



Personal Proficiency Trainer

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Complete Transcript
and Translation

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I once heard a joke that goes like this: "if April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring?" Give up? Pilgrims! The first English pilgrims to colonize America travelled here on a ship named the Mayflower! ¡Bienvenidos al mes de abril! Welcome to the month of April! Hopefully this month's showers will bring us many flowers! I hope you are all enjoying spring weather as lovely as mine. April has always seemed to me to be the month when the earth fully awakens from its wintry slumber. Everything seems bright and alive. Hopefully the brighter weather has also brightened your desire to learn Spanish! Let's get started!

¡Bienvenidos a la edición de Abril del PPT! Welcome to the April edition of the PPT. This month will feature a wide variety of speakers from Central and South America. We will begin by meeting a new friend from Bolivia named Antonina. Then we will follow German from Mexico as he applies for a home loan.

In our advanced conversations we will learn about the family of two sisters who traveled here all the way from Bolivia. Then we will ask them what it was like adjusting to a vastly different climate. Then we will listen to Eva and Lilian from Central America talk about one of the things they miss most about their home country--the warmth and friendliness of the Central American people. We will also listen to some of their personal experiences learning English--maybe they have some good advice for us!

I continue to be excited about the PPT and would like to thank you all again for your patience and feedback as we continually improve this exciting program. Learning to understand native speakers is one of the hardest parts of learning Spanish and can only be achieved by listening, listening, listening. We hope you are enjoying your travels through the Spanish-speaking world. ¡Buen viaje! Have a nice trip!

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CONVERSATIONS:

~ BEGINNING ~

Meet Antonina (Conocer a Antonina)

Speakers: Tatiana and Antonina from La Paz, Bolivia.

Let's continue on our journey around the globe, stopping this time in Bolivia, a beautiful and diverse country that is landlocked in the middle of South America. I'm pleased to introduce you to Tatiana and her sister Antonina, our first speakers from Bolivia. Let's practice our basic questions with Tatiana.

<u>Vocabulario</u>	
¿cuál es tu nombre?	what is your name?
qué lindo tu nombre	what a lovely name
¿cuántos años tienes?	how old are you?
no pareces de veinticinco	you don't look twenty-five
¿cuánto tiempo tiene aquí?	how long have you been here?
el corazón	the heart
significa	it/that means
estamos rodeados	we are surrounded
tengo amigos de Argentina	I have friends from Argentina
¿cómo es el clima?	what is the weather/climate like?
templado	temperate / mild
cálido	warm
no hace ni frío, ni calor	it isn't hot or cold
hay mucha nieve	there is a lot of snow
en algunos lugares	in some places

Antonina	Hola, ¿cómo estás? ¿Cuál es tu nombre?
	Hello, how are you? What is your name?
Kaylee	Yo me llamo Kaylee. ¿Cómo está--cómo te llamas tú?
	My name is Kaylee. How are you--what is your name?
Antonina	Yo me llamo Antonina.
	My name is Antonina.
Kaylee	Antonina, qué lindo tu nombre. ¿De dónde eres?
	Antonina, what a lovely name (how lovely your name). Where are you from?
Antonina	Yo soy de Bolivia, ¿y tú?
	I'm from Bolivia, and you?
Kaylee	Yo soy de aquí.
	I'm from here
Antonina	Oh, qué lindo.
	Oh, how nice (lovely).
Kaylee	Sí. ¿Cuántos años tienes Antonina?
	Yes. How old are you Antonina? (How many years do you have)
Antonina	Yo tengo veintidós.
	I am twenty-two. (I have 22)
Antonina	¿Y tú Kaylee?
	How about (and) you Kaylee?
Kaylee	Yo tengo veinticinco.
	I am twenty-five.
Antonina	Guau, no pareces de veinticinco.
	Wow, you don't look (seem) twenty-five.
Kaylee	¡Gracias! ¿Cuánto tiempo tienes aquí en Estados Unidos?
	Thanks! How much time do you have here in the United States?
Antonina	Bueno, tengo viviendo un año y medio.
	Well, I have a year and a half living (here).

Kaylee Un año y medio. Eres de Bolivia. ¿Dónde es Bolivia?

A year and a half. You're from Bolivia. Where is Bolivia?

Antonina Bolivia es en el corazón de Sudamérica. Significa que está en medio de Sudamérica. Estamos rodeados por los países de Brasil, Perú, Chile, Paraguay, y Argentina.

Bolivia is in the heart of South America. That means that it's in the middle of South America. We are surrounded by the countries of Brazil, Peru, Chile, Paraguay, and Argentina.

Kaylee Mmm, tengo amigos de Argentina.

Mmm, I have friends from Argentina.

Kaylee ¿Cómo es el clima en Bolivia?

How is the climate in Bolivia?

