## **UNIVERSITY STUDENT**

- 1. SCENE 1-3 GO TOGETHER (FIRST DAY OF CLASS)
- 2. SCENE 4 (INTERNSHIP)
- 3. SCENE 5 (DAY-TO-DAY CONVERSATIONS)
- 4. SCENES 6 (DOCTOR'S)
- 5. **SCENE 7 (END)**
- Users should be able to choose between 1 and 4 once they complete them, they unlock 5.
- Suggestion for the user to do them in order.

# **MENU**

Choose what language you want the VR to be in:

Option 1.English
Option 2.French

## Context:

You are a university student attending a university that welcomes international students from around the world but also has a large number of local students attending there as well. You are not fluent in the language that is spoken in the chosen zone you chose.

## **MENU between scenes:**

Choose a scene to play out

- 1. FIRST DAY OF CLASS
- 2. INTERNSHIP
- 3. DAY-TO-DAY CONVERSATIONS
- 4. DOCTOR'S

## **SCENE 1-GETTING TO CLASS**

You are quite confident in yourself; you were always above average in high school and this degree genuinely interests you and makes you passionate about your program and are eager to learn more about it. You have good expectations for the first day because of that.

You are on your way to your first class but get lost due to the new environment

# Option 1. Searches on Google how to get to class

You have missed an opportunity to socialize

## Option 2. Use a paper map in a language you do not understand

You get lost and are late for class

# Option 3. You stop one student as they were walking past you to ask them where your class is, but they are a local student hence they speak English

You: "Excuse me, can you help me?" \*Hand gestures to let them know are lost and tell them the name of the building you are looking for\*

Student: "Oh, yeah sure."

You: "Yes... Sorry, do you know where it is?"

Student: "Oh, right I know the place! Come, let me show you."

You: "Tank you"

Student: "Are you an international student? I kind of guessed because of the accent."

You: "Yes, I am. I am new in the country. I want to be fluent like you one day haha."

Student: "I know how awkward and tough this might be to be new to a country and try to understand their language."

You: "I will figure out how to do it. I am determined haha."

Student: "You sure are. Well, here it is. I hope you have a great year and a good time here.

You: Tanks again!"

## Outcome of 1 and 3:

You enter your first class early enough to get to know some new people

Person 1: "Hey, how are you?"

You: "Hello, I... I'm good. How are you?"

Person: \*talking fast\* "I am good but super nervous, also do you like how early classes are? I swear I am still half asleep. But it is what it is... By the way, I love your outfit, where did you get it from? Anyways, I heard this teacher is a super hard marker and that there are lots of assignments. Do you want us to help each other with this course?"

You did not understand

## Option 3.1 Smile and nod

Person: "O... Okay" \*Goes on to talk to other people\*

Option 3.2 You: "Yes"

Person: \*thinks you are shy\* "Do you live in residence?"

Option 3.2.1 "Yes"

Person: \*thinks you do not want to talk, turns around and starts talking to someone else\*

Option 3.2.2("No... one sec" \*searches up sentence on google translate\*

Person: \*looks at friend, grins judgmentally and rolls eyes\*

You: \*sees the person's actions discreetly\* "...but I live near the square"

Person: "Excuse me?!" \*He's laughing\*

You: "Uh, uh... hold on..." \*opens google translate again\*

Person: "...forget it, class is about to start"

\*starts talking to other people\*

# Option 3.3("Sorry, did not understand, could you repeat?)

Person: "Oh sorry, do you not know (English/French)?"

You: "No, I'm not from here"

Person: "I spoke too fast... I will try not to next time. We can get to know each other

more outside class, what is your number?"
You: "Tank you, here it is" \*shares number\*

You have Completed your first interaction!

## SCENE 2-FIRST INTERACTION WITH PROFESSOR

## Class starts

Prof: \*speaking in the selected language\* "Good morning students, my name is Mike and I'm going to be your teacher for this course. Now as the syllab-"

The teacher is speaking way too fast, and you are not understanding what he is saying...

Option 1. You: Excuse me, I...am..not..understanding..you are talking a bit to...uhm \*does hand gesture for fast\*

Prof: "Oh, uhm, okay! I will try to talk slower for my international students and feel free to stop me when you get lost."

