？累不累？

答：还可以，因为像端盘子我每个礼拜就端四个小时，很短一段时间，教别人画画就是一点都不累，就是陪他们画画，还挺有意思的，因为那些小朋友都像朋友一样，都可以聊天什么的。

Q: Do you like your part-time jobs? Are they tiring?

A: It’s OK. I only work as a waitress in a Chinese restaurant for four hours a week. It’s a quite a short time. I put an advertisement on the Chinese newspaper to say that I can teach children painting and I got some students. Teaching drawing is not tiring at all. It’s quite interesting because I can chat with my students like friends.

**Transcript 5**

**Personal background**

**Name:** Cai

**Age:** 39

**Marriage status:** Married with two children

**Immigration status:** Came to Ireland with a family reunion visa

**Education background:** Finished primary school study in China.

**Occupation in Ireland:** Housewife

**Length of staying in Ireland:** Four and half years

问：请介绍一下你的个人情况。

答：我叫蔡，1971年1月20号出生，我有两个儿子，大儿子1990年9月15号出生，小儿子2006年10月17号出生在爱尔兰。我爱人是工作签证，我在中国小学毕业。

Q: Please introduce yourself.

A: My name is Cai. I was born on 20th of January 1971. I have two sons. My oldest son was born on 15th of September 1990. My second son was born in Ireland on 17th of October 2006. My husband has a work permit. I finished primary school study in China.

问：你什么时候到爱尔兰？

答：2005年6月10号到达爱尔兰。家庭团聚过来的。

Q: When did you come to Ireland?

A: I came to Ireland on 10th of June 2005. I came here with my son to join my husband.

问：你到爱尔兰之前对爱尔兰的有什么了解？

答：听我老公说爱尔兰的气候好，人的素质好。在爱尔兰的生活很好。

Q: What did you know about Ireland before you came here?

A: My husband told me that the weather in Ireland was pleasant and people were nice; the life in Ireland was good.

问：你来爱尔兰之前对爱尔兰有什么期望？

答：希望家庭能够团聚。

Q: What’s your motivation of coming to Ireland?

A: My motivation was family reunification.

问：你最喜欢爱尔兰什么呢？

答：我最喜欢这里的空气。还有人的素质比较好。

Q: What do you like about Ireland?

A: I like the fresh air here and the people here are nice.

问：你能举例说明吗？

答：比如我怀孕的时候， 我上公车时有很多人给我让座位，如果我拿了很多东西，别人也还帮我拿。

Q: Can you give me an example?

A: For example, when I was pregnant, a lot of people offered their seats to me when I got on bus. They also helped me carry things if they saw me carrying many things in my hands.

问：你不习惯爱尔兰的哪些方面？

答：语言沟通不了，还有吃的方面吃不来。

Q: Is it difficult to adjust to life in Ireland?

A: I can not communicate with the people here because of the language barrier. I am not used to the Irish food.

问：爱尔兰文化和中国文化有什么相似与不同之处？

答：中西文化区别比较大。教育文化有差别，中国是传统文化，学生必须完成功课；这边的学生学习很自由。

Q: What’s the similarity and difference between Chinese culture and Irish culture?

A: There are big differences between Chinese culture and Western culture. The most obvious difference is education. Chinese education follows Chinese traditional culture. For example, students in China must study hard and finish their homework; while Irish students are quite free.

问：爱尔兰人性格方面有什么特征？

答：成年人比较友好， 小孩很调皮。我怀孕时在街上被小孩打了。有的男人素质也不好，我以前坐在大街上为中国餐馆举牌子做广告他会骂我Chinese Fuck。他并没有喝醉酒，他就骂我。这是个别人，是歧视中国人。大多数人是友好的。比如我在大街上卖气球，要下雨了，爱尔兰人对我说天气很冷，要多穿衣服。我现在听得懂一些英语了，但是不会讲。

Q: What do you think about Irish people??

A: Generally speaking, adults are very friendly; kids are very naughty. A kid hit me with a stick on the street when I was pregnant. Some men are not nice. I was sitting at O’Connell Street to hold an advertisement board for a Chinese restaurant. A man abused me. I thought that he was drunk but actually he was not. However this kind of discrimination is not common, most people are friendly. I was selling balloons on the street on rainy days and Irish people told me to put on more clothes because weather was cold. I can understand a little English now but I can’t speak.

问：你有困难得到什么帮助？

答: 我生小孩的时候不懂英语，医院帮我找翻译，社会福利好，都会帮我。我动手术的时候，不懂英语，那个护士在病房里一直扶着我，耐心给我解释。我很感动。

Q: Did you get any help or support when you have difficulties?

A: I gave birth to my son in a hospital in Dublin. I had no English so the hospital provided free interpreting services. Social welfare is also very good. Everybody is ready to help me. There was a nurse explained the procedure to me patiently when I had operation. I was deeply moved.

问：你觉得爱尔兰人一般都很友好吗？

答：中年人很友好。我的以前的房东就很友好。我有什么东西坏了去找她，她马上就过来。如果需要什么东西她马上也拿过来。她对我的小孩也很好，她也帮我的老公办工作签。我不会交电费单, 她也帮我交。

Q: Do you think Irish people are friendly?

A: Adults are very friendly. My landlord was very nice. She came directly as soon as I needed her. She was nice to my children as well. She also helped my husband to with his application for renewal of his work permit. I didn’t know where to pay my electricity bills and she showed me the way.

问：你交了爱尔兰朋友吗？

答：语言沟通不来，就只能打个招呼， 不能深入理解。

Q: Have you made Irish friends?

A: I cannot communicate with Irish people because of the language barriers. I can only greet them by saying hello to them and I can’t build deep friendships with them.

问：你现在习惯爱尔兰的生活了吗？

答：现在气候习惯了。以前夏天穿了三四件衣服还觉得冷， 现在习惯了。冬天也不觉得冷。

Q: Have you got used to the life in Ireland?

A: I have got used to the weather here. I had to wear three or four pieces of clothes even in summer. Now I am not feeling cold even in winter.

问：你有困难找谁寻求帮助？

答：附近的移民机构。有一个中国翻译在那里工作。我有什么困难就去找她，我的小孩福利停了也去找她。

Q: Whom do you consult when you have a problem? Help and support from whom?

A: I looked for help at Migrant Right Centre in Ireland near whenever I encountered problems in my life. Once my son’s child benefit was stopped and I went there for help. They provide free Chinese interpreting services.

问：你有英文名字吗

答：我没有英文名。我语言不通，年龄也大了。学习语言也很困难。

Q: Do you have an English name?

A: No, I don’t have an English name. I have a language barrier. I can’t speak English. I am not young. I am 38 and I found it is difficult to learn languages at my age.

**Transcript 6**

**Personal background**

**Name:** Hua

**Age:** 55

**Marriage status:** Married with one child

**Immigration status:** Came to Ireland with a family reunion visa

**Education background:** Finished middle school study in China.

**Occupation in Ireland:** Housewife

**Length of staying in Ireland:** Two and half years

问：请介绍一下你的个人情况。

答：我叫华，55岁，我是随我的老公团聚签来的爱尔兰。我老公8年前工作签证来到爱尔兰。我和我女儿两年前一起来的。主要的目的是为了我女儿能在这边上大学，出国学习对孩子的发展有好处。

Q: Please introduce yourself.

A: My name is Hua. I came to Ireland with family reunion visa. My husband came to Ireland eight years ago with a working visa. I came to Ireland with my daughter together two years ago. The main purpose of coming here was for my daughter studying in the university here. Studying abroad is good for my child’s future development.

问：请介绍一下你在国内的教育背景。

答：我是五十年代出生的人，从小对国家的感情挺深的，虽然七十年代我高中毕业后作为知识青年下乡四年，后来回到城里工作，然后结婚生孩子。紧接着国内改革开放，下岗，我不是像有的下岗职工那么贫困，做过一点买卖。我老公在八年前正好有一个机会办到了工作签证，就来到了这儿。本来打算干几年挣点钱就回去，但是后来他办到了长期居留，我和孩子就过来了。

Q: Please introduce your education background in China.

A: I was born in 1950s. I have always had deep feelings for my country although I went to the countryside for four years after I finished my senior middle school in 1970s. I went back to my city and worked at work union in a factory. I got married and gave birth to a child. Then there was reform in China and I was laid off. I was not so poor as other laid-off workers because I did some business. My husband had the opportunity to get a working visa and come to Ireland. His original plan was to go back to China after work and earn some money for few years but he got long-term residency so my daughter and I came over here.

问：你来爱尔兰之前对爱尔兰有什么了解呢？

答：我听说爱尔兰是欧洲的一个小国家，是欧洲的大农村。现在咱们国家发展挺快的，到处高楼大厦。爱尔兰没有高楼大厦，是原始生态环境。我打算我女儿上完大学以后全家都回去。来了以后发现生活确实挺难，有语言障碍。我在国内生活了五十多年， 同学，朋友等社会关系都在国内。刚到这儿两眼一摸黑，我女儿找学校都费劲，都不知道怎么申请读高中。

Q: What did you know about Ireland before you came here?

A: I heard that Ireland is a small country in Europe; it is the countryside of Europe. Now China is developing fast and there are a lot of high buildings. Ireland is a primeval ecological environment. We will return to China after my daughter finish university education here. I found that life was really difficult after I came here. There was a language barrier. I had been living in China for more than fifty years. My friends, relatives and networks are all in China. When I first came in Ireland, we knew nobody here. It was difficult for us to find a school for my daughter. We did not know how to apply for a senior middle school for my daughter.

问：你来爱尔兰之前对爱尔兰有什么期望？

答：期望不高。来爱尔兰之前我老公来了很多年了基本上了解爱尔兰的情况， 但是来了以后发现我这样的年龄找工作特别困难。我刚来时，经常去Illac Centre 去问中国人找工作。那时候还不像现在经济这么困难，找了几个工作。都是打扫卫生， 在四区的银行。外国人都挺友好的，但是中国人之间竞争激烈，我几个做清洁的工作都被中国人整没了。我觉得自己干得挺好的，但是外语不行，这是主要原因。

Q: What expectation did you have before you came to Ireland?

A: My expectation was not too high. My husband told me some information about Ireland before I came here. I found that it was difficult to find work at my age. When I first arrived here, I often went to the Ilac Shopping Centre to look for work. The economy was not so bad at that time. I found a cleaning job to work in a bank in Dublin 4. Irish people were friendly but there were strong competition between Chinese people. I think I am a good worker but I lost my cleaning job because my English was poor.

问：你什么时候到爱尔兰的？

答：2007年8月，和我女儿一道来的。

Q: When did you come to Ireland?

A: I came in August 2007 with my daughter.

问：签证有什么麻烦？

答：很容易，签证一个月左右就下来了。在爱尔兰办事比国内好办，有很多慈善机构帮助，这比国内强。但是我还是不习惯，觉得压抑。

Q: Was it easy to get visa?

A: Very easy. We applied for visa and got our visa after one month. It is easier to get things done in Ireland with the help of many charity organizations. But I am not used to life here. I feel depressed.

问：你喜欢爱尔兰吗？

答：还行，来了两年多了。

Q: Do you like Ireland?

A: It’s OK. I have been here more than two years.

问：你喜欢爱尔兰什么呢？

答：生态环境挺好，人也比较简单，挺友好的。

Q: What do you like about Ireland?

A: Environment is good. People are simple and very friendly.

问：你不喜欢爱尔兰哪些方面呢？

答：我觉得这儿办事效率低，麻烦。在国内窗口就可以办好的事，这里要你回去写信，挺繁琐的。

Q: What do you dislike about Ireland?

A: I feel that things get done here inefficiently which leads to too much trouble. I can get things done at information desks in China. But here things get done with over-elaborate formalities such as writing letters.

问：你觉得爱尔兰人的主要性格特征是什么？

答：性格特征是挺简单的，挺热情的。 上次我在市中心看到一个老太太摔倒了，几个人上去扶，在国内就不会，怕惹麻烦。

Q: What do you think about Irish people?

A: They are very simple and very friendly. Last time I saw an old lady fall on the ground when I was walking in the city centre. There a few people helped her. I don’t think people would do the same thing in China because people are afraid of getting into trouble.

问：你觉得作为一名妇女在爱尔兰和中国待遇和地位有什么区别？

答：我觉得待遇在国内国外差不多，我觉得在人家国家没有在自己国家那么理直气壮。我是三号签证，不允许工作。我打点临散工，其实生活挺困难的。 别人劝我领社会福利。可是我不敢申请。其实我在国内条件不是很差，但是觉得这儿工资特别低，在国内有房子住，在这儿没有房子，要租房。在都柏林市中心房价挺高， 咱不习惯很多人住在一起，喜欢自己一家人一起住，租房是很大一笔开销，所以经常搬家。我在国内结婚二十多年就搬过一次家，在这儿两年搬了六次家。

Q: Being a woman: how is this different in Ireland and China?