Antonina En Bolivia tenemos tres tipos de clima. Uno que es frío, otro que es templado, y el otro es cálido. Pero dónde yo vivo es templado. O sea que no hace ni mucho frío, ni mucho calor.

In Bolivia we have three types of climate. One that is cold, another that is temperate (mild), and the other is warm. But where I live it's temperate. Meaning (or it's) that it isn't very cold, or very hot. (It neither makes much cold, nor much heat)

Kaylee Qué lindo. A mí me gusta ese clima. Bueno aquí hace más frío que calor. Entonces hay mucha nieve. ¿Tú tienes nieve en Bolivia?

That's nice (how lovely). I like that climate. Well here it is cold more than hot. So there is a lot of snow. Do you have snow in Bolivia?

Antonina En algunos lugares, pero la verdad, yo he visto nieve sólo aquí. Porque en Bolivia, dónde hay nieve es en las montañas, y yo nunca fui a las montañas.

In some places, but truthfully, I have only seen snow here. Because in Bolivia, where there is snow is in the mountains, and I never went to the mountains.

Meet Antonina, Part II

Speakers: Tatiana and Antonina from La Paz, Bolivia.

One of the coolest parts about learning Spanish is that it will open the doors for you to get to know so many new and fascinating people from all over the world! Did you know Spanish is spoken by over 400 million people in more than 25 countries?! That's a lot of new people to meet! We better start practicing!

<u>Vocabulario</u>	
tu tiempo libre	your free time
leer	to read
hablar con mi familia	to talk with my family
bastante	quite a lot
por medio del internet	through the internet
extraño la comida	I miss the food
el clima	the climate
la puedes hacer rápida	you can make it quickly
no es muy saludable	it isn't very healthy
toma más tiempo	it takes more time
comida enlatada	canned food
frutas	fruit
verduras	vegetables
mi mamá me enseñó	my mom taught me
no sé cocinar	I don't know how to cook
claro	of course
cuando quieras	whenever you want

comida boliviana	Bolivian food
fue un gusto conocerte	it was nice meeting you
qué estés bien	may you be well
ten un buen día	have a good day

Kaylee	¿Y qué te gusta hacer en tu tiempo libre?
	And what do you like to do in your free time?
Antonina	Me gusta leer y hablar con mi familia. Los extraño bastante.
	I like to read and talk with my family. I miss them quite a lot.
Kaylee	¿Cómo hablas con tu familia?
	How do you talk with your family?
Antonina	Hablo por medio del internet.
	I talk through the internet.
Kaylee	¿Y extrañas a Bolivia?
	And do you miss Bolivia?
Antonina	Claro, extraño la comida, extraño las personas, extraño el clima, es muy diferente aquí.
	Of course, I miss the food, I miss the people, I miss the climate, it's very different here.
Kaylee	¿Qué te gusta de la comida de aquí?
	What do you like about the food from here?
Antonina	La comida aquí es diferente. Ahm, me gusta que la puedes hacer rápida, pero no es muy saludable. En Bolivia toma más tiempo cocinar la comida, pero es más saludable. Tenemos...no tenemos mucha comida enlatada, pero sí tenemos bastantes frutas y diferentes verduras.
	The food here is very different. Um, I like that you can make it quickly, but it isn't very healthy. In Bolivia it takes more time to cook the food, but it's more healthy. We have...we don't have a lot of canned food, but we do have quite a lot of fruits and different vegetables.
Kaylee	¿Entonces te gusta cocinar también?
	So do you like to cook as well?

Antonina ¡Me encanta cocinar! Mi mamá me enseñó a cocinar desde que yo era pequeña.

I love to cook! My mom taught me to cook since I was little.

Kaylee Guau, entonces tú me tienes que enseñar a cocinar, porque yo no sé cocinar.

Wow, then you have to teach me to cook, because I don't know how to cook.

Antonina Claro, cuando quieras, y cuando quieras te enseño a cocinar comida boliviana.

Of course, whenever you want, and whenever you want I'll teach you to cook Bolivian food.

Kaylee Perfecto, yo te puedo enseñar también un poquito a cocinar comida americana.

Perfect, I can also teach you a little to cook American food.

Antonina Ok, fue un gusto conocerte Kaylee.

Ok, it was nice meeting you Kaylee.

Kaylee Gracias Antonina, qué estés bien. Ten un buen día.

Thank you Antonina, may you be well. Have a good day.

~ INTERMEDIATE ~

Getting a Home Loan (Obtener un Préstamo de Casa)

Speakers: Mitchel from Columbia and German from Michoacán, Mexico.

One industry that took a very hard hit during our current economic recession was real estate. I had many friends in the real estate field who lost their jobs. Hopefully now that we appear to be gradually pulling out of the recession, things will pick up for them soon. In an optimistic show of support for the struggling housing market, let's learn how to apply for a home loan in Spanish!

