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Evergreen Session Two Clean Transcript

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ANT 300 class- Applied Anthropology, University of Northern Colorado

February 9, 2022

1:00 PM - 2:15 PM (ET)

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INTERVIEWERS: Emily Dzhinenko, Miranda Bermudez, Ruby Gregory, Katie Carter

PARTICIPANTS: Oscar Gonzalez and Liner Solarte

Transcript:

Captioning Provided by:

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(Captions provided by a live Captioner.)

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12:59 PM (ET)

CAPTIONER: Standing by.

EMILY: Good morning. We're just going to wait about two more minutes for the rest of everyone else to join. Miranda will be here in just a moment, Emiliano is having issues with the internet and I haven't heard anything from Liner.

OSCAR: Sorry, Liner was in a meeting, she was in another Zoom session. I will write her 'cause I think she didn't notice that this is time.

the time. She will be here in a minute.

EMILY: Awesome! How has your day been going so far?

OSCAR: I'm doing good ! [Laughter] Yesterday, I think, my afternoon, I decided to take a nap, but... it was a long nap. I am not so sure if I told you last week that we move. We were living in Aurora, now we moved to Parker. So, it was a week with a lot of things to move. I rent a U-Haul two times. I did two trips on Monday and two on Friday moving many things that I have to. So yeah, I was exhausted.

Yesterday I took the whole afternoon to rest.

But I still wanted to sleep!

[Laughter]

I still, I still want to go and sleep for at least a couple of hours more. And you? Your week? Was good?

EMILY: Oh I am saying that moving is tiring. It always just wants me to pass out and sleep forever. Okay, well everyone that could be here is here except for Miranda and she will be here in just a moment. I wanted to start off with letting

you guys know that for the last 10 minutes or so we would like to just kind of like reflect on how the first two sessions have been going and what you have gotten out of it. So I

will keep my eye out on the time for that, but that is something we would like to discuss.

So, this week I think we will be talking about holidays and celebrations. And so, I guess we could start off with what holiday or celebration in your country of origin is your favorite.

OSCAR: Okay --

EMILY: For me, I really like Halloween. My favorite month is October so that's part of it, but it's fun, I like all of the activities that you can do like carving pumpkins, finding different costumes to get into. I like that you don't have to send out holiday cards.

OSCAR: Okay, well, my favorite is Father's Day. I am not so sure if you celebrate that here in the US but in my country, we celebrate that on June 17th and I love that. I have -- a position I can take off and I can eat all day and everything. I enjoy that.

LINER: My favorite holiday I think is Christmas 'cause the food we make is usually different or maybe -- I mean different from the rest of the year. **And**

People in the family try to be together more time than the rest of the year - and even I think the mood, people's mood is different.

MIRANDA: Liner, can I ask how is the food different than the food you eat the rest of the Year? How is it different?

LINER: We have many dishes that are different. We usually eat **arepa** it's like a bread, a cornbread, a circle. [Laughter] And there are- other dishes, but in Christmas we used to eat something that we call ajaka. The ajaka is like a tamale. You know what is a tamale? Okay, it's like a tamale. It is -- you have the-layers - it is layered -- that is made of corn-dough and it is filled with meat, beef meat, pork, chicken and poultry, vegetables olive, raisins--

OSCAR: Raisins, yeah! [Laughter]

LINER: It's delicious, It is very delicious. And then it is wrapped with a banana leaf and we boil it. When it is done, we eat it. We have a bread that we call pandemo. In English it would be ham

Commented [MA1]: Both transcripts seemed to skip this, so this is what I found that sounds closest to what Liner said.

bread sweet bread, it is a sweet dough and the bread is filled with ham, bacon, raisins, and olive. We have a salad. The salad is Ensalada Gedina it's like a chicken salad. It is made with potatoes, carrots, chicken. And the dressing is made with mayonnaise. What else, what else? We have a dessert, a dessert that is made with papaya. I don't know what is the name? In English? Papaya?

EMILY: Papaya.