A: I think women enjoy the same social status in Ireland and China. However I don’t feel confident living here because this is not my own country. I have stamp 3 so I am not entitled to work here. I have to do some casual work such as cleaning jobs because it is very expensive to live in Ireland. The rent is too high. I was advised to claim social welfare but I feel shameful to do so. Our living standard was not low when we were in China because we own a three-bedroom apartment. However, we have to rent an apartment in Ireland and my husband's salary is not high. We don't want to share one apartment with other Chinese people so we have to pay expensive rent. We keep looking for an apartment with cheap rent. We have moved six times in the last two years; while in China we only moved once within twenty years after I got married.

问：想念中国的什么呢？

答：像我这个年龄不适合国外的生活。一个原因是语言不通，还有同学和亲属都在国内。我出国时我母亲八十，我真是时刻挂念，希望女儿上完学马上回去孝敬老母亲，但是老母亲突然得了肺癌，我回了两次国，最后临终前也没看到，这也是挺大的遗憾。我五十多年一直生活在母亲身边，没想到一下子出国了。原来想象生活挺容易， 我老公不是十分了解这里的政策，以为孩子学习能享受欧盟价，后来才知道住三年才能享受欧盟价。我女儿都考上大学了现在上不了，学费太贵承受不了，所以得等到明年。孩子都耽误两年了。这也是挺大遗憾。

Q: What do you miss about China?

A: At my age, it is difficult to get used to the life in a foreign country. One reason is that I find it is difficult to learn English at my age. The other reason is that all my social networks are in China. My mother was eighty years old when I left China and I missed her very much. I planned that we go back to China as soon as my daughter finished her study so I can show filial obedience to my mother. But my mother was diagnosed lung cancer and passed away and I didn’t get to see her before she passed away. This is my biggest regret. I was living with my mother for 50 years and suddenly I left her and went abroad. Life is not easy as we imagine. My husband thought that our daughter could pay the EU fee for her university but we were told that she had to stay here for 3 years and then she could pay EU fee. My daughter got the offer from university but she couldn’t go because we can’t afford the fees. They are too expensive. She has to wait until next year and she was delayed. Her time was wasted. This is also my regret.

问：你平时生活中有困难找什么机构寻求帮助吗？

答：有困难经常找机构寻求帮助。最开始是移民权利中心工作。我老公的四号签证都是他们帮助申请的。后来是Crosscare。这两年给我不少帮助，办事效率特别高，帮我写信和寄信。

Q: Whom do you consult when you have a problem? Help and support from whom?

A: I got help from Irish organizations. At the beginning, I got help from Migrant Rights Centre in Ireland. A Chinese interpreter, Li, helped my husband to apply for Stamp 4[[1]](#footnote-1). Then I got help from Crosscare. The people who were working there are very nice. They helped me a lot the last two years. They did things efficiently and they wrote letters for me.

问：你觉得适应这里的生活容易还是难？

答：其实这里的生活也和国内基本上差不多。 现在这里有很多中国商店，饮食还是中国的生活方式。就是觉得在这里知心的朋友少，很孤单。不是很容易适应。像我这个年龄在国内已经到了退休的年龄，我以前在国内没打过工，属于享受型的。在这儿不打工不行， 生活不够，我老公工资才一千多欧元，房费就要七八百。 我要是不打工， 钱根本就不够花。就觉得经济特别紧张。我在国内上超市买东西一车车推，在这儿金海湾（中国超市）买东西只能买八块十块的东西，不敢多花钱。

Q: Is it easy or difficult to adjust to the life in Ireland?

A: I feel that the lifestyle in Ireland is almost the same as in China. Now there are many Chinese supermarkets in Dublin and we can buy Chinese food and cook at home.I find it is difficult to adjust to life in Ireland. I have some friends here but I still feel lonely because I don’t have heart-to-heart friendships. At my age, I should have been retired bynow if I were in China. I had a good life when I was in China and never did casual work. But I have to work because of financial difficulty. I bought a whole trolley of goods when I was shopping in China but I only spent 8 or 10 Euros when I did shopping in Chinese supermarket here. I was afraid to spend too much money there.

问：你在中国餐馆的同事都是中国人吗？

答：在中国餐馆的同事都是很多香港人， 马来人。

Q: Are your workmates all Chinese?

A: I work in a Chinese restaurant. My workmates are mainly from Hong Kong and Malaysia.

问：你不用说英文吧？

答：不用说英文。但是他们说广东话我也听不明白。香港人，马来人比较歧视大陆人， 他们觉得咱们在大陆挺穷，其实咱们不穷。咱们也是和他们一样出来看看外面的世界， 再说咱们国家也不是和过去一样过不去了。外国人对中国人挺好的。虽然都是炎黄子孙，但是他们看不起咱们大陆人。真让人生气。

Q: Do you need to speak English at work?

A: I don’t need speak English at work. But I cannot understand Cantonese either. People from Hong Kong and Malaysia look down upon people from mainland China because they think we are poor. Actually we are not poor. We came to Ireland for the same reason as them: to see the outside world. My motherland is different now. Irish people are nice to Chinese people but people from Hong Kong and Malaysia look down upon us. It is so annoying.

问：你在爱尔兰交了爱尔兰朋友吗？

答：我语言不通，也没有什么爱尔兰朋友。但是我老公以前工作单位牛肉厂有一个叫麦克的经理，他对我家帮助挺大，我们刚来时他天天晚上来咱家教我女儿英语，现在和我家挺友好。前几天住院动手术，我老公和女儿到医院去探望他。我觉得他是一个很好的人，不抽烟不喝酒，听我女儿说他以前在大学教课，还是一名足球运动员，我觉得他文化素质比较高，他经常到我们家做客，他是我们家的友人。人也特别好，善良。我们家搬家他要帮忙，他有车。特别好的人。

Q: Have you made Irish friends?

A: All my friends are Chinese. I can’t communicate with Irish people because of a language barrier. I can’t understand them at all. However there is an Irishman who was the manager in my husband’s factory helped my family a lot. He came to our flat to teach my daughter English when we first arrived here. My husband and daughter went to visit him in a hospital after he had an operation recently. I think that he is a very nice person. He never drinks nor smokes. My daughter told me that once he was a lecturer in a university and he was football player. I think he has good education. He is a friend of my family. He is very kind. He helped us moving house because he has a car.

问：你比刚来爱尔兰适应了一些吗？

答：适应了一些。现在就一个信念，就是我女儿赶快读完大学回国，这里是比咱们城市好，因为我的城市在中国东北，冬天挺冷，不是四季如春。但是我还愿意回到中国，不像年轻人，他们可喜欢呆在爱尔兰。我想多挣点钱，然后平平安安回国养老。

Q: Are you getting used to the life here now?

A: Better. I just hope that my daughter finish her study as soon as possible so we can go back to China. The weather here is better than my home city in northeast China. It is extremely cold there. Here is spring all the time. But I still prefer going back to China. Young people enjoy staying here. I hope that I can save money and go back to China safely.

问：你和你老公谁更适应爱尔兰？

答：他适应比较好。我老公是农村人，更喜欢这里。我是城市人，不适应这里。福建人大部分是农村人，他们喜欢这里。像我这个年龄的人在爱尔兰的不多，都是独生子女，现在经济不好，很多北方人一次性回国。其实现在国内挺好。我打算让我女儿回国内读研究生，到北京发展。我觉得在爱尔兰不好找工作。我经常上网看工作需求，北京上海对室内设计等人才需求很大，工资也有五六千。我总觉得在这儿压抑，不踏实，在国内感觉踏实。有句话：金窝窝，银窝窝，不如自己的穷窝窝。还是愿意回国呆着。我到市中心看到法轮功的人宣传退党退团，我不是党员但是我热爱党，我对他们说孩子要好好读书学习，你们父母送你们出来不容易。咱们国家是有一些腐败现象，但是每个人都有缺点，也不能让别人笑话。我特别痛恨那些在大街上宣传法轮功的人，我觉得他们不配做中国人。其实他们对共产党不见得有多大的仇恨，他们的目的可能是为了自身利益，但是我觉得做人得有尊严，咱们这个年龄对祖国的感情挺深的，退党退团是不可能的事。

Q: who adjusted to the life here better, you or your husband?

A: My husband adjusted to the life here better because he was from countryside in China. I was from a city in China so I find it is difficult to adjust to the life here. Most people from Fujian province were from countryside and they enjoy living here. Most of the Chinese students in Ireland are the only child. They are not my age. I heard that many students from North China plan to go back to China for good because of recession. I think China is developing fast and I plan to let my daughter to do Master degree in China. It is not easy to find work in China. I often surf on internet and find that interior designers are in great demand in Shanghai and Beijing and their salaries are very high. I feel depressed here and I prefer to go back to China. There is a saying: East or west, home is the best. I came across some Chinese people who practice Falungong had protested in the city centre. They tried to convince me to leave the communist party. I am not a communist member but I love communist party. I told them that they should study hard and it was not easy for their parents to spend all the money to send them here. The people who practice Falungong are not qualified to be Chinese. There is some corruption in China but no one is perfect. It’s shameful to see Falungong people protest on street. I guess they do this for their own benefit. I think everyone should keep his dignity. I have deep feeling towards my country and it’s possible to ask me to leave communist party.

问：听说你的女儿最近去西班牙挺好玩的,是吗？

答：是啊。就是签证挺麻烦的。中国不允许双重国籍，我老公可以申请爱尔兰护照，但是我们没有申请，我们想保留中国国籍，将来回国养老。但是旅游签证特别麻烦，我也想到欧洲其他国家去旅游，但是签证太费劲。我女儿为了签证跑了很多趟，去了一趟又缺这个，去了一趟又缺那个。我觉得卡得太严了。

Q: I heard that your daughter went to Spain travelling and had a great time, is it true?

A: Yes. My daughter went to Spain travelling and had a great time but it was difficult to get a visa. Chinese government does not allow two passports. My husband could apply for an Irish passport but we didn’t apply for it. We want to keep our Chinese passport so we can go back to China when we are getting old. I want to travel to other European countries but it is too difficult to get a visa. So I decide not to go. My daughter had to go to the embassy many times to prepare the documents for her visa application. I think the visa policy is too strict.

**Transcript 7**

**Personal background**

**Name:** Elle

**Age:** 30

**Marriage status:** Divorced with two children

**Immigration status:** Came to Ireland with a student visa; Now has stamp 4 (Long-term residency in Ireland) because of her Irish-born Children.

**Education background:** Graduated from a vocational school in China.

**Occupation in Ireland:** Housewife; part-time waitress in a Chinese restaurant

**Length of staying in Ireland:** Nine years

问：请你介绍自己的基本情况？姓名，年龄，婚姻状况。

答：我叫Elle。 今年30岁，属羊的。我现在离婚了，有两个孩子。2000年11月23号来的爱尔兰。

Q: Please introduce yourself.

A: My name is Elle. I am 30 years old. I was born in the year of sheep. I am divorced and have two children. I came to Ireland on 23rd of November 2000.

问：你在国内的教育背景是什么？

答：我在国内职高毕业，学的车工。属于技术工种，不过我对那个工作不感兴趣，所以放弃了。

Q: What is your education background?

A: I graduated from a vocational school. My major was mechanics but I did not like that work so I gave up.

问：你在国内工作吗？

答：没有。我是学生签证过来的。

Q: Did you work in China?

A: No, I didn’t. I came to Ireland with a student visa.

问：学什么呢？

答：在语言学校学习。我学了一年半然后到一个小镇做工，在一个香港人开的中餐馆做工。做了一年半然后结婚怀孕了，生了第一个宝宝。2004年3月17号生的。 生了孩子以后三个月，因为我当时没有身份就把孩子托朋友送回中国由我父母照顾。2005年听说政策规定2005年之前出生的孩子父母可以有监护权呆在爱尔兰，所以又托朋友把孩子接回来了。然后我又怀孕了，2006年1月16号生了第二个宝宝。我就一直呆在小镇。

Q: What did you study?

A: I was studying English in a language school. I dropped my course after one and half years later and went to work at a Chinese restaurant which was owned by Hongkongnese in a small town in County Offaly. I got married and gave birth to my first baby on 17th of March 2004. I asked my friend to send my baby back to my parents in China to look after the baby because my visa was expired at that time. I heard that parents who had baby before 2005 could stay in Ireland legally so I asked my friend to bring my baby back to Ireland and I got Stamp 4. I was pregnant again and gave birth to my second baby on 16th of January 2006. I was staying in the small town until I moved to Dublin last year.