<u>Vocabulario</u>	
un placer conocerte	a pleasure meeting you
aquí para ayudarte	here to help you
un préstamo de casa	a home loan
me cansé	I got tired
ser dueño de	to own (to be owner of)
hoy en día	nowadays
¿cuánto tiempo?	how long (how much time)?
he rentado	I have rented
¿cuánto pagas?	how much do you pay
a tiempo	on time
todos los meses	every month
un recargo	a surcharge
otra pregunta	another question
¿cuánto debes?	how much do you owe
además de la renta	apart from the rent

Manuel	Hola, ¿qué tal Miguel, cómo estás?
	Hello, how's it going Miguel, how are you?
Miguel	¿Manuel? Un placer conocerte. Yo me llamo Miguel. Aquí para ayudarte. ¿Cómo te puedo ayudar?
	Manuel? A pleasure meeting you. My name is Miguel. Here to help you. How can I help you?
Manuel	Sí, mira, me dijeron que aquí, ah, puedo obtener un préstamo.
	Yes, look, they told me that here, uh, I can obtain a loan.
Miguel	Eso es correcto. ¿Es la primera vez que estás haciendo préstamo de casa?
	That is correct. Is it the first time that you are doing a home loan?
Manuel	Sí, ya...ya me cansé de rentar y tengo problemas.
	Yes, ...I got tired of renting and I have problems.
Miguel	No, te...te entiendo, eh, muy bien, es mejor ser dueño de su propia casa, hoy en día es mejor para la familia.
	No, ...I understand you, uh, very well, it's better to own (be an owner of) your own home, nowadays it's better for the family.
Miguel	Ahm, ¿cuánto tiempo has estado, ah, rentando?
	Um, how long have you been, uh, renting?
Manuel	Ah, he rentado como por seis años.
	Uh, I've rented like for six years.
Miguel	Seis años, muy bien, y ¿cuánto pagas para la renta?
	Six years, alright, and how much do you pay for the rent?
Manuel	Pago seiscientos dólares.
	I pay six hundred dollars.
Miguel	Seiscientos dólares al mes. ¿Y has pagado a tiempo todos los meses?
	Six hundred dollars a month. And have you paid on time every month?
Manuel	Eh, sí, nunca...sólo una vez, pero pagué como dicen un recargo.
	Uh, yes, never...just one time, but I paid like they say a surcharge.

Miguel	Sí. ¿Y eso fue hace un año o dos años?
	Yes. And that was a year ago or two years ago?
Manuel	No, eso hace como unos tres años.
	No, that (was) like about three years ago.
Miguel	Qué bueno. Otra pregunta. ¿Cuánto estás haciendo ahorita al mes en tu trabajo?
	Oh good. Another question. How much are you making right now per month at your work?
Manuel	Mmm, estoy haciendo casi...casi los dos mil dólares.
	Mmm, I'm making almost... almost two thousand dollars.
Miguel	Dos mil dólares al mes.
	Two thousand dollars a month.
Miguel	Y, ¿cuánto debes a...a tus otros pagos además de la renta?
	And, how much do you owe to...to your other payments apart from the rent?
Manuel	Mira, ehm, del carro también debo.
	Well, um, I also owe from the car.
Miguel	¿Cuánto al mes tienes que pagar para...para tu carro?
	How much per month do you have to pay for...for your car?
Manuel	Eh, pago doscientos cincuenta dólares.
	Uh, I pay two hundred and fifty dollars.
Miguel	Doscientos cincuenta, muy bien. ¿Y tienes otros préstamos?
	Two hundred and fifty, all right. And do you have other loans?
Manuel	Sí también tengo otro. El de la universidad.
	Yes I also have another one. The one from the university.
Miguel	¿Y cuánto pagas para la universidad--el préstamo?
	And how much do you pay for the university--the loan?
Manuel	Son como...pago doscientos dólares.
	It's like...I pay two hundred dollars.
Miguel	Doscientos al mes. [Sí]Muy bien.
	Two hundred a month. [Yes] Alright.

Getting a Home Loan, Part II

Speakers: Mitchel from Columbia and German from Michoacán, Mexico.

Let's finish up our loan application in Spanish. Learning to talk about finances in Spanish is not only useful for traveling and living in a foreign country, but also very useful for any line of work that uses Spanish. You will know you have taken your Spanish to the next level when you are able to carry on polite business conversations such as these.

<u>Vocabulario</u>	
tus pagos	your payments
te puedo cualificar	I can qualify you
una casa de cien mil dólares	a hundred thousand dollar home
más o menos	about / more or less
claro que sí	of course
lo que estoy pagando	what I am paying
te felicito	I congratulate you
una experiencia buena	a good experience
llenar estos papeles	to fill out these papers
unas firmas aquí	some signatures here
tu propia casa	your own home
una respuesta	an answer
aprobado	approved
escoger	to choose
firmar el contrato	to sign the contract
el dueño	the owner
lo que buscaba (yo)	what I was looking for

me parece muy bien	that sounds great (to me)
hice muy buena decisión	I made a very good decision
venir a visitarte	to come to visit you
aquí estamos para servirte	we are here at your service
que tengas muy buen día	have a very good day

Miguel Y, ahm, entonces ¿cuántos...ah, tienes otros pagos, además de esos dos?

