

# A study of Language & Immigration

Who we are :

4<sup>th</sup> year of English Studies -Linguistics - Group 1

## Sociolinguistics

Miss Ines Bel Faleh

Miss Maroua Gharbi

Miss Malek Guellouz

Mr Walid Zangar

Email : w\_zangar@yahoo.fr

Official Web site : <http://www.9linguistics.atspace.com>

Professor supervisor : Mrs Sihem Khedher

## Introduction :

In our inquiry based Project Approach, we worked with teachers ,students and other people documenting their experience and sharing their feelings. Technology has helped us much to achieve our objectives and to faithfully bring to you the thoughts and feelings of our interviewees.

Looking through a lens and focusing on a subject is a powerful experience. In thinking about ways of documenting the voices of immigrants, we saw the digital camera as a most precise tool. Photographs accompanied by audio can bring to life the thoughts, feelings, and voices of the immigrants. For all of us immigrants are part of our everyday lives , but we often overlook them and fail to understand the profound changes they are going through. The multicultural reality is what makes the fabric of our country Tunisia diverse and rich . The studies of immigration and language we use to observe tend to be grounded in the past as the immigration to the new world or the immigration to France in the years of economic expansion after World War II. We hope that in looking at new immigrants as people we know ,and whom we work with on a daily basis, we can learn not only of their challenges, but of our own challenges as well. The intention of our team is that this project will help us to slow down, to listen to the richness of an accent, and to shatter stereotypes by capturing conversation and imagery.

Edited By W. Zangar

The information you provide is very important to you and to us as it will help us in our study of the issue of language and immigration. The more information you can provide, and the more accurate that information, the more likely you are able to help us. The questionnaire will take about 30 minutes to complete. You can choose to be interviewed in that case the conversation will be recorded. The information you provide will remain strictly confidential. However it may also eventually become part of the data in research ,studies, census or websites dealing with the same topic. In that eventuality, any and all personal identifying information will be removed and replaced by numbers or false names, so that your complete anonymity will be assured.

# LANGUAGE & IMMIGRATION QUESTIONNAIRE



## Informant's Information:

Interview No

Date / /

Time ..:..

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Native country \_\_\_\_\_ Nationality \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth : \_\_\_\_\_ City of Birth : \_\_\_\_\_

Immigration date : \_\_\_\_\_

Reasons : \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail & Phone number : \_\_\_\_\_

Current occupation : \_\_\_\_\_

Educational Level : \_\_\_\_\_

What is your native tongue? \_\_\_\_\_

Other languages spoken : \_\_\_\_\_ Fluency: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature

\_\_\_\_\_

☺ Nice to meet you ☺

## Questionnaire :

Interview No

1. What would make it difficult to move to a new homeland? Ø : if no answer

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. How much of an impact did language have in making your decision to relocate ?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. What kind of expectations and challenges did you experience when language and circumstances differ from your native land ?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. How did you managed to survive despite the difference of language?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. How did you feel when you first were in a gathering where no one spoke your language? \_\_\_\_\_

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6. Did you have to have someone translate for you? How did you feel then? (Uneasy? Suspicious? Happy?)

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7. Have you faced any kind of linguistic challenges in your workplace?

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8. Do you feel that you have been sometimes discriminated because of your language? Yes [ ] No [ ]

And how? \_\_\_\_\_

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9. Do you think that language can be an obstacle to social integration? Yes [ ] No [ ]  
and Why? \_\_\_\_\_

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10. Did you have the occasion to practice the language of the host country?  
A. Frequently B. Sometimes C. Rarely D. Never

Were you easily understood? Yes [ ] No [ ]  
Reactions: \_\_\_\_\_

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11. How difficult did you find learning this language and why?  
A. Easy B. Difficult C. Very difficult D. I'm still learning

12. In your opinion, how the host country language is different from native land?  
(Example: pronunciation, written form...) \_\_\_\_\_

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13. How important is your home language for you? \_\_\_\_\_

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14. Do you plan to teach your home language to your children? Yes [ ] No [ ]  
and why? \_\_\_\_\_

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15. In what language do you mostly speak to your children?



25. What do you think of this questionnaire ? \_\_\_\_\_

Language issues ( If you want to add something or to share with us a friend's linguistic experience ) :

Can we appreciate a sample of your mother language ?  
Translation: \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks :

**It was a pleasure to be your interviewer. Thank you very much  
Thank you for sharing with us a part of your precious time.  
Thank you very much for you patience .Have a nice day.  
Thank you for joining us  
⋮**



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