



# Spring Festival

## Interview Transcript and Vocabulary List

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<p>Dayong 00:03 - 00:11</p>	<p>叶叔叔，您好！首先您可不可以简单地介绍一下自己？</p> <p>Yè shūshu, nín hǎo! Shǒu xiān nín kěbù kěyǐ jǐ jiǎ ndān de jièshào yīxià zìjǐ?</p> <p>Hello Uncle Ye! First off, can you offer a basic self-introduction?</p>
<p>叶叔叔 00:11 - 00:21</p>	<p>我是1953年出生的，现在63岁了。</p> <p>Wǒ shì 1953 nián chūshēng de, xiànzài 63 suìle.</p> <p>I'll start from the beginning? I was born in 1953, so I'm 63 years old now.</p>
<p>Dayong 00:22 - 00:23</p>	<p>您是属...？</p> <p>Nín shì shǔ...?</p> <p>What is your zodiac sign?</p>
<p>叶叔叔 00:23 - 00:33</p>	<p>属蛇，我的儿子也属蛇，我的孙子也属蛇，我们刚好三代都是属蛇的。</p> <p>Shǔ shé, wǒ de érzi yě shǔ shé, wǒ de sūnzi yě shǔ shé, wǒ men gānghǎo sāndài dōu shì shǔ shé de.</p> <p>The Snake. My son is also the Year of the Snake. And my grandson! We all happen to be the Year of the Snake.</p>
<p>Dayong 00:35 - 00:51</p>	<p>这样啊，我想问一下，如果您找一个词，或者找一种感受来表示您对新年的感情，您会选什么词？</p> <p>Zhèyàng a, wǒ xiǎng wèn yīxià, rúguǒ nín zhǎo yīgè cí, huòzhě zhǎo yī zhǒng gǎnshòu lái biǎoshì nín duì xīnnián de gǎnqíng, nín huì xuǎn shénme cí?</p> <p>So, I want to ask, if you could find a word, or find a feeling to describe the emotion you feel toward Spring Festival, what word would you choose?</p>
<p>叶叔叔 00:52 - 01:43</p>	<p>就春节快乐嘛！小时候就盼着一天能吃上一顿好的，就这么简单。以前生活比较苦，一年到头就盼着能吃点猪肉或者吃个鸡大腿，得个两毛钱的红包就欢天喜地了，现在不需要等，想吃的都有，不用再想着吃什么好吃的，生活水平提高了，不再讲究吃的了，就想着亲朋好友在一起交流一下工作经验，情感之类的。</p> <p>Jiù chūnjié kuàilè ma! Xiǎoshíhòu jiù pànzhe yītiān néng chī shàng yī dùn hǎo de, jiù zhème jǐ jiǎ ndān. Yǐ qián shēnghuó bǐ jiào kǔ, yīniándàotóu jiù pànzhe néng chī diǎn zhūròu huòzhě chī gè jī dàtǔ, dé gè liǎng máo qián de hóngbāo jiù huāntiānxī dìle, xiànzài bù xūyào děng, xiǎng chī de dōu yǒu, bù yòng zài xiǎngzhe chī shénme hào chī de, shēnghuó shuǐ píng tíngāole, bù zài jiǎngzhe chī shénme hào chī de, shēnghuó shuǐ píng tíngāole, bù zài jiǎngzhe chī shénme hào chī de, shēnghuó shuǐ píng tíngāole, bù zài jiǎngzhe chī shénme hào chī de, shēnghuó shuǐ píng tíngāole, bù zài jiǎngzhe chī shénme hào chī de.</p>



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	<p>Well, I choose "truly happy." When I was young, I always looked forward to this time of year because it meant we could eat well. Just that simple. Life was hard. Throughout the year I'd always hope to eat a little pork, or even a chicken leg. But when we got those red envelopes with 0.2 RMB inside, it was overwhelming joy. Now, you can eat whatever you want. There's so much good food to eat these days. The quality of life has improved drastically, no more worrying about whether we can eat. Spring Festival is now about being with your friends and your family, talking about your experiences with work, and just interacting and socializing...</p>
Dayong 01:44 - 01:47	<p>您有几个兄弟姐妹？</p> <p>Nín yǒu jǐ gè xiōngdì jiěmèi?</p> <p>How many brothers and sisters do you have?</p>
叶叔叔 01:47 - 01:57	<p>我们家有三个兄弟姐妹，我是老二，上面有一个哥哥，下面有一个妹妹。</p> <p>Wǒ men jiā yǒu sān gè xiōngdì jiěmèi, wǒ shì lǎo èr, shàngmiàn yǒu yī gè gēgē, xiàmiàn yǒu yī gè mèimei.</p> <p>Our family has three siblings, I'm the second-oldest brother. Above me is my older brother, and below me is my younger sister.</p>
Dayong 01:58 - 02:01	<p>您的哥哥妹妹现在都在桂林么？</p> <p>Nín dí gēgē mèimei xiànzài dōu zài guìlín me?</p> <p>Are your siblings both in Guilin?</p>
叶叔叔 02:01 - 02:03	<p>都在，都在桂林。</p> <p>Dōu zài, dōu zài guìlín.</p> <p>Yes, they're both in Guilin.</p>
Dayong 02:03 - 02:04	<p>过年的时候...</p> <p>Guònián de shíhòu...</p> <p>So, when you celebrate the New Year...</p>
叶叔叔 02:04 - 02:30	<p>过年的时候都互相走一走，初一到老大哥家。初二到老二我的家，初三到妹妹家，转来转去互相吃个饭，交流一年的工作感情。因为平常都没有这么多时间在一起。</p> <p>Guònián de shíhòu dōu hùxiāng zǒu yī zǒu, chū yī dào lǎo dà gēgē jiā. Chū èr dào lǎo èr wǒ de jiā, chū sān dào mèimei jiā, zhuàn lái zhuàn qù hùxiāng chī gè fàn, jiāoliú yī nián de gōngzuò gǎnqíng. Yīn wéi píngcháng dōu méiyǒu zhème duō shíjiān zài yīqǐ.</p>