LINER: Okay, we boil the papaya but green papaya and we add sugar, a little bit of water, and spices like cloves, cinnamon, and -- what is wrong, I don't know -- the liquid is sweet and the pieces of papaya are a little bit crunchy.

OSCAR: Crunchy? Yeah, Yeah!

[Laughter]

OSCAR: It is not fair! It's not fair talking about that, I am hungry. [Laughter]

MIRANDA: I know I am like, wait a second I'm hungry now, that all sounds so good.

[Laughter]

EMILY: Do you guys cook the food together, like in your family, is there like a tradition around that?

OSCAR: Yes, yes, it is a tradition.

LINER: Yes. We--

OSCAR: **It is a tradition to do that as a family.** Everyone does one part of it. I was with a Venezuelan family this year and it was an amazing experience to see. There are five people in that house and everyone is doing one thing and then they put it together. And then finally two or three hours later of that we start eating ajakas and it was an amazing flavor.

LINER: **Yeah, when you make the ajakas in your home, you have levels and the last level is the person who has to wash the banana leaf. Everybody hates that.**

[Laughter]

OSCAR: That was my level this year!

LINER: Yes, because you have to do something that is like mechanic work and nobody finds fun in doing that and the higher level is the mom's level.

Because she knows how to, how do you say -- I don't know -- the meat, the beef, that is, that you have to put it inside the meat.

OSCAR: Some spices and flavors and everything.

LINER: Yeah, **And you are going to have to -- I don't know -- Growing up! Growing up,** when you are growing, when you are a teenager, you have to wash the banana leaf. But when you are going to be older, are getting older, you can do other things like wrap the ajaka or **cut** the ingredients. It is like that.

MIRANDA: That's awesome. It is a collective of all the family members usually, that help, right?

LINER: Yes.

MIRANDA: That's cool.

EMILY: What about you, Katie, or Miranda, or Ruby, do you guys have a favorite holiday or any special traditions that you do during it?

MIRANDA: Yeah. So, it's weird because our holiday for my family, that we put a lot of importance on, is not the normal holiday for most Americans. My families major holiday tradition is Halloween, so on the 31st of October. And I don't know why. I think maybe, just growing up my mom was super crafty and she loves sewing. Ever since we were little, she would make our costumes and it was so cool. 'Cause we would have the coolest costumes, like everybody would have their costume bought at the store and everybody would be the same thing. And me and my little brother would just have the coolest costume because we helped my mom make it. And so now that we're older, I work for the airlines. I work for United Airlines and we fly for free and we travel very, very cheap and we -- our new tradition with Halloween, is we go to Hawaii and we do Halloween there.

And we've have done that like eight or nine years now and it is fun. Everybody in Hawaii for some reason dresses up, like, dog and pony show, bells, whistles, all of it. It is so cool to see everybody. And everybody there is so friendly, and most are take pictures and hang out at the beach and you're hanging out on the beach with Spider-Man. It is just so cool! It's not like a very traditional American holiday but for my family, that's just one of the ones that is very important to us, and we would like surprise each other- and we won't tell each other what we're

Commented [MA2]: Bit of analysis: The raw version said "cook" and it was hard to make out in the recording, but I noticed that Liner was doing a chopping motion as she said this so this is what I went with.

going to be and then when it is time we are like, "Oh! Look at you!". I don't know. That is ours. It's pretty cool.

RUBY: I would say my favorite holiday is Christmas. It is like the one time-- because I have family that's scattered all throughout the US and like different countries and stuff and that's the one time we all meet and be a big family and get to see each other and have fun. And on top of that, I have an aunt that goes really crazy with her decorations for Christmas like oh, my gosh if you go down the street you are like "oh the house with all the lights and all the crazy stuff, and they are like that is the house because there is a lot of stuff. Man, the food is delicious! We eat a lot of like prime rib and you can't forget the mac and cheese. The Mac and cheese is Amazing! And yeah, that's pretty much my favorite holiday!