问：你到爱尔兰的目的动机是什么？

答：留学学习。

Q: What’s your motivation of coming to Ireland?

A: My motivation was to study abroad.

问：你对爱尔兰的生活的期望是什么， 你的期望实现了吗？

答：我原本打算学习几年就回中国， 但是结婚生了孩子以后，我觉得这个国家挺好，挺喜欢这里，生活安静，没有国内复杂，我觉得挺舒服，回到中国发现我的速度不适应了。

Q: What did you expect from life in Ireland? Have your expectations come true?

A: I planned to go back to China after studying here for a few years. But I changed my mind after giving birth to my children. I feel that this country is great and I like it here. Life is comfortable and quiet and not as complicated as in China. I found I was not used to the speed of life in China when I went back.

问：你到爱尔兰之前对爱尔兰有什么了解吗？

答：我只知道这个国家没有重工业，绿地多，空气好，其他不太了解。

Q: What’s your prior knowledge about Ireland?

A: What I knew about Ireland was that there was no heavy industry in Ireland. There were a lot of green lands and the air was fresh.

问：你和谁到的爱尔兰？

答：我和同学，一个女孩子一起来的爱尔兰， 她也是学语言。

Q: Whom did you come to Ireland with?

A: I came with my classmate, a girl who also studies language.

问：你的学费是谁付的？

答：我以前在中国没有工作， 都是我爸妈攒的钱。

Q: How did you pay your fees?

A: I didn’t have a job when I was in China so my parents paid for my tuition fee.

问：你刚到爱尔兰的时候生活适应吗？

答：刚到爱尔兰，我一边上课一边打工。因为离开了家觉得很放松，终于离开我妈了，感觉特别轻松，经济上没有压力， 学习也没有压力。每天早上上学，下午打工，很适应，没有困难。

Q: Did you get used to the life in Ireland when you first came here?

A: I was studying and working when I first came to Ireland. I felt relaxed because I left my mother in the end. She was strict with me. I had no pressure from finance and study. I went to school in the morning and went to work in the afternoon. I was quite used to this lifestyle. I had no difficulty at all.

问：你喜欢爱尔兰吗？

答：我喜欢爱尔兰。我适应爱尔兰。因为虽然我生长在中国，但是我的成熟期是在爱尔兰。我二十一岁来到爱尔兰，我的思想成熟期是在爱尔兰。爱尔兰的文化，爱尔兰的一切东西我都能接受。相反，我回到中国，我看到中国的东西我不能接受。中国对孩子的教育不一样，不放松，特别紧，孩子觉得学习很累，但是在爱尔兰学习很放松，我看电影听音乐，觉得这儿的生活方式不一样，很放松。我在爱尔兰成熟了，还学会了做工。以前被人嘲笑我连切橙子也不会， 因为我在家什么也不做，我在这里学习自己照顾自己，以前生病也不知道吃什么药，感冒了还打电话到中国问我爸爸

Q: Do you like Ireland?

A: Yes, I do. I am used to Ireland. I was born in China, but I became mature in Ireland. I came to Ireland when I was twenty-one years old and I have been living here for ten years. I accept Irish culture and I like everything in Ireland. On contrast, I can not accept things in China when I went back to China. Education in China is different from here. Children study hard and tired. It is relaxed to study in Ireland. I watch TV and listen to music and I feel quite relaxed. I became mature in Ireland and I learned to work. I did not know how to cut oranges and I was laughed by other people. That’s because I did nothing when I was at home in China. I had to ring my dad to ask him what medicine I should take when I caught cold. Now I have learned to look after myself.

问：你当初有什么不适应的方面？

答：不能沟通因为语言。看到外国人我会躲开，担心我的语言，担心他们会笑话我。我害怕和外国人打交道。我分不清每个人的长相，我觉得每个人长得都一样。后来不能每次找朋友帮忙，自己也硬着头皮和他们打交道。

Q: What made life difficult at the beginning?

A: I could not communicate with Irish people because of the language barrier. I was trying to avoid speaking to Irish people because I was worried that they would laugh at me because of my poor English. I was also afraid of associating with Irish people because I couldn’t tell the differences among them. I thought their faces all looked the same to me. I couldn’t find friends to help me every time so I forced myself to associate with Irish people.

问：后来适应了吗？

答：基本上适应了。语言也没有什么障碍了。基本上生活用语都会了。现在自己上网找房子，朋友介绍找工作。我觉得在爱尔兰最大的问题是感情问题，因为父母不在身边，有什么问题找不到知心朋友，帮助你判别对错，我离婚跟这个有很大的关系。我的老公别比我大20岁。 我认为出国的人一是亲情，想家，二是感情问题。

Q: Are you used to life here now?

A: I can communicate with Irish people in my daily life now after I overcame the language barrier. I found my accommodation myself on internet. My friends helped me find a part-time job. I think the biggest problem is

the emotional problem. It is difficult to find heart-to-heart friendships therefore I lack someone to give me advice when I have personal problems because my parents were away in China. That’s probably the reason I divorced. My ex-husband was 20 years older than me. I think migrants have two issues: one is home-sickness; other one is emotional problem.

I think people who stay abroad often miss home and have emotional problem.

问：中国和爱尔兰文化有什么相似与不同之处？

答：爱尔兰和中国都很重视节日。中国重视过年，这边过圣诞节。在爱尔兰很自由，在中国有束缚。

Q: What’re the similarities and differences between Chinese culture and Irish culture?

A: Both China and Ireland think highly of festivals. In China there is the Chinese Spring festival and in Ireland there is Christmas. There is a lot of freedom in Ireland while there are many restraints in China.

问：你觉得爱尔兰人的性格特征怎么样？

答：我觉得爱尔兰和人相处很好，但是意见不一致时，生气之后不会记恨长时间，又会和好。说好就好，说分就分。

Q: What do you think about Irish people?

A: I think it’s easy to get along with Irish people. But they will be annoyed if you have different opinions. However they will forget about the row and will be on good terms again.

问：你交了爱尔兰朋友吗？

答：有一个爱尔兰朋友。我的一个朋友嫁给一个爱尔兰人，她的婆婆在我生了第二个孩子后帮助我照顾宝宝，老太太人很好。我圣诞节还去探望了她。

Q: Have you made Irish friends?

A: I have one Irish friend. One of my friends married to an Irish man. Her mother- in-law is Irish and she helped me look after my second baby. She is very nice. I went to visit her every Christmas.

问：作为中国人对于你意味着什么？

答：中国人的传统美德，善良，勇敢。还有说中文。

Q: What does being Chinese mean to you?

A: I inherited Chinese traditional virtue: kindness and braveness. I also speak Chinese.Speaking Chinese is most important to Chinese identity.

问：你想念中国吗？

答：想念。我想念妈妈。我觉得中国的娱乐方面好过这里。

Q: Do you miss China?

A: Yes, I do. I miss my mother. I think there is more entertainment in China.

问：妇女比男人适应爱尔兰的生活吗？

答：对。我认为妇女比男人要适应快。因为女人比男人容易找到工作。因为多数爱尔兰工业，比如餐馆，巧克力厂，香肠厂，面包厂选择女孩工作的几率多一些，这里都是服务行业因为没有什么重工业， 男孩在餐馆工作很辛苦，女孩工作轻松一些。而且这里的社会保护妇女儿童，偏向妇女。女人的权利很大。有一次我在餐馆看到一个爱尔兰女人打了一个爱尔兰男人一个耳光，这个男人不敢还手。男人虽然人很高大壮实也不敢打女人，要付出代价。 虽然这里的女的也要看护孩子，但是他们会男女协调， 比如周末轮流出去见朋友，放松一下。

Q: Is it easier to adjust to Irish life for Chinese women than for Chinese men?

A: Yes, I think women are easier to adjust. it is easier for women to find jobs than men because Irish industries here are mainly services industries such as restaurants, chocolate factories and bakery factories. It’s tiring for men to work in restaurants but there easier jobs for women. Another reason is that Irish society protects women and children. Women have more power. Once I saw an Irish woman slapped on an Irish man’s face and he was afraid to fight back although he was taller and stronger. Women have to look after children but their partner will help them and let them to go out to meet friend and take a break.

问：你觉得和其他国家妇女有竞争吗？

答：有竞争。但是我觉得中国人有优势。因为中国人来了爱尔兰一二十年了，爱尔兰人都认可了解中国人很勤劳，朴实而且有恒心。东欧妇女比如波兰的妇女也做工，但是他们做了一两年就有可能离开。中国人工作持久。可能雇主更愿意雇用中国人。

Q: Compared to other migrant women; in competition to them?

A: Yes, but I think Chinese women have an advantage because Chinese people have been in Ireland for more than ten years and it is agreed that Chinese people are hard-working, down- to-earth and also persistent. East European women for example Polish women also work but they may leave the job after 2 years. Chinese women work persistently so I think employer prefer employing Chinese women.

问：在爱尔兰的生活经历对你的人生的影响？

答：我的人生分为三个部分。第一个部分是二十岁前在中国出生长大，思想不太成熟。第二部分是二十至三四十岁在爱尔兰思想成熟。以后老了也许留在爱尔兰，每年回中国三个月度假。我想去学习，我的爱好是饮食，我想考一个厨师证。

Q: Have experiences living in Ireland influenced your life?

A: My life is divided into three parts: the first part is from when I was born in China until I was 20 years old. I grew up in China. The second part is from 20 years old until 30 years old. I become mature in Ireland. I may stay in Ireland when I getting old. I can go back to China for 3 months holiday every year. I plan to study and I love cooking. I want to take training course and become a chef.

问：你用英文名字还是中文名字？

答：在欧洲国家应该入乡随俗，用英文名字他们就容易记住，我的中文名字不容易记住。这样方便我的工作和日常生活。我喜欢我的英文名字，因为刚来时我在一个咖啡店工作，那里的咖啡很好喝，我就用这咖啡的名字作为我的名字。

Q: Do you use your English name or your English name?

A: When in Rome, do as Romans do. My Chinese name is not easy for Irish people to pronounce. It is easy for Irish people to remember English names and this made my work and daily life more convenient. I like my English name. When I first arrived in Ireland, I was working in a coffee shop and the coffee tastes nice. So I decided to use that coffee’s name as my English name.

问：你的社交圈都是中国人吗？

答：我一年前从Bray 回到都柏林，现在的大多数朋友都是中国人。

Q: Are all your friends Chinese?

A: I moved to Dublin last year from Bray. Most of my friends are Chinese.

问：你工作的餐馆同事都是中国人吗？

答：有福建人，香港人，马来西亚人。我和他们相处得很好。我以前在香港人开的餐馆工作，能听懂广东话，所以和他们交流没有问题。顾客说英文我也能听懂。

Q: Are all your colleagues Chinese?

A: Most of my colleagues are from Fujian, Hong Kong and Malaysia and I get along very well with them. I can communicate with them because I understand Cantonese. I was working in a restaurant which was owned by a man from Hong Kong. I can also understand English so I can communicate with customers.

问：你现在完全适应爱尔兰的生活吗？

答：适应了。我喜欢听爱尔兰音乐和看电影。听中国音乐旋律反而不能适应，接受不了。

Q: Have you adapted to Irish environment now?

A: Yes, I have. I like Irish music and watching movie. I don’t like Chinese music any more.

问：生活中有困难找谁帮忙？

答：去Crosscare, Citizen’s Information Centre 这些服务机构。他们帮我们写信和打电话咨询，服务态度很好。 我的朋友花钱找律师还不如找福利部门帮忙。我觉得在都柏林生活的各个方面都很方便，包括饮食和工作。

Q: Whom do you consult when you have problems?

A: I consulted organizations in Ireland such as the Crosscare and Citizens Information Centre when I had difficulties in my life. They helped me with writing letters and making phone calls. Their services are very good. My friends spent money to consult a solicitor but I think it’s better to get free information and help from these organizations. I find it’s convenient to live in Dublin.

问：你觉得妇女在爱尔兰比在中国待遇要好吗？

答：如果一个妇女在中国没有工作带两个孩子根本无法生存，但是在这个国家妇女小孩和老人的福利非常好。我以前做工，现在很难找到工作，我只有一个part-time 工作。虽然我有两个孩子， 还是有时间有能力照顾孩子。

Q: Being a woman, how is this different in Ireland and China?

A: I can’t survive if I am in china because I am not working and I have two children. Luckily Ireland provides good social welfare for women, children and elderly people. I was working before but it’s difficult to find work now. At the moment I have a part-time job and I have enough time to look after my children.