And, um, so how many... uh, do you have other payments, apart from those two?

Manuel No.

No.

Miguel Muy bien, ah, mirando las cosas aquí, te puedo cualificar por una casa de cien mil dólares. Ahm, y tus pagos más o menos serían como setecientos dólares al mes. ¿Crees que es algo que podrías hacer?

All right, uh, looking at things here, I can qualify you for a hundred-thousand dollar home. Um, and your payments would be about like seven hundred dollars a month. Do you think that is something that you would be able to do?

Manuel Claro que sí porque serían cien dólares más de lo que estoy pagando, y ya voy a pagar algo que va a ser mío.

Of course I can because it would be one hundred dollars more than what I am paying, and now I'm going to pay something that is going to be mine.

Miguel Sí. Eso...eso te felicito porque va ser una experiencia buena para tu familia. Necesito solamente que me ayudes llenar estos papeles y unas firmas aquí, cositas así y lo resto va a ser simple y vas a tener tu propia casa.

Yes. ...I congratulate you (on) that because it's going to be a good experience for your family. I just need you to help me fill out these papers and a few signatures here, things like this and the rest is going to be simple and you are going to have your own home.

Manuel Y ¿en qué tiempo tú me puedes tener una...una respuesta?

And in what time can you have an...an answer for me?

Miguel Ah, estás desde este momento pre-aprobado. Solamente tenemos que escoger la casa, firmar el contrato con el dueño y después, en tres semanas, será el préstamo.

You are from this moment preapproved. We just have to choose the house, sign the contract with the owner and then, in three weeks, will be the loan.

Manuel ¿Y tú ya tienes mucho haciendo...haciendo esto?

And do you have a long time doing...doing this? (Have you been doing this long?)

Miguel Desde mil novecientos noventa y seis.

Since nineteen ninety-six.

Manuel Oh, entonces ya tiene experiencia, eso es lo que buscaba.

Oh, then you already have experience, that is what I was looking for.

Miguel Bastante. Y aquí para servirte en cualquier pregunta que tengas.

Quite a lot. And here to help you with any question that you might have.

Manuel Me parece muy bien. Hice muy buena decisión en venir a visitarte porque tenía mis dudas.

That sounds great. I made a very good decision in coming to visit you because I had my doubts.

Miguel Eso es cierto, aquí estamos para servirte y yo voy a trabajar bien duro para ti.

That is true, we're here at your service and I'm going to work really hard for you.

Manuel Ok, pues te agradezco mucho, Miguel y, pues que, de verdad que gracias por tu atención y que tengas muy buen día.

Ok, well I appreciate it a lot, Michael and, well, truly, thanks for your service (attention) and have a very good day.

Miguel Un placer Manuel. Que tengas buen día también [Hasta luego].

A pleasure Manuel. You have a good day as well [See you later].

Dos Hermanas de Bolivia (Two Sisters from Bolivia)

Hablantes: Tatiana y Antonina de La Paz, Bolivia.

If you want to be a great conversationalist, talk about things that the other person is interested in! And since everyone is interested in their own families, you are pretty much always safe talking about other people's families. Let's ask these two sisters about where they were born and what their family is like. Asking someone where they were born is a great conversation starter since sometimes it sparks interesting stories. Let's see if either of the sisters have a story about where they were born.

<u>Vocabulario</u>	
en esta ocasión	on this occasion / at this time
está rodeado	it is surrounded
el departamento	the department (state)
nací en la ciudad	I was born in the city
por accidente	by accident
en el camino	on the way
un accidente de auto	a car accident
tomar el bus	to take the bus
soy la única	I'm the only one
eso es excelente	that's great (excellent).
fallecieron (ellos)	they passed away
somos cinco	there are five of us (we are five)
yo soy la del medio	I'm the middle one
mi hermana mayor	my older sister
ella está casada	she is married
se casó hace cuatro meses (ella)	she got married four months ago

su esposa (de él)	his wife
la segunda mayor	the second oldest
estamos esperando	we are waiting for
un sobrino	a nephew
es muy mimado (él)	he is very spoiled
en mi caso	in my case
el verano pasado	last summer