KATIE: Yeah, I think for me, my favorite would also have to be Christmas because I have family kind of all around the world, Germany and South Africa is where most of it is. And It's the one time of the year we can all just get together, and we will meet here in Colorado and I can see my cousins that I haven't seen in a while. And then on Christmas Eve, my mom, she makes ornaments to kind of summarize each of our years. So, for my siblings and I she will make ornaments. Like the year I graduated she had all my graduation pictures or like special things that happened to us throughout the year and she would give us these ornaments to summarize important stuff that happens and then we get to hang them up on the tree and then we'll just watch Christmas movies. And that's just really fun for me.

EMILY: That is awesome! I really like, Miranda, how you guys have Halloween as like your favorite holiday and how you make it such a family event. When you are right, in America it isn't like the most popular, common holiday to get together with family --

MIRANDA: Yeah, and it's cool, my grandma-- My grandma goes with us too and stuff. I mean, It's not even just my intermediate family, like my grandma will go, my uncle, some of my other aunts and uncles-- it just depends on who is able to actually make it out to, Hawaii, but we help them out with buddy passes, like cheap flights through our job, so.

OSCAR: I would like to be adopted into your family. [Laugh] To travel cheap!

MIRANDA: My dad works for United too so I grew up in the industry like around

airplanes. And so that's, I travel a lot, I try to.

OSCAR: Nice.

MIRANDA: So, for your--I know I joined late so if I'm repeating anything or ask anything repetitive, just let me know, but for anybody's holidays, is there specific clothing or dress that is like particular for that? Or like even just, you know, dressing up or not dressing up? Because like for instance, I mean like my holiday is about dressing up. That is what my holiday is. But I know, like for Christmas, my family is a little bit untraditional in the sense that we stay in our pajamas. So, I know that some families like to look nice and dress up for Christmas dinner. What does that look like for everybody?

LINER: In Venezuela, we used to celebrate Carnival. Like in Brazil.

MIRANDA: Yeah? That's awesome! I've been to the one in Panama.

LINER: We dress up during the carnival. Carnival is a holiday that we celebrate 40 days before the Holy Week.

OSCAR: In the same week that Brazil does? At the same time, right?

LINER: At the same time yes, yes. And many years ago in Venezuela, everybody used to dress up, but right now I think only the children are dressed up. Before many years ago people go out, used to go out, walk the streets through, throw water or throw out flowers to each other and celebrate the carnival in that way.

MIRANDA: Lots of music and dancing.

LINER: Yeah, yes.

OSCAR: Well in my family talking about Christmas for example, my mom used to ask everybody to dress like, it's not formal but like formal dress for that night. It is a special night for her. She doesn't let the children open the gifts until 12:00. So, sometimes I am mad at her because it's too late, like the children are asleep at that time. But it is a tradition in my family since I was a child. And then my children and my cousin is the same. They don't open the gift until after 12:00. So, like talking about the rice and there is a special tradition in her house. We used to have a Christmas dinner there and the table had everything like a movie. Like everything was in the right position and you have to open the wine or special drinks and everything. And then everybody

has to say -- like if you don't pray,---if you don't do the pray, then you have to give like a -- it is like Thanksgiving here maybe and you have to say something about how you are happy or you are thankful with God about the year. So it is something like that. It is a tradition and everybody has to talk. And when you have a child, for example, when my daughter was two years, she said some beautiful words and I remember. So, it's a nice tradition because every year you are trying to pay attention to what will be the next phrase or wishes that they have to share with us. I think it is nice when you hear the children say some beautiful words. So, something like that. And of course the food and everything. We have a different tradition, we used to eat turkey but not with the recipe that we used to eat turkey here. We have our own special recipe. And you can eat it with rice and with some vegetables. And then at 12:00 everybody opens a gift. And then we go to do fireworks. Because, in my country everybody can buy that and you can do whatever you want to about fireworks traditions. So, you just start listening at 12:00 and everybody at goes "boom, boom, boom boom" because they buy the bigger ones. And I think here it is illegal to use that kind. But there is a tradition to spend around \$200 and it's a lot of money and it is a lot of fireworks for you so, and that is a tradition for the holidays.

EMILY: That sounds like a lot of fun. I personally love fireworks. They are so beautiful. Earlier you mentioned that Father's Day is one of your favorite holidays. Do you guys do any kind of special dress or attire for that?