问：你觉得爱尔兰教育环境怎么样？

答：很好。这里的教育一方面是父母勤力做工给孩子影响， 另一方面通过看电视BBC 电视台卡通片教中文和法文，还有脑力锻炼比如想象一个衣架能变成什么形状，还有绘画美术教育，不像中国教育死板，应试教育， 死记硬背，我觉得这边的教育很好，还有这里的传统是尊重女性，男人帮妇女做家务，中国男人大男子主义很重，不做家务事，都是女人在家带孩子。这里男人给孩子换尿片，所以这里一个家庭有四五个孩子很幸福。中国妇女做不到因为一个人太累。这里还有免费图书馆。可以到图书馆借书。我在Illac Centre办了一个图书卡给孩子租书看，还可以免费上网。

Q: What do you think about the education environment in Ireland?

A: The education environment in Ireland is very good. On the one hand, parents set good example for their children by working hard; on the other hand, children are educated through good TV programs. For example: my children watch cartoons to learn the Chinese and French languages on BBC. They also watch brain-storm programs and art programs. For example, one program asked children to imagine the changing shapes of a hanger and to draw creative pictures. Education in Ireland is very creative; whereas the goal of Chinese education is to sit entrance examinations. Students in China have to memorize without comprehending. I think education in Ireland is better than in China. I have a library card for my children in a shopping centre. We can use the library for free. My children can borrow books and use the internet for free.

**Transcript 8**

**Personal background**

**Name:** Wei

**Age:** 26

**Marriage status:** Married with no children

**Immigration status:** Student visa

**Education background:** Bachelor’s degree of biology engineering in China.

**Occupation in Ireland:** Studied finance and accounting during her first year in Ireland; now she is studying English in a language school; part-time hair-dresser.

**Length of staying in Ireland:** Four years

问：请你介绍一下你的基本情况。

答：我叫薇，今年26岁，来自中国辽宁省抚顺市。我父亲癌症去世了，我有一个母亲。我出国来爱尔兰快四年了。我现在学习美发， 我挺喜欢。我父母对我教育要求严格，我小学中学大学成绩优秀，名列前茅。 我在高中大学都担任班长，我在大学学的是生物工程。我来爱尔兰第一年学财会金融，听说我的一个朋友即我的学姐考过了ACCA 工作了三年又被开除了，因为他是中国人所以被开除了。我觉得在这边上大学没有前途。所以我改学美发，我觉得挺好的。

Q: Please introduce yourself.

A: My name is Wei. I am 26 this year. I am from Fushun City, Liaoning Province. My father died of cancer and my mother raised me up. I have been living in Ireland almost 4 years. I am studying hairdressing at the moment in Ireland. I enjoy doing it. When I was in China, my parents were strict with my study and my study was excellent through my primary school, middle school and university. My major was biology engineering when I was in China. I studied Finance and Accounting during my first year in Ireland. I heard that one of my friends passed the ACCA exams and had three years’ experience working in a company in Ireland. She was fired recently because she was Chinese and she couldn’t get a work permit. I feel frustrated and think that there will be no future of going to university here. So I changed my mind and began to practice hairdressing.

问：你是独生子女吗？

答：是的，我是1983年出生的， 国内1980年以后实行独生子女政策。

Q: Are you the only child in your family?

A: I am the only child in my family; I was born in 1983.The one-child policy was promoted in China from 1980.

问：你妈舍得你出国吗？

答：我妈为了孩子的前途。我原来打算在这里学了会计以后，找到工作，有了工作经验，然后回国发展；或者能留在这里工作，再贷款买房子。但是我的朋友的前车之鉴打破了我的梦想，我觉得学习会计没有前途，所以我现在改学美发，打算以后回国吧。我每年回国，每天都给我母亲打电话，她知道我在这边挺好, 所以挺放心的。

Q: Did your mother miss you?

A: My mother decided to send me to study in Ireland because she was thinking for her child’s future. I planned to go back to China to find a nice job after finishing my accounting study, alternatively to stay here if I can find a well-paid job. However I felt that there would be no future for studying accounting after I heard my friend’s story. So I changed my mind and began to practice hairdressing. Now my plan is to go back to China in the future. I went back to China for holiday every year. I also ring my mother everyday. My mother misses me very much when I am in Ireland. She knows that I am doing very well here so she does not need to worry about me.

问：你当初学费挺贵的吗？

答：学费8千欧元一年， 我妈帮我交的。我妈把学费邮寄到学校。

Q: Was your tuition fee very expensive?

A: My tuition fee was very expensive-eight thousand Euros for one year. My mother paid for me. She posted the fee to my College.

问：你来爱尔兰之前对爱尔兰有什么了解？

答：没有太多了解。但是我的高中同学在这边留学，她和我学习一样的专业-财会金融。她说这边挺好。她要我和她住一起。我可以住一个单间。她向我介绍了这里的情况。所以我对爱尔兰有一些简单的了解，比如这里天气不好，经常下雨；在这里可以打Part-time工赚生活费，还有这里的人挺热情的。我的签证也挺顺利的，几个星期就签下来了。半年后就来爱尔兰了。

Q: What did you know about Ireland before you came here?

A: I didn't know too much. But my high school classmate was studying finance and accounting in Ireland. She told me some information about Ireland so I knew that it often rains in Ireland and Irish people are friendly; I could have a part-time job to support my living expenses. My application for visa went smoothly and I got it after a few weeks’ waiting. I came here half year later after preparation.

问：你喜欢爱尔兰的生活吗？

答：对于我来说这里的生活和中国没有区别。每天早上上学，下午回家上网， 查一查学习资料，和国内同学聊一聊天，我不去夜店，我也不喝酒。我有自己的生活方式，没有受西方生活方式的影响。早睡早起。每天上学保证出勤率好签证。

Q: Do you like the life in Ireland?

A: My lifestyle in Ireland is the same as in China. I went to school in the morning and went home in the afternoon. I surf on internet to get some information about my study and chat with my friends in China. I do not go to night clubs or drink at pubs. I keep my own lifestyle which is not influenced by a Western lifestyle. I go to bed early and get up early. I have to keep good attendance for renewing my visa.

问：你喜欢爱尔兰吗？

答：一般。从衣食住行四个方面来说：衣服穿着，我的衣服号码大，穿欧洲12号。我还穿不了国内的衣服，因为中国女孩一般瘦小。饮食我喜欢到中国超市买食物自己做。我不喜欢吃土豆和快餐。

Q: Do you enjoy living in Ireland?

A: Just-so-so. My size is bigger so I can wear the clothes in Europe. I am not used to the Irish food. I often buy food in the Chinese supermarket. I don’t like eating potatoes and fast-food.

问：你觉得爱尔兰人的性格特征怎么样？

答：大部分比较热情。走在街上都和人打招呼。跟欧洲其他国家的人相比比较热情。爱尔兰挺懒，所以给我们了机会打零工。每个国家有好人也有坏人。这里也分地区。

Q: What do you think about Irish people?

A: Most of them are friendly and they greet to people on streets. Irish people are lazy so they provide opportunities for us to do part-time work. There are good people and bad people in every country. It depends on the area you live in.

问：你觉得中国文化和爱尔兰文化有什么相似与不同之处？

答：中西文化当然不同。中国和爱尔兰文化都有悠久历史。中国文化比较传统，爱尔兰比较开放，从穿着说话方面不一样，中国人穿衣保守，爱尔兰女孩穿着暴露。饮食文化也不一样。爱尔兰人喜欢吃土豆，中国人喜欢吃米饭。

Q: What are the similarities and differences between Irish culture and Chinese culture?

A: Both Chinese culture and Irish culture have long histories. But there are differences between Chinese culture and Irish culture. Chinese culture is traditional and Irish culture is open. For example, Chinese people wear conservative clothes and some Irish girls often wear clothes that expose their bodies. Food cultures are also different. Irish people like eating potatoes and Chinese people prefer eating rice.

问：你比刚来爱尔兰时适应了吗？

答：我刚来时什么也不懂，不知道怎样申请银行卡，我要问同学。刚来时不知道去移民局早上四五点钟去排队，要不然签不上证。我一直和中国人住在一起，省一点生活费，因为我们必须交学费很贵， 比欧盟学费贵四倍。

Q: Do you adapt to Irish environment better now?

A: I knew nothing when I first came to Ireland. For example, I didn’t know how to open a bank account and I had to ask my classmates to help me. I didn’t know that I should queue in front of immigration office at 5am in the morning otherwise I couldn’t get my visa renewed on the same day. I have been living with Chinese people all the time to save money because we have to pay non-EU fees and it is four times more expensive than EU fees.

问：你想念中国吗？

答：中国人当然想念中国。我每年回中国，每天给国内打电话因为Vodafone 很便宜方便。我每天和我妈妈通话，了解家里的情况。我还想念中国的食物。自己做得不如家里的好吃。

Q: Do you miss China?

A: Being Chinese, of course I miss China. I go back to China every year. Thanks to Vodafone’s cheap calls. I ring my mother everyday. It’s really convenient so I can get information about my family. I miss Chinese food.

问：作为一名中国妇女，中国人对于你意味着什么？

答：我很自豪作为一名中国人。因为爱尔兰人都说中国变得强大了。我有一个同学，她交了爱尔兰男朋友，男朋友的母亲瞧不起她。因为她以为中国人都端着碗蹲在马路边吃饭。有一些目光短切的爱尔兰人不知道中国的发展变化。我觉得现在中国是世界上的强国。我非常骄傲。现在越来越多的爱尔兰到中国旅游，对中国有了进一步了解。但是作为中国人每年签证挺麻烦的，对待签证问题不太公平。

Q: What does being Chinese mean to you?

A: I am very proud of being Chinese because China is becoming stronger. One of my Chinese friends has an Irish boyfriend. His mother looked down upon my friend because she thought Chinese people were very poor. Some short-sighted Irish didn’t know that China has developed fast over the last few years. I am proud that China is becoming one of the strongest countries in the world. Now more and more Irish people go to China for travelling and they get to know China better than before.

问：作为中国妇女是否比男性容易适应这里的生活？

答：我觉得容易一些。女生英语一般比男生好一些，爱尔兰是说英语的国家，英语好就容易适应，轻松找工作。这里是女权国家，女性地位比较高。我没有听说中国女性被打，但是我听说中国男生打篮球被爱尔兰小孩打得遍体鳞伤，中国人去警察局报案，但是因为他们是未成年人，所以警察没有惩罚他们。我觉得中国男性在这里受歧视严重。女性可能好一点。

Q: Being a Chinese woman, is it easier to adjust than Chinese men?

A: I think it is easier for Chinese women to adapt to life in Ireland than for Chinese men. First, women are good at languages. Ireland is an English-speaking country. It is easier to adjust and find work here for women with good English. The other reason is that Ireland is a country which respects women’s rights and women have high social status here. I have never heard about Chinese women being beaten up but I have heard about Chinese men being beaten by some Irish kids. I think Chinese men experience more discrimination. Women’s situation is better than men’s.

问：中国妇女和其他移民妇女有竞争吗？

答：不能竞争，根本不在一个档次。东欧国家的移民不需要工作签证，我的学姐考过ACCA，工作两年还被开除了。但是和印度人巴基斯坦人亚洲移民相比，中国人肯定比他们强。中国人可以和亚洲人比，但是没办法和欧洲人比，这是政策问题。东欧人占了地利优势。我们没法和他们竞争。

Q: Compared to other migrant women; in competition to them?

A: Chinese women are in a better position in competition to other Asian migrants from India or Pakistan. But Chinese women can’t compete with East European migrant women because they occupy geographical advantage. People from East European countries don’t require visas to work here. Chinese people need work permit. For example, my friend passed ACCA and was fired after working for two years.

问：你受到过歧视吗？

答：受过。我住在穷人区，八区。有爱尔兰小孩骂我。肯定是他们的父母教的。所以我现在不和那里的爱尔兰人说话。还有我得上移民局签证。早上四点钟去排队九点钟领号，第一年排队四五个小时，现在三四个小时。如果就是九，十点钟去，没有票了，要第二天再去。 这也是一种歧视。

Q: Have you ever experienced discrimination?

A: Yes, I have experienced discrimination. I am living in Dublin 8 where poor people live. Some Irish kids abused me on the street. I suppose that their parents taught them this. So I decided not to talk to Irish people there any more. I had to queue in front of immigration office to renew my visa at 4 a.m. in the morning so I could get a ticket at 9 a.m. Then I had to wait another 4 or 5 hours before my number was called. If I went there late then I couldn’t get a ticket and I have to go there again the next day. This is the discrimination I have experienced.