Tatiana	Hola, ¿cómo están? Soy Tatiana Ninosca Ayaviri. Y en esta ocasión estoy con mi hermana. Hello, how are all of you? I am Tatiana Ninosca Ayaviri. And on this occasion I am with my sister.
Antonina	Hola, ¿cómo están? Me llamo Antonina. Hello, how are you all? My name is Antonina.
Tatiana	Eh, nosotras venimos del...del país de Bolivia Uh, we come from...from the country of Bolivia.
Antonina	Está rodeado de Brasil en el norte, Perú, Argentina, Chile, y Paraguay. It's surrounded by Brazil in the north, Peru, Argentina, Chile, and Paraguay.
Tatiana	Ahm, venimos del departamento de Cochabamba, o como ustedes conocen, la ciudad de Cochabamba. Yo he nacido en la ciudad de La Paz. Um, we come from the department (state) of Cochabamba, or as you know, the city of Cochabamba. I was born in the city of La Paz.
Antonina	Y yo nací en la ciudad de Cochabamba por accidente. And I was born in the city of Cochabamba by accident.
Tatiana	¿Por qué dices por accidente, Nina? Why do you say by accident, Nina?

Antonina	Porque todos mis hermanos son de La Paz. Pero, mis papás estaban yendo a La Paz para que yo nazca en La Paz y en el camino ellos tuvieron un accidente de auto. Y el primer bus que pasaba era el que iba a Cochabamba.
----------	---

Because all of my siblings are from La Paz. But, my parents were going to La Paz so that I would be born in La Paz and on the way they had an car accident. And the first bus that came by was the one that was going to Cochabamba.

Antonina	Entonces mi mamá tuvo que tomar el bus porque ella tenía--yo tenía que nacer ya. Y llegó a Cochabamba y tuve que nacer en Cochabamba, y soy la única de mis hermanos que nació allí.
----------	--

So my mom had to take the bus because she had--I had to be born right then. And she arrived at Cochabamba, and I had to be born in Cochabamba, and I'm the only one of my siblings that was born there.

Tatiana	Nosotros tenemos siete hermanos de los cuales dos fallecieron, entonces somos cinco.
---------	--

We have seven siblings two of which passed away, so there are five of us (we are five).

Antonina	Cinco de los cuales soy la del medio. Mi hermana mayor nos está acompañando en esta oportunidad, ella está casada, se casó hace cuatro meses.
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Five of which I am the middle one. My older sister is accompanying us on this occasion (opportunity), she is married, she got married four months ago.

Tatiana	Hace cinco meses.
---------	-------------------

Five months ago.

Tatiana	Somos cinco, eh, nuestro hermano mayor que se llama Vladimir, él tiene veintisiete años y se casó hace tres años.
---------	---

There are five of us, uh, our older brother that is named Vladimir, he is twenty-six years old and he got married three years ago.

Tatiana	Él tiene un niño que se llama Nicolás el cual es muy bueno y muy lindo. Él tiene dos años. Su esposa se llama Paola. Después vengo yo, que soy la segunda mayor. Yo tengo veinticinco años, y después viene mi hermana.
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He has a little boy whose name is Nicholas that is very nice and very sweet. He is two years old. His wife's name is Paula. Then comes me, I'm the second oldest. I'm twenty-five years old, and then comes my sister.

Antonina	Bueno, estamos esperando los bebés de mi hermanaporque ya un sobrino es muy mimado en la familia. Necesitamos otro. Bueno yo tengo veintidós años y tengo mi hermanito que tiene dieciséis años y mi hermanita, Angie, que tiene catorce años, ya vamos a hablar de ellos más adelante.
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Well, we are waiting for my sister's babies because one nephew is very spoiled in the family. We need another. Well I am twenty-two years old and I have my brother that is sixteen years old and my sister, Angie, that is fourteen years old, we'll talk about them later.

Tatiana	Exacto. Nosotros estamos aquí en Estados Unidos hace un año y diez meses. Bueno, en mi...en mi caso.
---------	--

Exactly. We have been here in the United States for a year and ten months. Well, in my...in my case.

Antonina	El verano pasado tuve la oportunidad de volver a Bolivia, y estuve allí por tres meses, así que yo estoy aquí un año y siete meses.
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Last summer I had the opportunity to go back to Bolivia, and I was there for three months, so i've been here for a year and seven months.

Un Nuevo Clima (A New Climate)

Hablantes: Tatiana y Antonina de La Paz, Bolivia.

If you could choose to live anywhere in the world, what sort of climate would you choose? Do you enjoy the changing seasons or would you like a more stable climate close to the equator? Certainly one thing that you will have to adjust to if you travel to another country is the change in the climate. Let's find out how well Tatiana and Antonina were able to adjust when they came to the United States.