OSCAR: I live 20 minutes from the beach. The south of Belize is a really tropical country and we used to do all of our special celebrations, we used to do that at the beach. We are part of a club, we used to go to -- you have to rent a special place there, we used to go there. I love the seafood. That, for me, the seafood is my favorite and there it is really fresh and you are eating in front of the sea and you have beer and some seafood, many kinds of seafood. And I used to go with my guitar and we would play guitar and we, how can I say? I forgot, Liner? -- We start a fire -- but like I said, I forgot!

LINER: Fire pits?

MIRANDA: Like a bonfire?

OSCAR: Yes, yes like a fire in front of the ocean and everybody sits around that and we used marshmallows and we start singing with my guitar and I love to sing a lot. So everybody

Commented [MA3]: Unsure about this.

if you invite me to a party or something like that maybe I will sing a song at your party because I love to sing a lot. I am not saying that I am a good singer but I am saying that I love to sing a lot. [Laughter] And we used to go because it's my day or my Father Day. But I make a decision to sing whatever I want. So I like that celebration because of that. The food, as I told you it is seafood and meat and we used to do that. And the dress code is really open because it is on the beach!

MIRANDA: That's super awesome. Would you guys say that music is a big part of holidays? And, you know festivities? Is music a pretty big part of that?

OSCAR: Yeah, yeah of course. You have to have a good music. In my country we used to have Columbia and salsa music and tropical music -- I don't know how to say it in English -- but we have tropical music, Columbia, salsa and Merengue music. And we used to do that because imagine you are on the beach, that music is for that area. But particularly in my case I used to like to have a lot of music, different kind of music. For example used to have music in English cassettes from the 60s, 70s, like the Beach Boys.

MIRANDA: [Laughter] Yes!

OSCAR: Yeah, I was a surfer for like, 12 years because in my country the surf is like a tradition there. And in my teenage years I grow listening to that music set. I would listen to the Beach Boys. the Police. Like Jim Morrison, The Doors. That kind of music, yes.

EMILY: I was going to say I love how diverse your interest is in musical genres.

You were saying tropical music and salsa music and now you are talking about the Beach Boys like all of these different genres, they're just so different but it's awesome!

OSCAR: It is very different.

MIRANDA: I was gonna ask, so obviously, you are talking about the festivities on the beach, but how would the music differ or be different from like when you are at your Christmas celebration? Is there music played there with the family? And what kind of music would that be like?

OSCAR: We have a mix of music. For example we say (Singing) and, you know that music? I think that song is the same music but in English. We used to have special music for Christmas. But near 12:00 o'clock, in the PM. You start listening to music that we call Christmas music but it is Columbian for Christmas, special music for Christmas. And we start dancing. And it's funny, it's fun. And I think we have like the same kind of music, Liner? I was this year with some people from Venezuela and they listened to the same music.

LINER: Yeah, We live around the music. We are dancing and singing all the time in Venezuela. We have salsa, Merengue, bachata by the najos. All the music that is played in the Caribbean, the Caribbean area. And we also have for Christmas special music. It is called Guyta.

OSCAR: Oh yes! Oh, Guyta.

LINER: Guyta, the reading is from the Solid state. One part of the country. But when, at Christmas, we have the Christmas holiday, the whole country plays Guyta.

There is different of the Guyta from the other music. To play the Guyta, the musician uses an especial instrument that is called a Furuko. And it is like a drum with a stick in the middle.

OSCAR: I call it a drum. I did not know it had a special name [Laughs].

LINER: It is like a drum.

OSCAR: It is not Furuko.

LINER: Furuko.

[Laughter]

LINER: And that is special music that we use for Christmas.

OSCAR: Guyta music. Okay. Nice, I'll find it.

LINER: Yes, yes there is concerts for Guyta. It's very popular.

EMILY: I feel like in America, because I said my favorite holiday is Halloween.