问：你交了爱尔兰朋友吗？

答：我有爱尔兰朋友。我的邻居们成了我的朋友。我有问题问他们都很耐心。我以前住在四区，使馆区，那里的人素质高，比较Nice， 热情。现在我住在八区，那里的人都不说话，还骂我。这两天下大雪，小孩用雪球打我。我很气愤，我也不能把他们怎么样。警察都管不了。

Q: Have you made Irish friends?

A: I made friends with my neighbors. They explained to me patiently whenever I asked them questions. I was living in Dublin 4. The people there were very nice and warm-hearted. Now I am living in Dublin 8. I don’t talk to the people because they even abused me. There was a heavy snow two days ago and the kids threw snowballs at me. I was angry but I could do nothing about it. Even the police could not do anything about this.

问：你用英文名字吗？

答：我和外国人用英文名字，爱尔兰人不容易发中文音，用英文名字容易记住。和中国人用中文名字， 因为中国人习惯用中文名字。

Q: Do you use your English name or your English name?

A: I tell Irish people my English name because it’s difficult for Irish people to pronounce Chinese names but it’s easy for them to remember English names. I use my Chinese name when I associate with Chinese people because they are used to Chinese names.

问：你觉得中国妇女和爱尔兰妇女地位一样吗？

答：我觉得中国妇女和爱尔兰妇女地位差不多。但是我觉得中国妇女可能更自由。因为爱尔兰妇女生的孩子太多，特别忙。虽然不用工作但是要做饭照顾孩子，打扫房子。我妈只有我一个孩子， 虽然有工作，但不太忙。所以中国妇女自由一些。

Q: Being a woman: how is this different in Ireland and China?

A: I think women enjoy same social status in China and Ireland but Chinese women have more freedom. Because Irish women have too many children and they are busy looking after kids and doing housework although they don’t need work. My mother only has one child and she was not so busy though she had to work.

问：哪些因素使中国妇女容易融入爱尔兰？

答：我觉得第一这里是女权国家，第二中国妇女个人素质比较高。英语好。

Q: What things make it easier for Chinese women to integrate in Ireland?

A: First, Ireland is a country which respects women’s right. Second, Chinese women’s personality character is better that other women and their English is good.

问：你觉得在爱尔兰的经历对你的人生有什么影响？

答：有好的影响也有不好的方面。我在这里学习，英语水平提高了，学会写论文。有了这里的工作经验回国也好找工作。但是我在这里受到了歧视。给我的内心蒙上了一层阴影。 签证比较困难。我的朋友去法国滑雪，需要签证没有签到。中国人受到的待遇很不公平。马来西亚人，日本人韩国人去欧洲国家旅游不需要签证。中国变富了，中国人却受人鄙视。我觉得中国人的地位有待加强。

Q: Have you changed since you lived in Ireland? What kind of changes? Influences on your life?

A: There are two sides of influence on my life. On one hand, my English has improved since I studied here and I have learned to write essays. It’s easier to find job when I go back to China with my working experience in Ireland. On the other hand, there is a shadow in my mind because I have experienced discrimination here. It is very difficult to get a visa. My friend planned to France for a skiing holiday and her visa application was refused. I never traveled to other European countries because there was too much hassle to apply for a visa. People from Malaysia, Japan and South Korea don’t need a visa to go to European countries for travelling. China is not poor but Chinese people are looked down upon by other people. The social status of Chinese people should be enhanced.

**Transcript 9**

**Personal background**

**Name:** Sunny

**Age:** 41

**Marriage status:** Married with one Irish-born child

**Immigration status:** Undocumented (Came to Ireland to visit her sister and over-stayed)

**Education background:** Bachelor’s degree of Russian language in China

**Occupation in Ireland:** Part-time cleaner

**Length of staying in Ireland:** Two and half years

问：请你介绍一下你的基本情况。

答：我叫Sunny， 来自中国东北。

Q: Please introduce yourself.

A: My name is Sunny. I am from north-east of China.

问：你为什么来爱尔兰？

答：当时我妹妹在爱尔兰，我来这里探望她。

Q: Why did you come to Ireland?

A: My younger sister was living in Ireland at that time so I came to visit her.

问：你来爱尔兰之前对爱尔兰有什么了解？

答：据说这是一个岛国，很美。我在飞机上看到爱尔兰的一大片绿地，我不知道种的是什么好东西，下飞机一看，全是草坪。

Q: What did you know about Ireland before you came here?

A: I heard that Ireland was a very beautiful island. When taking a plane to Ireland, I saw green land on the plane I didn’t know what was growing there and I found that it was grass after I got off plane.

问：你喜欢爱尔兰吗？

答：还行。在中国都是高楼大厦，但这儿就像小人国，房子很矮，街道也窄， 这儿人也少。

Q: Do you like Ireland?

A: Just so-so. There are high buildings in China everywhere. Here is like a little people’s country: Houses are low; streets are narrow. There are not many people on the streets.

问：爱尔兰文化和中国文化有什么相同或者不同之处？

答：毕竟中西文化有差别，说一句实话吧，我还是觉得国内比较养人，这里比较艰辛，辛苦。

Q: What are the similarities and differences between Irish culture and Chinese culture?

A: Chinese culture is different from Irish culture. To be honest, I think it is more comfortable in China. It is very hard to live here.

问：你觉得哪些方面比较艰苦呢？

答：在这里白天黑夜都要干活，没有休息，就为了赚钱，太辛苦了。要是能找到一份可心的工作，还能干活，找不到就急得够呛。每天面临着失业。

Q: Which parts are hard?

A: I have to work day and night to make money. It is too tiring because I have no rest. I don’t mind working hard if I could find a nice job. But I am extremely worried if I have no work.

问：你在爱尔兰的梦想是什么呢？

答：我说实话，肯定是为了赚一点钱。但是因为我在国内时是做旅游业的，所以我想能到这里看一看也挺好的。我到市内周边看了来看，挺漂亮的。建筑挺古老的。

Q: What were your expectations before you came to Ireland? Have your expectations come true?

A: To be honest, I want to make money. However, I was working in a travelling industry when I was in China so I thought it would be good opportunity to see Ireland. I have been to some places around Dublin and I found that the buildings are old and beautiful.

问：你习惯爱尔兰的生活吗？

答：我这个人适应性比较强，我二十多年没有说英语了，到了这里开始查字典一点点地学，现在到哪儿去不害怕了，配合手势比划不觉得很困难了。吃的方面我很喜欢这里的东西。三明治薯条奶酪，很有营养。吃了改善体质，我能接受这里的食品。但是我还是放弃不了中国的小米粥，配着三明治吃的很舒服。

Q: Have you adapted to the life in Ireland?

A: I usually adapt to the environment fast. I didn’t use English for more than twenty years since I left school. I looked up the dictionary to learn English. Now I am not afraid of going out because I can communicate with people. Sometimes I use hand signals to help people understand me. I like the food here; I think sandwiches, chips and cheese are nutritious foods. They are good for my body. But I miss Chinese food. I eat sandwiches with Chinese rice porridge.

问：你觉得在这儿生活那些方面不适应？

答：Bus 不准时。一等就是一个小时。冻得够呛，特别赶工的时候心里特别着急。 我迟到过，只好向雇主说堵车。自己不会开车没有办法。

Q: What made life difficult here?

A: Bus services are never on time. Sometimes I had to wait for one hour in the cold. I was very worried because I was late for work and I had to apologize to my boss. But what can I do? I can’t drive.

问：你最喜欢爱尔兰的什么？

答：我喜欢爱尔兰的天气，不冷不热。因为我的家乡冬天特别冷，夏天特别热。这里冬夏差不多，不太冷也不太热。海洋型气候我很喜欢。

Q: What do you like about Ireland?

A: I like the Irish weather- not too cold, not too hot. My hometown in China is extremely cold in winter and extremely hot in summer. There is almost no difference between winter and summer in Ireland. I like this kind of maritime weather.

问：你觉得打工时遇到的爱尔兰人怎么样？

答：大部分人挺不错的。很有修养。每天见面打招呼，走时说再见。挺有礼貌的。特别是我打扫卫生的那个办公室的大老板，他总是说：谢谢你把我的办公室打少得这么干净。实际上那是我的工作，但是他非常有礼貌，让我非常感动。

Q: What do you think about Irish people?

A: Most Irish people are nice. They are very polite and greet me every time they meet me. I was cleaning an office and there was a man who looked like a big boss sitting there. He always thanks me for keeping his office clean. I was touched by his words because that’s my job.

问：哪些因素使你容易适应？

答：我觉得我这个年龄肯定第一是语言。主要在于自己，在生活中要多学习，就能交流。我认识一个朋友，以前我不能和她聊天因为她听不懂我说的英语，现在我能和她聊天，她很惊讶，以为我去上语言学校了。

Q: What things make it easier for Chinese women to integrate in Ireland?

A: The most important thing for Chinese women to integrate in Ireland is to overcome language barriers. I tried to learn English as much as possible in my daily life so I can communicate with other people. I have an Irish friend. I couldn’t chat with her one year ago because she couldn’t understand me. Now I surprised her because my pronunciation is much better. She thought I had learned English in a language school.

问：你比以前适应了吗？

答：我最不可心的是住的条件差一点，吃的方面能适应，语言方面也在提高。

Q: Are you used to the life here?

A: I am not satisfied with my accommodation. But I am getting used to the food here and my English has improved.

问：作为中国人，对于你意味着什么？

答：我觉得很骄傲，因为现在各方面传来的消息都是有关中国的好消息。不过中国人还是受到一些歧视。希望将来能把不平等的方面都改过来。

Q: What does being Chinese mean to you?

A: I feel very proud of being Chinese because I’ve heard of a lot good news about China. China has developed fast and the economy in China is good. However, Chinese people are discriminated against. I hope that unfair treatments will be changed in the future.

问：你受到过歧视吗？

答：当然了。打扫卫生，同样的事，我做的好，我的Supervisor说不好。把我气得不行。我们的经理检查之后还是公正地说你先干着。但是没过多久我还是失去了那份工作。我觉得还是有歧视存在的。

Q: Have you ever experienced discrimination?

A: I did cleaning jobs with my colleagues. I did a good job but my supervisor said it was bad. I was furious. Our manager checked my work and made fair comments. However I lost that job later. I think there are discriminations in my work place.

问：你想念中国吗？

答：当然想家了。我问回国Holiday的人国内怎么样，他们都说不想回来。还是中国好，还是家好。

Q: Do you miss China?

A: Of course I miss China. I asked my friends who went back to China for holidays how the situation in China was and they told me that they feel so good to be backing home and they didn’t want to come back to Ireland.

问：你想念中国的什么？

答：所有的都好。

Q: Do you miss China?

A: Yes, I think everything in China is good.

问：和男性相比，中国女性是否更容易适应国外的生活？

答：我想如此。女性更忍耐，女性也能接受小的活，大男人要干大活，在适应能力方面也没有女性好。所以我认为女性比男性根容易适应。还有女性干的都是第三产业的工作，比如厨房和家庭清扫，容易找到工作。女性也坚强。耐性和忍耐使得女性更容易适应。

Q: Being a Chinese woman, is it easier to adjust than Chinese men?

A: I think so. Women are more tolerant and willing to do some small jobs. It is not easy for men to adjust. Women usually work in the service industry, for example restaurant and housecleaning, so it’s easier for them to find jobs. Women are very tough. Patience and tolerance make it easier for women to adjust to life here.

问：你认为和东欧移民妇女有竞争吗？

答：很难和他们竞争。好收入的工作都要先给他们。我们怎么努力也难得到工作机会， 他们有的英语没有我们好，也能找到比我们好的工作，我有亲身体会。

Q: Compared to other migrant women; in competition to them?

A: It is difficult to compete with east European women. It is difficult for Chinese women to get jobs no matter how hard we work. East European women always get well-paid jobs even with poor English. This is my own personal experience.

问：在爱尔兰的生活对你的人生有什么影响？

答：很大影响。甚至翻天覆地的变化。我以前没想得到的事情都发生了。原来在中国有稳定的工作，现在找一份工作很难，干起来也很艰辛。用体力赚钱了，心里就觉得有差异。现在我有baby了，不工作了。这也是以前没有料到的，我有责任把他带大。 我很爱我的baby。

Q: Did the experience in Ireland have influences on your life?

A: Huge influences. Some unexpected things happened. I had a steady job in China but it is difficult to find a job in Ireland. I feel different because the jobs I found are mainly physical works here. I have a baby and I am not working at the moment. I have responsibility to bring him up. I love my baby.