<u>Vocabulario</u>	
una experiencia muy buena	a very good experience
Sudamérica	South America
el viaje	the trip
en avión	by plane
salimos de	we left from
una ciudad muy linda	a very nice (lovely) city
un clima típico	a typical climate
tropical	tropical
¿por qué crees?	why do you think?
nunca hace mucho frío,	it never gets very cold (it never makes much cold)
hace mucho calor	it is hot (weather)
una pollera	a skirt
un suéter	a sweater
¿viste la nieve?	did you see the snow?
caminar	to walk
tenía tanto miedo	I was so scared

caerse	to fall down
mis botas	my boots
mi abrigo	my coat
parecí un payaso	I looked like a clown
como les estábamos contando	like we were telling you all
subimos al avión	we got in the plane
dijimos	we said
estábamos dejando nuestro país	we were leaving our country
más que todo	more than anything
llorar	to cry
estábamos muy emocionadas	we were very excited (fem.)
tan grande como	as big as

Tatiana	Llegamos hace...en abril del dos mil ocho, y fue una experiencia muy linda. <i>We arrived ...in April of 2008, and it was a very good experience.</i>
Antonina	Bueno, como sabrán, Bolivia está en Sudamérica y el viaje que tuvimos que hacer aquí fue de dieciséis horas en avión. <i>Well, as you may know, Bolivia is in South America and the trip that we had to make here was sixteen hours by plane.</i>
Tatiana	Salimos de...de la ciudad de Cochabamba a la ciudad de Santa Cruz. Santa Cruz es una ciudad muy linda. El...déjeme contarles un poco del clima de...de Santa Cruz. El clima de Santa Cruz es un...un clima típico porque es un clima muy cálido. <i>We left from...from the city of Cochabamba to the city of Santa Cruz. Santa Cruz is a very nice city. The...let me tell you a little about the climate of...of Santa Cruz. The climate of Santa Cruz is a...a typical climate because it's a very warm climate.</i>
Antonina	Tropical. <i>Tropical.</i>

Tatiana	Tropical, eso, gracias hermana. Es un clima donde está muy caliente.
	Tropical, that's it, thank you sister. It's a climate where it's very hot.
Tatiana	Nosotros de la ciudad de Cochabamba de dónde venimos, el clima para nosotros es el clima perfecto. ¿Por qué crees que es el clima perfecto, Nina?
	Those of us from the city of Cochabamba where we are from, the climate for us is the perfect climate. Why do you think that it's the perfect climate, Nina?
Antonina	Pues porque nunca hace mucho frío, ni tampoco hace mucho calor. Podemos usar una polera, podemos usar un suéter, y es lo mismo para nosotras, o sea, eso es lo que extraño aquí. ¿viste la nieve? ¡Ay, no!
	Well because it's never very cold, neither is it ever very hot. We can use a T-shirt, we can use a sweater, and it's the same for us, I mean, that is what I miss Here. Have you seen the snow? Oh no!
Tatiana	Nosotros nunca tuvimos nieve en nuestro país. Yo ni conocía que era...que era caminar en la nieve, y por eso la primera vez que vi aquí la nieve, y cuando caminé, tenía tanto miedo de caerme que estaba con mis botas, que estaba con mi abrigo, que estaba con tantas cosas que parecí un payaso. Y pero, lo hice para que no me...para que no me caiga.
	We never had snow in our country. I didn't even know what it was...what it was to walk in the snow, and that's why the first time that I saw the snow here, and when I walked, I was so scared of falling that I had on my boots, I had on my coat, I had on so many things that I looked like a clown. And but, I did it so that I...so that I wouldn't fall (might not fall).
Tatiana	Pero bueno, como les estábamos contando, salimos de la ciudad de Cochabamba a la ciudad de Santa Cruz en avión. Después de Santa Cruz, cuando ya subimos al vue—al...al avión, nos dimos cuenta de que ya estábamos dejando nuestro país. Nos vimos nosotras dos y dijimos: "¡Nina, lo estamos haciendo!" Entonces empezamos un poco a llorar porque estábamos dándonos cuenta de que estábamos dejando nuestro país, nuestra cultura, nuestra comida; pero más que todo a nuestra familia, a nuestros amigos. Y empezamos a llorar un poco, pero también estábamos muy, muy emocionadas de llegar a un nuevo país tan grande como era Estados Unidos.
	But well, like we were telling you, we left from the city of Cochabamba to the city of Santa Cruz by plane. After Santa Cruz, when we got on the flight—on the...on the plane, we realized that now we were leaving our country. We looked at each other and we said: "Nina, we are doing it!" Then we started to cry a little because we were realizing that we were leaving our country, our culture, our food; but more than anything our family, our friends. And we started to cry a little, but we were also very, very excited to arrive at a new country as big as the United States was.
Antonina	Exacto, estábamos listas para una nueva aventura.
	Exactly, we were ready for a new adventure.

~ ADVANCED ~

El Calor de la Gente (The Warmth of the People)

Hablantes: Eva de El Salvador y Lilian de Guatemala.

The real joy of learning another language comes in learning about and getting to know the people who speak it. Latin Americans tend to be very warm, open, and friendly. Many Latin-Americans that I meet mention that they find the North American to be more serious and reserved. Let's see if Eva and Lilian have noticed the same differences between the people here and the people back home in Central America.