There is really not too much Halloween music in comparison to Christmas—and I guess like Thanksgiving has some music. But the music for Halloween is very limited. But I really like Halloween kind of movies like by Tim Burton, like -- the Nightmare Before Christmas and Corpse Bride and things like that so I'll listen to those soundtracks a lot during the month of October, for me at least.

MIRANDA: I agree. I do the same thing. And same with just like creepy, spooky themed stuff, like Sweeney Todd even though there is no relation to Halloween but it's just like it's that vibe.

EMILY: What about the two of you, Ruby, Katie? Do you have any special music you like listening to or playing during your favorite holidays?

KATIE: Honestly not really. Because like the big holiday in my family is

Christmas, we mostly just have that. But other than that, not really. I do a lot of the same stuff with like soundtracks and spooky vibes for Halloween but other than that, not really.

RUBY: Same with Katie. We just listen to Christmas music and I have a lot of older family. So, we just listen to like a lot of old music that sounds like Christmas music. So, [Laughter] yeah.

EMILY: Ruby, I am kind of curious. Do you guys celebrate Christmas differently here in America been before you did when you moved here? Or do you have the same tradition and same activities and food?

RUBY: The only thing I would say is a little bit different is that we open our Christmas presents on Christmas Eve compared to like Christmas day. Christmas Day is just like we eat food and call it a day like pretty early. Because Christmas Eve we stay up pretty late. Yes.

EMILY: That is awesome! I was just curious about that and I was also curious about birthdays. How do you guys celebrate your birthday? For me growing up as a kid we would invite, like when you are younger, you typically invite all your classmates over if you have a birthday party and you have like cupcakes or cakes and sometimes you would celebrate your birthday in class. Again you would have like your parents bringing cupcakes or something like that. But then separately, at least with me, we would have a family birthday where I was allowed to pick whatever I wanted for dinner and we would go out to the restaurant I wanted to or my parents would make it a nice home-cooked meal.

And the only really music we would listen to or play would be the happy birthday song that we have before I blow out my candles. Like what are your traditions?

Like Katie, Ruby, Miranda, what do you do for your birthdays?

KATIE: Well, for my birthday, my family would do a lot of the same. I would get to choose food to eat. And I would have two sever birthdays. But for my friends birthday I would just have a couple of people over and we would just play like Wii games. Then for my family, they would come over and they would like hook up My Spotify and just let me play whatever I wanted to. Just so they could get a feel for like what type of music I liked listening to, but that was pretty much it.

RUBY: For my birthday, I get it either like the day before or the day after I get a day for my friends and then a day for my family. For the family, like Emily, I get to pick the restaurant or whatever food I want. And my friends, we just hang out and eat delicious food as well.

EMILY: Yeah, when I spend my birthday with my friends most recently for example I have my best friend and we have been best friends since kindergarten. She is basically, my sister. She and her boyfriend came out to Colorado and we got a cabin in the woods for the weekend. And we celebrated my birthday but also Halloween because to me October is Halloween the entire month. So we carved pumpkins and we went out to this restaurant called The Melting Pot; in each course you have fondue and you have little things you can stick in it.

OSCAR: Oh, sounds delicious.

EMILY: It is amazing. And that was just a great time for the three of us. And I really enjoyed it, I brought my dogs. I personally really enjoy my friends happy birthday celebrations much more than any other kind of celebration I have for my birthday.

MIRANDA: I agree with that. I mean, I love spending time with my family around my birthday obviously, but in my more recent years like probably the past, I want to say maybe four or five years I have made the decision to be traveling on my birthday and be out of the country. So, I would take my international trip of the year on my birthday and I realized two years ago when I was in Amsterdam which I was actually with a friend and I realized it's really lonely to be spending my birthday out of the country. Like yeah it is amazing to be traveling and that is what really fuels me, but I wasn't around anybody I loved and nobody anywhere I was knew it was my birthday. And so I decided to change that and now I take my vacation a week after my birthday. But it wasn't until I had that experience that I realized really how much I valued being around my friends and family for my birthday. The first couple of years were great like yeah I am out of the country and going all crazy, but it then sunk in and I thought I want to be around my friends and family for my birthday so I will take my vacation next week.