问：你觉得自己有什么变化吗?

答：别人都说我变得更开朗，更快乐。我也觉得如此。以前想着不开心的事情，现在看着我的baby想得都是开心的事情。我也变得更加成熟坚强。不同的环境人也改变了，也学会了以前不会的东西。

Q: Have you changed since you lived in Ireland? What kind of changes?

A: I have become more optimistic and happier. I think so too. Every time when I look at my baby, I am happy. I also become more tough and matured. I have changed and I have learned new things that I couldn’t do before because I am in different environment.

问：你交了爱尔兰朋友吗？

答：我有一个朋友嫁了爱尔兰人。我跟她丈夫是同事。都在清洁公司。他们两个人都挺好。我的房东来了我和他聊天，还有到超市和邮局和爱尔兰人说话。

Q: Have you made Irish friends?

A: Yes, I have. One of my colleagues in the cleaning company told me that his wife is Chinese. He introduced his wife to me and we became good friends. I often chat with my Irish landlord. I also talk to Irish people when I go to post-office and supermarket.

问：你平时有什么娱乐活动?

答：我也想去旅游，去电影院，但是孩子太小，没办法去。

Q: What do you do in your spare time? Is there any entertainment?

A: I want to travel or go to cinema. But I can’t go because my baby is too young.

问：你用中文名字还是英文名字？

答：我刚来的时候用中文名字，后来我自己选了一个英文名字，Sunny， 叫起来挺顺口的，这里的下雨天挺多的，我想把阳光带来，充满阳光，充满快乐。爱尔兰人也和我开玩笑，Sunny 喜欢晒太阳。

Q: Do you use your Chinese name or English name?

A: I used my Chinese name when I first came here. Now I chose an English name “Sunny” for myself. It’s easy to pronounce. There is a lot of rain in Ireland and I want to bring sunshine here so we can be happy. My Irish friends also joke me: Sunny likes to bask in the sun.

问：找工作找住房困难吗？

答：很困难。我最头疼找房子。因为找一个适合住的，又价格适中的，很不容易。我觉得房子很贵。我通常上网找房子。

Q: Was it hard to find work and accommodation?

A: Very difficult. My biggest headache is looking for accommodation. It is not easy to find a suitable flat with a reasonable price. I think rent is too expensive here. I normally surf on the internet to find accommodation.

问：谁帮助你？

答：我的一些朋友，来了爱尔兰很多年给我一些帮助。我还去提供翻译的能在语言上沟通的机构。

Q: Who did you Help and support from?

A: I got help from my friends. They have been here for many years. They helped me find accommodation and work. Sometimes I go to some organizations which provide free interpreting service.

问：从华人机构得到帮助了吗？

答：没有。以前听说有一个华人咨询中心，后来也没去找他们，失去了联系。

Q: Did you get support from Chinese community?

A: I didn’t get support from Chinese community. I heard that there was a Chinese information centre but I didn’t contact them.

问：经常看中文报纸吗？

答：是的。看报读新闻。例如，今年春节我去了国家音乐厅看表演。

Q: Do you often read Chinese newspaper?

A: I often read Chinese newspapers so I can get some information. For example, I went to the National Concert Hall to watch a show this Chinese Spring Festival. I knew about this through reading a Chinese newspaper.

问：在中国超市购物吗？

答：是的，有时候也去TESCO，Lidl。

Q: Do you go shopping at Chinese supermarkets?

A: I often go shopping at Chinese supermarkets but sometimes I go to Tesco and Lidl so I can chat with Irish people.

问：经常打电话到中国吗？

问：你觉得妇女在爱尔兰和在中国的地位一样吗？

答：我觉得妇女在爱尔兰的地位高一些。 通常人们都给妇女让路。

Q: Being a woman: how is this different in Ireland and China?

A: I think women in Ireland enjoy higher social status. Men always make way for women.

问：你有过到过别的国家的经历吗？

答：我去过一些地方，比如新加坡，马来西亚，香港，澳门。这些地方我去过很短的时间旅游，我还在俄罗斯的莫斯科学过一年俄语。

Q: Had you been to other countries before you came to Ireland

A: I had been to some places. I went to Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong and Macau for travelling. I also studied Russian in Moscow for one year.

问：以前这些经历对现在有没有影响?

答：我觉得适应性是锻炼出来的。那个时候特别想家，这一次就没有那么想家。也可能与年龄有关，那时候我三十岁。因为我特别喜欢去体验不一样的生活不一样的环境。以前我想走遍中国的各地，后来想如果有可能要去世界各地看看。体验不同的生活。

Q: Have these experiences influenced your life?

A: I think these experiences enhance my ability to adapt to environment here. I was home sick when I was in Moscow. I am much better now. Maybe it was because of my age. I was 30 years old when I was studying in Moscow. I wanted to travel different parts of China and see different places of the world so I can experience different life.

**Transcript 10**

**Personal background**

**Name:** Ying

**Age:** 27

**Marriage status:** Married with no children

**Immigration status:** Student visa

**Education background:** Master degree

**Occupation in Ireland:** Part-time cashier in Duunes Store

**Length of staying in Ireland:** Two and half years

问：请介绍你的基本情况。

答：我姓殷。今年27岁，已婚，但是目前没有孩子。我2001年1月12日到了爱尔兰。目前硕士毕业，有一个Part-time 工作。

Q: Please introduce yourself.

A: My name is Ying. I am 27 years old and I am married. I don’t have children at the moment. I came to Ireland on 12 of January 2001. I finish my Master study and I have a part-time job working as a cash office staff.

问：以前到过别的国家吗？。

答：没有。

Q: Had you ever been to other countries before you came to Ireland?

A: No, I had not

问：你的英语挺好的。

答：到这里学习了以后，英语提高了不少。

Q: Your English is getting better.

A: My English improved a lot after I studied here.

问：你到爱尔兰的目的？

答：高中毕业以后过来上大学。

Q: What was your motivation to come to Ireland?

A: I planned to go to university after I finished my high school.

问：和谁一起来的？

答：自己来的。

Q: Whom did you come with?

A: I came here on my own.

问：你为什么选择爱尔兰？

答：当时想到Shannon学习酒店管理， 所以选择了爱尔兰。

Q: Why did you choose coming to Ireland?

A: I wanted to study hotel management in Shannon so I chose Ireland.

问：后来怎么没去呢？

答：因为学费太贵。一年一万五千欧元，包括住宿。虽然第二年和第四年可以实习，但是工资很低，还要交学费。所以我改变了主意，决定学别的专业。

Q: Did you study there?

A: Tuition fee was too expensive: 15,000 Euros per year. Although I have the second year and fourth year to work to gain experiences but salary is very low. So I changed my mind and studied in another college.

问：谁帮你交的学费？

答：开始时父母交的学费，因为我学的商科，有两年时间实习，所以后来自己交的学费。

Q: How did you pay your tuition fee?

A: At the beginning, my parents paid my tuition fee. Later I paid my tuition fee myself because my major was business studies and I worked for two years for practice.

问：你来爱尔兰之前对爱尔兰有什么了解？

答：初步了解是爱尔兰是英伦三岛之一。

Q: What did you know about Ireland before you came here?

A: I only knew that Ireland was an island.

问：你对爱尔兰有什么期待梦想？

答：我的梦想是在四年之内完成学业，工作两年再回国。但是现在发现自己的希望没有实现。 因为刚开始语言水平不够，所以读语言。本科读完以后读了硕士。花费了7至8年时间，现在工作还找不到。

Q: What were your expectations before you came to Ireland? Have your expectations come true?

A: My dream was to complete my study within 4 years’ time then work for two years and gain some experiences. Then I planned to go back to China. My dream didn’t come true after ten years’ study in Ireland. I spent two years to improve my English and I spend 8 years to finish my undergraduate study and Master degree. But I can’t find work now. It is difficult to find work because we are non-EU citizens. I need to apply for a work permit to get a full-time job.

问：你喜欢爱尔兰吗？

答：爱尔兰生活费比较高，但是生活挺舒服挺轻松的。跟中国比起来，步调挺慢， 适合居住。学校教育程度也可以，但是工作方面比较难找。所以经济压力挺大。

Q: Do you like Ireland?

A: Living expenses in Ireland are very high, but life is comfortable here. It is more relaxed than in China. Education is good. But it is difficult to find work.

问：你觉得爱尔兰人的性格怎么样？

答：不少人听开朗的，待人挺友善的。种族歧视也有，但是表现的不明显。

Q: What do you think about Irish people?

A: Most of them are open and friendly. Some people are racists but they are hidden.

问：你有经历过歧视吗？

答：我多少能感觉一点。以前在语言学校，老师更愿意主动与欧盟的学生交流，比较冷淡我们这些非欧盟的学生。在工作方面，就是学生打工有限制，假期才能打40个小时。在职位安排方面以及在上班时的表现经理对非欧盟职员都有一点成见，所以他们更愿意提拔欧盟或者爱尔兰本地的人。

Q: Have you ever experienced discrimination?

A: Occasionally I have experienced discrimination. When I was studying at language schools, teachers preferred talking to EU students and they gave the cold shoulder to non-EU students.

When I was at work, I can only work 20 hours because I have a student visa and managers are prejudiced against non-EU staff. EU or Irish staff had more opportunity for promotion.

问：哪些因素使你适应？

答：因为在上学和上班时和爱尔兰人有沟通，所以人文方面容易适应。时间长了适应能力也增强了。

Q: What made it easier to adjust to the life in Ireland?

A: I communicated with Irish people when I was studying in college and at work so I found it is easier to adjust. The length of staying here also helped me improve my communication skills and my ability to adjust.

问: 是外因还是内因呢？

答：我觉得都有。个性方面， 如果你想活得开心的话，最好去外面多交一些朋友， 让自己的思想更开放。

Q: Is that because of your personality?

A: I think personality is important. If you want to be happy, you have to go out and make more friends and be more open.

问：中国文化和爱尔兰文化有什么相同和不同之处？

答：其实两个国家都有悠久的历史。但是爱尔兰处于西方，所以思想更加开放一些。中国人受传统教育的影响，做事情一板一眼，对于学习工作都很认真。 爱尔兰人对于工作随性一些。

Q: Are there ant similarities and differences between Chinese culture and Irish culture?

A: Both countries have long history. Ireland is situated in the west so people are more open. Chinese are deeply influenced by traditional education so we do things seriously.

问：你想念中国吗？想念中国的哪些方面？

答：非常想念。想念中国的食物。 因为中国的娱乐项目比爱尔兰多一些，生活更多姿多彩。平时生活比较无聊，因为爱尔兰是酒文化。

Q: Do you miss China? And in what ways do you think of China?

A: I miss China very much. I miss Chinese food. There is much more entertainment in China than in Ireland. Life is colorful in China but it is boring in Ireland. Ireland has an alcohol culture.

问：作为一名中国妇女，与东欧妇女有竞争吗？

答：就职方面竞争最大。因为东欧移民妇女不需要签证。中国妇女需要签证，移民局卡的也很严。

Q: Compared to other migrant women; in competition to them?

A: Yes, in competition to them at work. East European migrant women don’t need work permits. Chinese women need a visa and the immigration law is very strict.

问：女性和男性谁更适应爱尔兰的生活？

答：我觉得男性更容易适应，女孩子想家想得多一点。朋友多了以后，工作忙了以后，可能对职业方面就业方面想得更多一点。

Q: Is it easier to adjust to Irish life for Chinese women than for Chinese men?

A: I think it’s easier for men to adjust because women miss home more often. It will get better after I find more friends and busy work.

问：在爱尔兰的经历对你的人生有什么影响？

答：我高中毕业以后就来了爱尔兰，对于人情世故并不是很懂。学会与他人交流，学会解决自己所遇到的问题， 多多少少的成长还是有的。

Q: Influences on your life?

A: I came to Ireland after I finished my high school in China. I have learnt to communicate with other people and solve the problems in my life. More or less I have grown up.

问：你觉得你自己有什么变化？

答：更加坚强，更加独立。知道了怎样和别人交流，圆滑一点。

Q: Have you changed since you lived in Ireland? What kind of changes?

A: I become stronger and more independent. I know how to deal with people and become sophisticated.

问：你交了爱尔兰朋友吗？

答：工作中交了一些爱尔兰朋友。其实在爱尔兰，是通过出去玩，喝酒建立友谊。像我不是太喜欢去酒吧喝酒，但是最起码在工作方面大家互相帮助还是不错的。

Q: Have you made Irish friends?

A: Yes, I have some Irish friends. They are my workmates. In Ireland, friendship was built on the basis of going out for fun and a drink. I don’t like going to pubs but I think it is good that we can help each other at work.