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	<p>We spend the Spring Festival together. On the first day, we go to my older brother's house. On the second day the family all comes to my house. And on the third day we go to my younger sister's house. We go here and there eating at each other's houses, talking about our previous year's experiences and work. Usually we don't have the time to be with each other and communicate like we do when celebrating the New Year.</p>
Dayong 02:31 - 02:36	<p>那现在您的哥哥妹妹都退休了么？还是...</p> <p>Nà xiànzài nín dí gēgē mèimei dōu tuìxiūle me? Háishì...</p> <p>So your brother and sister are both retired? Or...</p>
叶叔叔 02:36 - 02:39	<p>都退休了。</p> <p>Dōu tuìxiūle.</p> <p>They're both retired.</p>
Dayong 02:40 - 02:47	<p>想想二十年前、三十年前，你们小的时候过年是怎么样子的？</p> <p>Xiǎng xiǎng èrshí nián qián, sānshí nián qián, nǐ men xiǎo de shíhòu guònián shì zěnmeyàng de?</p> <p>So, 20-30 years ago, when you and your siblings were young, how did you celebrate the Spring Festival?</p>
叶叔叔 02:47 - 03:06	<p>我们小的时候就盼着爸爸妈妈初一早上或者年三十晚上吃完饭给压岁钱。两毛钱是最高的了。</p> <p>Wǒ men xiǎo de shíhòu jiù pànzhe bàba māmā chū yī zǎoshàng huòzhě nián sānshí wǎnshàng chī wán fàn gěi yāsùiqián. Liǎng máo qián shì zuìgāo dele.</p> <p>When we were young, we always looked forward to the morning of the first day, or even the night before, when our parents used to give us "lucky money".</p>
Dayong 03:06 - 03:08	<p>两毛钱就是最高的了？！</p> <p>Liǎng máo qián jiùshì zuìgāo dele?!</p> <p>0.2 RMB was the most you received!?</p>
叶叔叔 03:08 - 03:25	<p>那时候比较穷，父母都不是什么干部，都是靠劳动实打实挣来的血汗钱，生活比较苦，一年到头，家里做一条鱼都不能一顿吃完。一锅汤，放一点佐料，做了，第二天吃鱼冻，寓意年年有余，动动有余。我的母亲那天就买一条一斤多或者两斤多的草鱼，但告诉我们不能一顿吃完，吃完了明年就没有了。要年年有“鱼”。冻者有“鱼”，就是说比方就是我们明年时做事都可以赚到钱，可能有“鱼”。</p>



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Nà shíhòu b ĩ jiào qióng, fù m ũ dōu bùshì shénme g ànbù, dōu shì k ào láodòng shíd ǎ shí zhēng lái de xiěhàn qián, shēnghuó b ĩ jiào k ũ , y ĩniándàotóu, jiā l ĩ zuò y ĩtiáo yú dōu bùnéng y ĩ dùn ch ĩ w án. Y ĩ guō tāng, fàng y ĩd ĩ ǎ n zu ō liào, zuòle, dì èr tiān ch ĩ yú dòng, yùyì nián nián y ō uyú, dòng dòng y ō uyú. W ō de m ũ q ĩn nèitiān jiù m ǎ i y ĩtiáo y ĩ j ĩn duō huòzhě li ǎ ng j ĩn duō de c ǎ oyú, dàn g àosù w ō men bùnéng y ĩ dùn ch ĩ w án, ch ĩ w ánli ǎ o míngnián jiù méiy ō ule. Yào nián nián y ō u “yú”. Dòng zhě y ō u “yú”, jiùshì shuō b ĩ fāng jiùshì w ō men míngnián shí zuòshì dōu k ěy ĩ zhuàn dào qián, k ěnéng y ō u “yú”.

We were very poor back then. Our parents weren't government officials. They didn't work in some government office. They relied on honest manual labor to earn a living. Life was harder.

## Vocabulary List

	Hànzì	Pīnyīn	Definition	Part of Speech
1.	春节快乐	chūnjié kuàilè	Happy Spring Festival	
2.	盼 (着)	pàn (zhe)	to hope for	verb
3.	欢天喜地	huāntiānx ĩ dì	with boundless joy; overjoyed	adverb
4.	钻来转去	zhuàn lái zhuàn qù	to come and go; go back and forth	
5.	叠	dié	to fold	verb
6.	红包	hóngbāo	Red envelope	noun
7.	压岁钱	yāsuìqián	lucky money	noun
8.	干部	g ànbù	government official	noun
9.	劳动	láodòng	physical labor	noun
10.	年三十晚上	nián sānshí w ǎ nshàng	Chinese New Years Eve night	noun