Meanwhile students are laughing and imitating your hand gestures in a rude way

You: "Tank you" \*Discouraged to speak up again\*

# Option 2. You: \*Stay quiet but without understanding\*

You have not understood your teacher, hence being left behind in the course and finally, does poorly in the class

# Option 3. You: \*Asks person beside you what professor is saying\*

Student: "Please do not talk, I am trying to pay attention"

Professor thinks you are being disrespectful

Professor: "Do not talk over me, it is distracting for the people that DO want to learn"

# Option 4. You: \*Takes phone out to use Google translate\*

Professor thinks you are being disrespectful

Professor: "Everyone put their phones down, it is distracting for the people that DO want to learn"

## **SCENE 3- IN-CLASS QUESTIONS**

Professor asks question you do not understand the question

# Option 1. \*Google Translate it\*

Teacher thinks you are cheating

Professor: "I am going to say this one more time, I need all students to put their mobile phones away."

You are not chosen to answer the question

# Option 2. \*Try and think what each word means on your own\*

Someone has put their hand first

You are not chosen to answer the question

# Option 3. \*Risk it and put your hand up\*

You get chosen

"I I I think the right umm the right answer is ..."

# Option 3.1\*You give answer in "Broken English"

Professor: "Not sure what you mean, do we have any other volunteers"

# Option 3.2\*Take more time to put the answer together\*

Professor: \*interrupts you\* "What they are trying to say is...."
Class goes on, you get a little discouraged to answer

## Option 3.3\*You have no more time to answer\*

Professor: "Hurry, we've got a lot to cover before the next test" It is too much pressure to think of the right words, so you pass You: "...I am not sure actually"

## Option 1. Professor asks another question

Previous Scene Repeats (Max number of repetitions)

**Option 2. Class ends** 

**Simulation Continues** 

Congratulations, you are done with your first day of class

## **SCENE 4-INTERNSHIP**

There is a cool internship you would be great for At this point, you are not fluent in English and have a thick accent

# Option 1. \*Send email application\*

Employers are really impressed with your qualifications you are called in for an interview Employer: "So let's talk about a hypothetical scenario and what you would do..."

You hesitate a lot and do not use the exact terminology in English because you only know it in your native language

Employer thinks you made up your resume and do not actually have those qualifications You did not get the job and you can't help but think if they only knew how smart you are in your Native language

# Option 2. \*Go in person and ask for more information\*

After talking with you for a bit, he realizes that you meet all and even more qualifications Employer: "You have a lot of potential! But uhm, we are looking for a person with great communication skills. You are qualified for this internship, but we are looking for an intern with more... communication in our language for the program. Best of luck"

You did not get the job and you can't help but think if they only knew how smart you are in your Native language

Uh oh, good luck next interview

## **SCENE 5-CONVERSATIONS**

# **Option 1. Talk to friends**

# Option 1.1You can't find the right words for the sentence you are trying to say

You: "I-I-I... What I am trying to say... you know that thingy that does trrrr trrr"

Friends: \*Laugh jointly\* "Is that a helicopter?"

You wonder if they are laughing with you or at you

You: \*Answers nervously\* "Ha... yeah that one. A helicoter"

Conversation ends

## Option 1.2\*You mispronounced a word\*

Friend: "...No, it's helicopter. With a P"

You: "...Tank you"

Friend: "Omg, it is "Thhhhh\_ank you not Tank you, it is with t and h... Tank is a piece of

clothing" \*Laughs\*

You appreciate they correct you, but they could have done it in a nicer way but you

wonder if they are laughing with you or at you

Conversation ends

## Option 2.\*Talk to a stranger\*

You mispronounced word and friends do not correct you

You: ... "Tank you"

Stranger1: "It is Thhhh ank you not Tank you... Learn proper English"

As you walk away and they think you cannot hear them:

Stranger 1 to Stranger 2: "Omg they are new to the country; they need to learn some proper English... how are you going to immigrate to a new country without knowing their primary language? I couldn't understand a single word that came out of their mouth"

Stranger 2 to Stranger 1: "Or they should just go back to their country. They're going to have a hard time learning English AND keep up with their classes. Ha! I wouldn't want to be them or the teacher teaching them."