问：你和中国人住在一起吗？

答：对，我和中国老公住在一起。

Q: Do you live with Chinese?

A: Yes, I live with my husband and he is Chinese.

问：你觉得找房子和工作有困难吗？

答：找房子还可以，只要你的经济能力能承担得起，就能找到合适的房子。但是找工作对于我们非欧盟的人来说很难。特别是2005年以后申请工作的要求提高了以后找工作很难。

Q: Was it hard to find work and accommodation?

A: It’s easy to find accommodation as long as you can afford to pay rent. But it is difficult to find work because we are non-EU citizens. It is extremely difficult since 2005.

问：你得到什么帮助吗？

答：虽然有朋友在大公司工作， 给我做Referee，但是公司需要工作许可，所以帮助不大。

Q: Did you get any help when you had difficulties?

A: My friends are working for a big company and they are willing to be my referee. However I need a work permit to get a full-time job. They can’t help me much.

问：你觉得在中国和爱尔兰妇女地位一样吗?

答：我觉得在爱尔兰和中国都有很多职业妇女。但是爱尔兰的劳工法更加健全一些，对于假期和产假方面妇女享受的福利好一些，在中国休产假可能丢掉工作， 但是在爱尔兰妇女休完产假职位还是会保存。

Q: Being a woman: how is this different in Ireland and China?

A: In Ireland, legislation and law of protecting women is better, especially about Holiday pay and maternity leave. In China, women may lose their job after maternity leave but that does not happen in Ireland.

问：你有英文名字吗？

答：我没有英文名字，只用中文名字。 我的名字比较好记，因为刚到爱尔兰在语言学校的第一节课，老师问我叫什么名字，我告诉她我的全名， 比较好听，所以我一直没有起英文名字。

Q: Do you have an English name?

A: I don’t have an English name. I only use my Chinese name. My name is easy to remember. I told my teacher my Chinese name on my first day I was in language school in Ireland and she thought it is a beautiful name so I don’t need an English name.

**Transcript 11**

**Personal background**

**Name:** Amy

**Age:** 35

**Marriage status:** Single, no children

**Immigration status:** Student visa

**Education background:** Associate college degree in Ireland majoring in childcare

**Occupation in Ireland:** Part-time waitress

**Length of staying in Ireland:** Seven years

问：请介绍你的基本情况。

答：我叫Amy。今年35岁。是2003年来的爱尔兰。在这边完成了大专的学业。来这儿有7年了。

Q: Please introduce yourself.

A: My name is Amy. I am 35 years old. I came to Ireland in 2003. I had my associate college degree in Ireland and my major was childcare. I have been here for 7 years.

问：你在国内是什么教育背景？

答：大专毕业，学的是日语专业。

Q: What’s your educational background in China?

A: I finished my associate college degree in China majoring Japanese language.

问：你在国内有工作经验吗？

答：有，当时我销售珠宝。

Q: Did you have working experiences in China?

A: Yes, I did. I was selling jewelry in China.

问：你为什么选择爱尔兰？

答：因为想进修一下自己，学习英语。

Q: Why did you choose coming to Ireland?

A: I wanted to learn English and improve myself so I chose coming to Ireland.

问：学费贵吗？

答：当时在American College。半年的学费是4 千多欧元。

Q: Was your tuition fees expensive?

A: I was studying English in the American College. Tuition fee was about four thousand Euros for 6 months.

问：谁付的学费？

答：当然是父母。

Q: Financed how?

A: My parents paid my tuition fee.

问：你做了什么准备？对爱尔兰有什么了解？

答：中介介绍了爱尔兰的情况。还列了一张清单。上面写有生活中的必备品。什么都列全了。中介还介绍了HOST FAMILY， 当时一个月600欧元，包吃包住， 还挺贵。

Q: What preparation did you do before you came to Ireland?

A: Agents told me some information about Ireland. They also provided a list with all the necessities we need in Ireland. Agent introduced me to live with a host family which cost 600 Euros a month including accommodation and food a month.

问：你住在HOST FAMILY习惯吗？

答：刚到爱尔兰一个月，不是太开心，不太适应因为不习惯爱尔兰的食物。

Q: Do you enjoy living with the host-family?

A: I just arrived in Ireland one month at that time and I was not very happy because I was not used to Irish food.

问：你和寄宿家庭相处得怎么样？

答：非常好，感觉爱尔兰人和蔼可亲，但是英语不太好，沟通特别困难。

Q: How did you get along with your host family?

A: We got along very well. I think Irish people are affable and genial. But I found it was very difficult to communicate with them because my English was poor.

问：来爱尔兰之前的梦想是什么？

答：当然想自我充实以后，回去以后从事一个好的职业。

Q: What's your expectation before you came to Ireland?

A:My dream was to study in Ireland and improve myself so I could go back to China to find a better job.

问：你的梦想实现了吗？

答：还可以吧。起码完成了国际幼儿教师的学业，回国以后可以自己开办一个双语的幼儿园。

Q: Have your expectations come true?

A: Almost. At least I finished study and I am qualified as a preschool teacher. I plan to open a bilingual kindergarten after I go back to China.

问：你打算什么时候回国？

答：大概今年吧。因为呆得太久了。一个人也不太容易。

Q: When do you plan to go back to China?

A: Perhaps this year. I have been here for too long and it’s not easy to be on my own.

问：你喜欢爱尔兰吗？

答：喜欢。和国内确实不太一样。风俗啦，还有气候啦，特别喜欢这里的气候，又不冷又不热，特别好。爱尔兰人特别和蔼，特别好，没有什么种族歧视。

Q: Do you like Ireland?

A: Ireland is different from China. It has an exotic atmosphere. I like the weather here. Not too cold, not too hot.Irish people are amiable and nice. There is no discrimination.

问：你有什么不适应的方面吗？

答：刚开始时是吃的方面，现在呢是觉得家人不在身边。特别寂寞特别空虚。

Q: What made life difficult here?

A: At the beginning, food was the biggest problem. Now I feel lonely because my family members are far way in China.

问：你不喜欢爱尔兰什么方面？

答：各方面都喜欢就是不习惯爱尔兰人天天泡酒吧。为什么天天要喝酒，和我们中国的文化价值不太一样。 但是在这里特别放松，没有压力，在国内压力太大。

Q: What do you dislike about Ireland?

A: I like Ireland except that I can’t understand why Irish people stay in the pub all day along. Why do they drink everyday? This is quite different from Chinese culture and value. However I feel relaxed here and there is no pressure here. There are a lot of pressures in China. My colleagues in China were intriguing to squeeze each other out.

问：在国内主要是哪些方面的压力呢？

答：主要是工作方面。这里人与人相处特别简单，在国内人际关系复杂，在这里去上班不用带着大脑去，带一双手和一张嘴去就行，但是在国内勾心斗角，精神压力很大。

Q: What kind of pressure did you experience in China?

A: Mainly at work。 It is simple to get along with people here, while it is complicated in China. I only need to use my hands and mouth at work here and I don’t need brain. But I felt lots of pressure at work in China because my colleagues were attempting to squeeze each other out.

问：你在哪里工作？

答：在酒吧。我以前在餐馆也工作过。

Q: Where are you working now?

A: I am working in a pub. I was working at deli in a restaurant before.

问：工作累吗？

答：也累，但是因为特别开心，上班觉得特别舒服。我和酒吧工作的同事相处得特别好，再说我工作的酒吧是老人吧，顾客特别好，对我特别客气，所以我特别开心，特别舒服，特别喜欢上班。和单位的员工经理也处得很好。

Q: Is your work tiring?

A: it is tiring but I am very happy because I get along very well with my colleagues. I am working as a waitress in a pub where elderly people are regular customers. They are very nice so I feel comfortable working there and I get along well with my manager and staff there.

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问：你觉得爱尔兰人有什么性格特征？

答：和蔼可亲。特别容易相处。

Q: What do you think about Irish people?

A: Irish people are affable and genial. They are easy to get along with.

问：你觉得生活有哪些困难？

答：对我来说没什么困难，挺容易的。刚开始什么都听不懂，觉得语言交流有困难，因为我在国内学日语，现在好多了，自己出去办什么事都可以了。

Q: What made your life difficult here?

A: When I first arrived in Ireland, I didn’t understand English because I studied Japanese as a foreign language when I was in China. I couldn’t communicate with other people. Now my English is getting better and I can do things myself without getting help from my friends.

问：你想念中国吗？

答：不是很想，因为自己年龄比较大，比较成熟了。

Q: Do you miss China?

A: Not very much. Because I am getting old and I became matured.

问：作为一个中国人对你意味着什么？

答：我感觉很自豪因为自己在国外生活了这么多年， 体验了很多。

Q: Being a Chinese, what does it mean to you?

A: I am proud of myself because I have been living abroad for so many years and I have experienced a lot of different things.

问：你觉得男性和女性谁更容易适应爱尔兰的生活？

答：和男性相比女性在各个方面都比较顺利。我觉得是外在因素。这里是女权国家。

Q: Being a Chinese woman: is it easy or difficult to adjust? Compared to Chinese men?

A: It is easier for women to adjust. I think it is because Ireland is a country respect women’s rights.

问：你觉得和其他国家的移民妇女有竞争吗？

答：我觉得当然有。因为欧盟国家妇女有优势，主要是找工作的时候，东欧人肯定占优势，肯定会被优先录用，我觉得中国人在这边找工作不是很好找。

Q: Compared to other migrant women; in competition to them?

A: Of course there are competitions because East European women have an advantage in finding work. It is difficult for Chinese people to find work.

问：你在工作中经历过歧视吗？

答：有， 我以前干DELI， 单位的领导对中国人和东欧人态度不一样，比如排班，经理认为中国人特别能干，就在排班时让中国人一个人干，同样的班东欧人就派两个人干，我感觉有一种歧视在里面。中国人拿了一个人的工资干两份活，受到不平等待遇。

Q: Have you ever experienced discrimination?

A: I have experienced discrimination at work. I was working at a deli before and our manager treated Chinese staff and East European staff differently. For the same work, the manager arranged one Chinese staff to work alone but two East European staff work together. It’s unfair because one Chinese worker had to do two jobs but only got paid one salary.

问：你觉得在中国和爱尔兰妇女地位一样吗?

答：我觉得在爱尔兰妇女的地位高一些。比较受他人尊重。

Q: Being a woman, how is different in Ireland and China?

A: I think women enjoy higher social status in Ireland. Women are more respected.

问：你觉得你在爱尔兰的经历对自己的人生有什么影响？自己有什么变化？

答：我觉得自己变化很大，就像变了一个人， 变得独立坚强，开朗了很多，思想比较开放。以前在国内的时候，就像井底之蛙，觉得特别单纯，幼稚。但是现在见识多了，比较成熟了。

Q: Have you changed since you lived in Ireland? What kind of changes? Influences on your life?

A: I have changed a lot, just like I have changed to a different person. I have become independent, tough, and optimistic. My mind is quite open now. I was like a frog in a well when I was in China. I was naive and but I am matured with seeing and knowing so many different things.

问：你交了爱尔兰朋友吗？

答：有，同事，还有朋友的老公是爱尔兰人，也成了朋友。

Q: Have you made Irish friends?

A: Yes, I have. My colleagues, also I made friends with my friend’s husband.

问：你们在哪里聚会？

答：出去吃饭，在酒吧喝酒。

Q: Where do you meet?

A: We eat out and drink at pubs.

问：你和中国人住在一起还是和爱尔兰人住在一起？

答：以前和中国人住在一起，现在和爱尔兰人住在一起，可以多了解爱尔兰。

Q: Are you living with Chinese people?

A: I was living with Chinese people before but at the moment I am living with Irish people so I can understand Ireland more.

问：你平时有什么娱乐活动？

答：出去吃饭喝酒。上网和朋友聊天听音乐。

Q: What do you do in your spare time?

A: I often go out to eat and drink. Sometimes chat with friends and so on

问：你用英文名字吗？

答：我用英文名字，因为在爱尔兰大家都习惯用英文名字，我也喜欢我的英文名字。

Q: Do you use your English name?

A: Yes, I do. Everyone is used to my English names in Ireland. I also like my English name.

**APPENDIX C 12 Transcript 12**

**Personal background**

**Name:** Xia

**Age:** 47

**Marriage status:** Married with two children

**Immigration status:** Came to Ireland with a family reunion visa

**Education background:** Finished middle school study in China

**Occupation in Ireland:** Housewife

**Length of staying in Ireland:** Two years

问：请介绍你的基本情况。

答：我叫霞。我2007年5月来了爱尔兰。在这里住了三个月回了中国。然后又回到爱尔兰。到现在整整待了两年了。

Q: Please introduce yourself.