<u>Vocabulario</u>	
toda tu familia	your whole family
siempre estoy visitando	I'm always visiting
extraño mucho	I really miss
la calidad	the quality
el calor de la gente	the warmth of the people
no importa	it doesn't matter
si tenés dinero	if you have money (Vos form)
lo que sos	what you are (Vos)
una aldea	a hamlet, a village
un pueblito pequeño	a tiny little town
está formado por	it's made up of
muy poca gente	very few people
quinientas personas	five hundred people
mi país	my country
lo calurosa que es la gente	how warm the people are

pasar por la calle	to walk down the street
hay sonrisas	there are smiles
todos extrañamos eso	we all miss that
la cultura es tan rica	the culture is so rich
fui el año pasado	I went last year
apenas	barely
es increíble	it's incredible
darse cuenta	to realize
la alegría	the joy
la sinceridad	the sincerity
como se ve	how it looks
recibir	to receive / to welcome
todos me responden	everyone responds back to me
mal educación	bad manners

Eva ¿Tienes tú familia acá? ¿Toda tu familia está acá?

Do you have family here? Is your whole family here?

Lilian No, mi familia vive en Guatemala. Eh, tengo, ah, familia que vive aquí, pero mis papás viven en Guatemala y...y, pues, tengo hermanos que viven allá. Pero yo me encanta ir a Guatemala. Siempre estoy visitando mi familia. Extraño mucho la calidad, el calor de la gente. Es...lo que más extraño de...de Guatemala es que no importa si...si tenés o no tenés dinero. Lo que importa es lo que...lo que sos. Te quiere la gente por lo que sos, no por lo que tenés.

No, my family lives in Guatemala. Uh, I have, uh, family that lives here, but my parents live in Guatemala and... and, well, I have siblings that live there. But I love going to Guatemala. I'm always visiting my family. I really miss the quality, the warmth of the people. It's...what I miss most about...about Guatemala is that it doesn't matter if...if you have or you don't have money. What matters is what you...what you are. People like you for what you are, not for what you have.

Lilian	Pues de donde yo soy, soy de una aldea. Sabés que es una aldea, ¿verdad?
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Well where I'm from, I'm from a hamlet. You know what a hamlet is, right?

Eva	Sí.
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Yes.

Lilian	Eh, pues es un...es un pueblito pequeñito, está formado por muy poca gente y yo creo que donde yo vivo, no vive más de quinientas personas. Pero sí, es lo que yo creo que más extraño de...de mi cultura y de mi país es lo calurosa que es la gente que si uno pasa por la calle: "buenas tardes, buenos días, buenas noches, adiós."
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Uh, well it's a...it's a little town, it's made up of very few people, and I think that where I live, no more than five-hundred people live. But yes, it's what I think that I miss most about...about my culture and my country is how warm the people are that if you go down the street: "good afternoon, good day, good evening, goodbye."

Eva	Hay sonrisas [Sí]. Yo pienso que todos extrañamos eso, ah, la cultura de nosotros es tan rica y ese...ese calor. Yo he visitado, tengo nueve años acá y fui...he ido dos veces. Fui el año pasado, ah, y fui por una semana apenas.
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There are smiles [Yes]. I think that we all miss that, uh, our culture is so rich and that...that warmth. I've visited, I've been here nine years and I went... I've gone twice. I went last year, uh, and I went for barely a week.

Eva	Es increíble llegar allá y darse cuenta todo lo que uno extraña [sí] realmente--el calor y...y la alegría de la gente y la sinceridad, como se ve cuando la gente--cuando uno llegue y la gente cuando lo recibe [Sí, sí]. Es increíble, es increíble.
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It's incredible getting there and realizing everything that one actually [yes] misses-- the warmth and...and the joy of the people and the sincerity, how it looks when the people-- when one arrives and the people when they welcome (receive) you. It's incredible, it's incredible.

Lilian	Sí, me encanta eso, ah, me encanta estar en Guatemala y pasar por las calles y saber que conozco a todo el mundo aunque no me conozcan, digo adiós y todos me responden [sí]. Y el hecho de no hacerlo, pasar por una calle en que hayan personas afuera y no decir adiós es como mal educación, ¿verdad?
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Yes, I love that, uh, I love being in Guatemala and going down the streets and knowing that I know the whole world even if they don't know me, I say goodbye and everyone responds back to me [yes]. And the fact that not doing it, going down a street where there are people outside and not saying goodbye is like bad manners, right?

Eva	Sí.
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Yes.

Lilian	Es...es como es allá.
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It's...it's how it is over there.

Aprender Inglés (Learning English)

Hablantes: Eva de El Salvador y Lilian de Guatemala.

One commonality that we share with many foreign speakers is that they also have learned or are learning a foreign language--usually English. This not only gives us something to talk about, but something to relate to as well. We can share advice about practices that have helped us to learn Spanish and ask them to share their experiences learning English. Let's talk to Eva and Lilian about what it was like coming to a new country without being able to understand much of what was being said.

