

English Creole Data: Handout # 3

Mrs. Gokul: G

Enita: E

Student: S

E: Miss Gokul, Can you tell me your full name? Your full name, say it for me please.

G: Mi ful neem? Mi ful neem iz kaal (na kaalin neem).  
My full name? My full name is called (not calling names).  
Mi a tel yu di neem we mi a wok wid.  
I am telling you the name that I am working with  
Aal about wen mi gat tu go du laik eni peepa wok an so.  
It's all about when I have to go and do paper work and the like.  
Mi neem Gaurupati Gokul, Gaurupati Gokul.  
My name is Gaurupati Gokul, Gaurupati Gokul.  
Mi uol man iz a Gokul. Da a di taikl mi a wok wid.  
My husband is a Gokul. That is the title I am working with

E: Oh, Gokul, Ok. Alright. But around here how are you called?

G: De kaal mi Lakwanti, Lakwanti. Yes. Yes.  
They call me Lakwanti, Lakwanti. Yes. Yes.  
So dem a kaal mi yu nuo, sins mi de in di plees.  
That's what they have been calling me, you know, since I have been here/ in this place  
Bot da a di rait neem we mi gi yu.  
But that is the right name that I gave you.

E: And then they break it down and shorten it to Loku.

G: Yes.

E: Alright. The nick name?

G: Yes an di uol man, dem doz kaal hi Hari Bai.  
Yes and the husband, they call him Hari Bai.  
Mi uol man ded. Dem no kaal am i rait neem. Dem kaal am Hari Bai.  
My husband is dead They did not call him by his right name. They called him Hari Bai.

E: OK.

G: Im bin neem Hari Bai. Im lib tu bi kaal Hari Bai.  
He was called Hari Bai. He lived to be called Hari Bai

E: Yes, yes.

G: Yu si di pikni dem yuus tu di uol man an di uol man yuus tu di pikni dem.  
You see, the children were used to the old man and the old man was used to the children.

E: And that says something about the kind of person you are. Can I touch your arm? I notice you have a pretty thing here.

G: Yes, yu si wen abi marid, abi maada inlaa (faad in laa) maada inlaa bilangs tu India.  
Yes, you see when we were married, my mother in-law and father in-law mother in-law belong to India  
So de se yu doz gat fu tek dis ting in a yu an.  
So they said you have to take this thing in your hand.

E: So every body, everybody have this?

G: No, na aal badi.  
No, not every body.

E: OK.

G: Hu maada inlaa (faada inlaa) wahn dem tek am, dem tek am.  
Whose mother in-law and father in-law want them to take it, they take it.

E: Oh, so your mother in-law and your father in-law they wanted that?

G: Yes an...  
Yes, and

E: And you've had it since then?

G: Yes, sins mi marid.  
Yes, since I was married.

E: Pretty

G: Yes.

E: It's real pretty. So what does this mean? Do you know? Does it symbolize something?

G: Dis miin se laik se, laik yu sii dem piipl da iz, yu nuo ou India piipl staan,  
This means like, you see those people that are, you know how Indians are,  
An dem se laik wen hai neeshan piipl kom  
And they say it's like when the high caste people come.  
So I doz gud wen yu doz get diz pan yu han fu han dem wahn kop tii, an kop waata.  
So it is good when you get this on your hand, to hand them a cup of tea and a cup of water.  
Da a di hai neeshan piipl dem.  
That is the high nation people.

E: Oh the high nation people.

G: Yes, laik se di Pandit an di Braman piipl dem.  
Yes, like for example the Pundit and the Brahman people.  
Yu noo dats wai de se I doz gud fu yu tek, fu yu av.  
You know that is why they say it is good for you to take it, for you to have it.

E: OK.