A: My name is Xia. I came to Ireland in May 2007. I stayed here for three months then I went back to China. Then I came back here again and I have been staying here for two years.

问：你到爱尔兰的目的？

答：陪我的老公随他的签证来的。家庭团聚。

Q: What’s your motivation to come to Ireland?

A: I came here to join my husband. I came with a family reunification visa. My husband came to Ireland in 2001 with work permit. He is a construction worker.

问：你有几个孩子？

答：我有两个孩子。一个男孩一个女孩，大女儿今年23岁，在国内上大学。小儿子今年18岁， 在国内上高中。

Q: How many children do you have?

A: I have two children: one son and one daughter. My daughter is 23 years old and she is attending university in China. My son is 18 years old and he is attending high school in China.

问：你今年多大？

答：我今年47岁。

Q: How old are you?

A: I am 47 years old.

问：你在国内的教育背景？

答：我中学毕业。我在国内有工作。我在招待所工作，做服务员。我是安徽滁州人。

Q: What’s your educational background in China?

A: I finished middle school. I was working as a service staff in a hotel in China. I am from Anhui Province.

问：你对爱尔兰有什么了解？

答：我对爱尔兰没有什么了解。我老公说爱尔兰没有什么好玩的，都是古老的建筑。是欧盟国家我想过来看看。来了以后看到这里的环境和卫生都比我们国家好。所以我想呆在爱尔兰。

Q: What did you know about Ireland before you came to Ireland?

A: I didn’t know much about Ireland. My husband told me that Ireland is one of the EU countries and there is no fun in Ireland. He told that there are a lot of old buildings. I wanted to come over to have a look. I found that environment here is better than in China after I came here so I decided to stay.

问：来爱尔兰之前的期望是什么？

答：没有多大的期望，想和我老公在一起。在这里看一看玩一玩。见识一下。

Q: What's your expectation before you came to Ireland?

A: I didn’t have too many expectations. Just want to be with my husband and to see the world and have fun.

问：你觉得爱尔兰好玩吗？

答：马马虎虎。没什么好玩的，都是古老的建筑。没有中国的花花世界， 没有高楼大厦，都是两层楼高的房子。没有中国好玩，没有中国热闹。

Q: Did you have fun in Ireland?

A: There is no fun at all in Ireland: everywhere you look there are old buildings. There are many high buildings in China but there are a lot of two-storey houses in Ireland. It is different from China: In China, streets are crowded with people and bustling with activities.

问：你喜欢爱尔兰吗？

答：还行。

Q: Do you like Ireland?

A: Yes, I do.

问：你喜欢爱尔兰什么方面？

答：爱尔兰人好。爱尔兰人办事比较热情，乐于帮助。我搞不懂他们就耐心解释给我听，把自己的事情放下来解释给我听。环境也还好。

Q: What do you like about Ireland?

A: Irish people are very nice. They are very enthusiastic and helpful. They explained things to me patiently when I couldn’t understand. Sometimes they even left their own work at hand to help me. I like the environment here.

问：你觉得在中国和爱尔兰妇女待遇一样吗?

答：我觉得在爱尔兰妇女的待遇好一些。因为我自己的感觉。我对爱尔兰没有贡献，我到这里来是沾了我老公的光，但是我在吃福利。没有因为我是女同志， 没有贡献就不给福利。在国内就不行。在国内没有工作，就不给福利吃。我在国内有工作要等到退休以后才能拿福利。

Q: Being a woman how is it different in Ireland and China?

A: I think Ireland treat women well. This is my own personal feeling. I came to Ireland to join my husband. I didn’t contribute to Ireland because I never worked here. But I am getting social welfare. If I were in China, I would never be able to get social welfare. The policy in China is different. I had a job in China but I have to wait until I am retired to claim social welfare.

问：你想念中国吗？

答：想念。因为在这里呆久了就想家，想回家看看女儿，看儿子，看看父母，看看姊妹。

Q: Do you miss China?

A: Yes, I do. I miss home after staying here long. I want to go back home to see my daughter, my son, my parents and my sisters.

问：你每年回中国吗？

答：每年都回去一次，我来了三年，回家了三次。

Q: Do you go back to China every year?

A: Yes, I do. I go back to China once a year. I have been here for three years and I went back three times.

问：你觉得生活有哪些困难？

答：找工作找房子有困难。找不到工作，语言不沟通，房子也不好找。他们都讲英语，我们讲不好。

Q: What made your life difficult here?

A: It was hard to find work and accommodation. I can’t communicate with Irish people. It is difficult to find accommodation because landlords all speak English and I can’t speak English.

问：谁帮助你？

答：英语说得好的朋友帮助我翻译给我听。还有大学生。我还去提供翻译的能在语言上沟通的机构。

Q: Help and support from whom?

A: I got help from my friends who can speak good English. Some of them are university students. They translated letters for me. Sometimes I go to some organizations which provide free interpreting service.

问：你比刚来爱尔兰时适应了吗？

答：我觉得还适应，这里生活水平不高，花钱不多。和国内物价差不多，环境好，卫生好。气候也好，冬天不太冷，夏天不太热。

Q: Do you adapt to Irish environment better now?

A: I think so. Living standard here is not high and cost little. Price of goods is almost the same as in China. Environment is nice. Weather is nice too. It is not too cold in winter and not too hot in summer.

问：你交了爱尔兰朋友吗？

答：没有。

Q: Have you made Irish friends?

A: No, I don’t have Irish friends. .

问：你的朋友都是中国人吗？

答：都是中国人。有语言障碍，和爱尔兰人交流沟通不了，他们讲的我听不懂。

Q: Are all your friends Chinese?

A: All of my friends are Chinese. I can’t communicate with Irish people because of the language barrier. I can’t understand them.

问：你有英文名字吗？

答：没有。

Q: Do you have an English name?

A: No, I don’t have an English name.

问：你平时说一点英文吗？

答：不说。 都说中文。和我老公交流， 和我朋友说话都是中国话。我们和中国人住在一起。

Q: Do you speak a little English?

A: I don’t speak English. I speak Chinese all the time. I talk to my husband and my friends in Chinese. We live with Chinese housemates.

问：你挺习惯爱尔兰？

答：习惯。 只希望在爱尔兰找到好的工作就行。

Q: Are you used to the life in Ireland?

A: Yes, I am. I only hope that I can find a good job.

问：你平时有什么娱乐活动?

答：我每天给我老公买菜烧饭。

Q: What do you do in your spare time? Is there any entertainment?

A: I go shopping and cook for my husband.

问：你老公工作吗?

答：他也没有工作。现在经济危机，他也找不到工作，他也吃福利，我们两人都吃福利。想找工作找不到。

Q: Is your husband working at the moment?

A: He is not working at the moment. He lost his job because of the recession. He can’t find a job. He is getting social welfare too. Both of us are living on social welfare. We want to work but we can’t find work.

问：你和你老公谁更适应爱尔兰？

答：我适应他也适应。爱尔兰环境好气候好卫生还好。国内环境卫生条件差。

Q: who adjusted to the life here better, you or your husband?

A: Both of us adjusted to the life here well. Environment and weather in Ireland are nicer than in China.

问：你出去到别的国家玩吗？

答：没有。我想出去，但是担心我签不到证。我的老公可能可以申请到签证但是他也没有出去过。

Q: Have you travelled to other countries?

A: No, I haven’t. I wanted to travel to other country but I am afraid that I can’t get a visa. My husband hasn’t been to other country either.

问：你想继续呆在爱尔兰吗？

答：我想呆下去。等到将来爱尔兰经济好转了，再找一份好工作。比如清洁办公室的工作。

Q: Do you want to stay in Ireland?

A: Yes, I want to stay in Ireland. I want to wait until Ireland’s economy gets better and I can find a good job. For example, office cleaning job.

**APPENDIX D: PLAIN LANGUAGE STATEMENT**– **ENGLISH VERSION**

**Cross-Cultural Adaptation of Chinese Women Migrants in Ireland**

MA Research by Jun Ni in the School of Applied Languages and Intercultural Studies,

Dublin City University

The aim of this research is to investigate the cross-cultural experiences of Chinese migrant women living in Ireland. This study investigates the role of demographic factor such as gender, age, length of residence, and langue for immigrants’ adjustment. This research also focused on intercultural personality characteristics on Chinese migrant women’s performance, life satisfaction, and international friendships. This research tries to identity the factors which facilitate and hinder the cross-cultural adaptation of Chinese migrant women in Ireland.

If you agree to take part in this research, I will arrange to meet you and ask you some questions. This is an interview which I am carrying out for this research and I would also like to tape this interview. This is to have a true record of the interview which I will write up as a tape script. I am conducting the interviews on an anonymous basis so that names and any personal details will be removed from the tape script. The tape script will also be given to you to check for this reason. The interviews are confidential and will not be disclosed to any third party as they are for the purposes of this research only.

The interviews form the data collected for my MA and in discussing the data I will not refer to any individual in the study by name. Finally, I will delete the tapes once my MA is complete. However, I would like to keep the tape scripts for up to three years following my MA so that I can refer to them while writing articles. After that I will shred them.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT YOU CAN WITHDRAW FROM THIS RESEARCH AT ANY TIME

If participants have concerns about this study and wish to contact an independent person, please contact:

## The Secretary, Dublin City University Research Ethics Committee, c/o Office of the Vice-President for Research, Dublin City University, Dublin 9. Tel 01-7008000

**PLAIN LANGUAGE STATEMENT**– **CHINESE VERSION**

**中文翻译说明**

**中国移民妇女在爱尔兰的跨文化适应过程**

**都柏林城市大学应用语言和跨文化研究系硕士研究生倪军**

本研究的目的是调查居住在爱尔兰的中国移民妇女的跨文化经历。本研究调查包括性别，年龄，在爱尔兰的居住时间，语言等因素对于移民适应调整的影响。本研究还注重个人因素对于中国移民妇女的表现， 生活满意程度和国际友谊的影响。本研究致力于验证有利于或者阻碍中国移民妇女在爱尔兰的跨文化适应过程的因素。

如果你同意参加这项研究，我将会安排和你见面并且问你一些问题。这就是我正在从事这项研究的采访。 我将把这个采访录音并且笔录下来。这个采访是保密的，笔录时将不用真实姓名和个人详细情况。 你可以检查笔录。这个采访绝对保密，不会向第三者透露。 只用于本研究。

采访所取得的数据只用于我从事的硕士研究， 我在讨论数据的时候不会用任何个人的真实姓名。 在研究结束以后， 我将销毁录音带。但是在研究结束以后，写文章时我将引用数据所以我将保存录音带三年。然后销毁录音带。

请记住：你可以随时退出本项研究。

如果您对于本项研究有任何问题，请联系：

都柏林城市大学研究道德委员会秘书和都柏林城市大学研究办公室

电话：*01-7008000*

**CONSENT FORM** – **ENGLISH VERSION**

**Cross-cultural Adaptation of Chinese Women Migrants in Ireland**

MA research by Jun Ni in the School of Applied Languages and Intercultural Studies

I CAN WITHDRAW FROM THE INTERVIEW OR ANY PART OF THIS RESEARCH AT ANY TIME.

Participant – please complete the following (Circle yes or No for each question)

Have you read or had read to you the plain language statement? Yes/No

Do you understand the information provided? Yes/No

Have you had an opportunity to ask questions and discuss this study? Yes/No

Have you received satisfactory answers to your questions? Yes/No

Are you aware that your interview will be audiotaped? Yes/No

*I have read and understood the information in this form. My questions and concerns have been answered by the researcher, and I have a copy of this consent form. Therefore, I consent to take part in this research project*

Participant’s signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name in block capitals: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**CONSENT FORM** – **CHINESE VERSION**

**同意书-中文翻译**

**在爱尔兰的中国移民妇女的跨文化适应过程**

都柏林城市大学应用语言和跨文化研究系硕士研究生倪军

我可以随时退出采访和本项研究

参加者-请回答下列问题（每个问题圈出 肯定或者否定的答案）

你已经阅读了说明书了吗 有/没有

你明白所提供的信息吗？ 明白/不明白

你有机会提问或者讨论这项研究吗？有/没有

对于你的问题你得到了满意的答案吗？有/没有

你知道你的采访录音了吗？知道/不知道

*我已经阅读并且明白这张表的信息。我的问题已经得到了研究者的答复，并且我自己也有这张表格的复印件。因此，我同意参加这个研究项目。*

参加者签名: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

大写字母名字: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

证人: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

日期: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. Stamp 4 provides individuals with long-term residency [↑](#footnote-ref-1)