# Option 2.1. Let it slide

Conversation ends

## **Option 2.2. Confront them**

You: "Do you speak another language? No? At least this is my second language... Also, when you go on vacation to a non-English speaking country you do not even try and locals help you out, why can't you have some tolerance towards me?"

Strangers: \*Too stunned to speak\*

Conversation ends

# Option 2.3. Talk to your friend about it

You meet your friends later and tell them about what you just went through

You: "You let me go 3 months without correcting the way I say thank you??"

Friend: "I did not want to make you feel bad"

You: "Well, I mean if you let me know without making fun of me it is definitely better than going through what I just went through. I can't imagine how much words I didn't say correctly." Friend: "Okay first off, it's many words not much. \*He chuckles\* Let's find you an English class for you to attend and you get better. Just know everybody went through it and it's not your first

language so don't worry about what they will say about you. Your opinion on how you handle this situation is the only one that matters. You got this."

Conversation ends

Option 1. Have another conversation with a Friend or Stranger
\*Previous Scene Repeats (Max number of repetitions) \*
Option 2. Play out another Scence
\*Simulation Continues\*

You are done with interactions for today!

## **SCENE 6-DOCTOR'S**

Time has passed you can officially call yourself a bilingual, your accent is still strong, but you are fluent and confident

Oh no! You have fallen ill, time to go to the doctors and are in a lot of pain

You: "Hello doctor, it hurts on the lower right side of my stomach, I have been feeling nauseous and I

have high temperature"

Doctor: "Could you repeat that?"
You: "My stomach is hurting a lot..."

Doctor: \*Interrupts you\* "That sounds like a bad case of constipation... I will prescribe something for

that"

You: "I am also feeling nauseous"

Doctor: "Yeah that will do it... I got to go, there are a lot of people I must check"

# Option 1.\*Take prescribed meds for constipation and go home\*

A few days passed by and the pain has increased a lot and you can barely move without any external help, you are rushed into the hospital

Uh oh, you have severe appendicitis... could have possibly been treated with antibiotics if diagnosed the first time, but now you need surgery

You made it, but it is so hard knowing there was a chance of this being diagnosed and you were ignored because of your accent and the lack of effort put in to understand you

Same doctor comes and checks up on you

Doctor: "Hello. Listen, I want to apologize for the critical condition I have put you in by my misdiagnosis"

You stay quiet because all you can think about is how risky of a situation he has put you in

Doctor: "...And I want to thank you because you made me realize how critical of a condition I would put my patients if I don't pay more attention to their problems."

You: "Why didn't you listen to me in the first place?"

Doctor: "I have no reasonable answer to give you. I was ignorant and I realize my mistake."

## Option 2.\*Insist\*

Uh oh, you have been diagnosed with early symptoms of appendicitis

It was caught early enough that with some antibiotics you will be better

It is so hard knowing there was a chance of not being diagnosed and that you were being ignored because of your accent and the lack of effort put in to understand you

You are much better now, you can go home

## **SCENE 7-THE END**

You have unlocked the final scene: The end

Time has passed since you moved, you are officially bilingual and have the same accent as the Canadian anglophone people

You are talking about the new exchange student and how they have mentioned they feel self-conscious when speaking English

You: ..."Yeah, I can definitely relate, it was hard when I first moved here and started learning English" Person:" Wait, English is not your first language?"

You: "Yes..."

Person: "Wow! Your English is so good! ... You do not even have an accent"

# Option 1.\*Internalized your feelings\*

You: "Umm Thanks..."

You internalized your feelings about how it feels there is a clear line from when you were not good enough and now

Person continues making comments like the previous, to you and people whose Native language is not English and makes you and others feel like they were not good enough

# Option 2.\*Let the person know how they made you feel\*

You: "Is that supposed to be a compliment? Because it did not fully feel like one... I know you do not have bad intentions, but it feels there is a clear line from when you were not good enough and now"

Person: "I am very sorry; it was not my intention to make you feel that way. I will make sure to avoid comments like that in the future"

Person stops making comments like the previous, to you and people whose Native language is not English

**Congratulations!! you have completed the simulation!**