<u>Vocabulario</u>	
¿cómo aprendiste?	how did you learn?
llegué acá	I arrived here
bachillerato	high school diploma
no tenía idea	I had no idea
yo pregunté	I asked
me acuerdo que	I remember that
cuando me preguntaban algo	when they asked me something
fui a una escuela	I went to a school
había muy pocas personas	there were very few people
me hacía mucha falta	I missed it a lot (it made much absence)
me ayudó mucho	it helped me a lot
practicar	to practice
me moví de estado	I moved states
nana	nanny
una gota	a drop
regalar	to give (a gift)

un diccionario	a dictionary
yo podía entender	I could understand
bloquear	to block
los canales	the channels
las novelas	the soap-operas
la palabra clave	the key word
te has dado cuenta	you have realized
me fascina platicar	chatting fascinates me
quedar callada	to stay quiet
lenguaje corporal	body language
nuestras manos	our hands

Lilian	¿Cómo aprendiste a hablar inglés?
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How did you learn to speak English?

Eva	<p>Ah, yo llegué acá...yo me acuerdo llegué acá un Noviembre, ahm, principios de Noviembre en el dos mil hace nueve años y luego empecé ir a bachillerato. Que una semana y media después, no tenía idea de lo que me estaban diciendo. Y me hablaban y yo me acuerdo que lo que yo pregunté a familia que hablaba inglés era decir "no hablo inglés," en inglés. Así cuando me preguntaban algo yo decía "no hablo inglés" en inglés. Ahm, pero fue difícil. Lo bueno que yo tuve, yo fui a una escuela que era de...había muy pocas personas que hablaban español.</p>
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Uh, I arrived here... I remember that I arrived here in a November, um, the beginning of November in the (year) two thousand nine years ago and then I started going to high school. That a week and a half later, I didn't have any idea about what they were saying to me. And they talked to me and I remember that what I asked family that spoke English was to say "I don't speak English," in English. So when they asked me something I said "I don't speak English" in English. Um, but it was difficult. The good thing that I had, I went to a school that was from... there were very few people that spoke Spanish.

Eva	Por una parte me hacía mucha falta, pero por una parte me ayudó mucho porque yo tenía que practicar, tenía que hablar; y eso me ayudó mucho.
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On the one hand, (for one part) I missed it a lot, but on the other hand (for one part) it helped me a lot because I had to practice, I had to speak; and that helped me a lot.

Lilian	Cuando yo, eh, me moví de estado, me moví de un estado al otro, y en ese...en ese estado al que me moví, no...casi las personas no hablan español. Y yo comencé a ser nana de...de un bebé y ellos no hablaban una gota de español y [¿en serio?] me acuerdo que me regalaron un diccionario, eh, que tenía, eh, fotos, eh, todo venía en inglés y en español y tenía muchas fotos y yo me recuerdo que yo podía entender unas cositas como "baño," eh, ¿qué más, este...? "Comida," eh, "por favor," poquitas--lo más simple.
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When I, uh, moved states, I moved from one state to another, and in that... in that state to which I moved, no...almost (all) the people don't speak Spanish. I and started being a nanny of...of a baby and they didn't speak a drop of Spanish and [seriously?] I remember that they gave (gifted) me a dictionary, uh, that had, uh, photos, uh, everything came in English and in Spanish and it had a lot of photos and I remember that I could understand a few little things like "bathroom," uh, what else, um...? "Food," uh, "please," little--the most simple.

Lilian	Y cuando, me recuerdo que el muchacho me dijo--el papá del niño me dijo que me iba a bloquear todos los canales de...que tuvieran novelas.
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And when, I remember that the boy told me-- the child's father told me that he was going to block all the channels of... that had Spanish soap-operas.

Eva	Las novelas. Novelera.
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The soap-operas. Soap addict.

Lilian	Por motivo de que me dijo que me iba a poner sólo canales en inglés y con subtítulos en inglés. Y yo me recuerdo que la palabra clave para mí fue "¿cómo se dice?" [Sí] Como tú te has dado cuenta en esta conversación [sí], me fascina platicar, me encanta hablar y no me podía quedar callada. Entonces siempre, este, preguntaban--y yo preguntaba para todo "¿y cómo se dice...?" Y, eh, usaba lenguaje corporal porque algo que...que es fácil para los hispanos, es que usamos lenguaje corporal. Usamos...usamos nuestras manos, usamos todo.
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For the reason that he told me that he was going to only put on channels in English and with subtitles in English. And I remember that the key word for me was "how do you say?" [Yes] Like you have realized in this conversation [yes], chatting fascinates me, I love talking and I couldn't stay quiet. So they always, um, asked-- and I asked for everything "and how do you say...?" And, uh, I used body language because something that...that is easy for Hispanics, Is that we use body language. We use...we use our hands, we use everything.