EMILY: I feel like an America celebrating your birthday has more to do with your friends whereas celebrating traditional holidays like Thanksgiving and Christmas and maybe even Easter, Fourth of July is with your family which is a distinction I don't think I necessarily seen before thinking about it right now, but through talking about this yes it seems like birthdays are focused a lot more on friends in America than family in comparison to other holidays -- then family and comparison to other holidays. Liner and Oscar, do you do anything special for your own birthdays or your kids' birthdays?

OSCAR: Well, every birthday for us is special. We have almost the same people. We invite everybody in our family or friends. We used to cook--for example when it is my birthday, I don't cook or nothing. But if it is my wife -- I used to be the one who would cook something special. I travel a lot. Like Miranda I used to travel many, many years. Like 20 years I've been traveling in many countries, so I used to have a special dish and I would try special dishes in every country. So, then I tried to cook that in my family. Every year, for example, when I was in Chile I learned the way that they prepared the meat and then a special way to baste the vegetables. And then the mashed potatoes but with a special taste and some things that were typical from Chile. I would buy that and then I would cook that dish for the birthday, for example my daughter's birthday and I used to cook pasta lasagna or something like that. That is my part of the party, the Food. I used to enjoy the food and for me if you have a party and the food is no good, it's not a good party. And then of course we play special music, for example, that same tropical music, tropical music, or we used to dance for little moment. It is not like a dancing party but we used to dance for some part of the party. And of course singing, karaoke singing is some part of the party too. And we invite all of the families, friends. And we used to share with them a cake or something like that at the end of the party. For example I was in a family party last Friday that started at 10:00 p.m. At that time I arrived at the party and I go to my home at 4:00 a.m. Before we drink many, they were from Honduras and they shared with us some special liquors that they had their so it was like a tequila, but it was hung jury and special tequila or something like that. We shared that and we were singing and dancing and eating pork, meat, something that they cooked, typical from Honduras. That is our typical celebrations, is like that and we used to sing like Mexican music, like mariachi music at 12 like in the middle of

the celebration we used to sing five or six mariachi songs, like for example (Singing) we would sing that song even early in the morning. It is like a typical song in our celebrations.

EMILY: That is really cool. I love learning about everything you guys are sharing about your families and your cultures. I want to say we have about four more minutes before we want to reflect on what we learned on what we got out of the past two sessions. So Liner, you have anything you want to share? I would love to hear that.

LINER: In Venezuela, I think we have different stages to celebrate the birthday. Because when you are a child, your parents invite their friends with children and those are your friends. But at the end of the day of the party ends and in there will be another party. Everybody is ready for the party because the kids or the children go to the bed and the other people goes to dance or keep dancing and singing in the house and drinking a lot. And after that, when you are teenager sometimes you say to your parents and you can invite your friends to your house. Most of your friends are in the house, but your friends, the people who you study with also can celebrate your birthday in school. We have the special celebrations called quince anos for when you are 15. And that is like a wedding it is as important as when you are getting married. You can be dressed with a big, big dress. At 15, we just celebrate girls at 15, not boys.

OSCAR: No boys.

LINER: I don't know how to explain that. Because it is a big, big party and everybody is dancing, eating, drinking the whole night. We use to celebrate at least one night but some people can keep—you can keep celebrating for two or three days.

OSCAR: It is like a wedding! Right, yeah.

LINER: Like a wedding. And even the wedding is similar. People celebrate. They kill a big animal for like beef, pork. Yeah, and those are big, big parties. We celebrate what else? When you are young person, or you're already grown you can celebrate in your office or with your family or with your friends. We make parties everywhere. It is different. But that I think is the description of our celebrations, our party celebrations.

EMILY: That is awesome! So I know we do want to reflect on what I was asking

about the question I had this entire time is what is your favorite drink?

MIRANDA: I was just going to ask that, Emily. On my gosh, you took the words out of my mouth. I'm impressed.

EMILY: For either your holiday like Christmas, Father's Day, or your birthday. What are your different drinks that are your favorite for each celebration? For me I don't necessarily have a favorite, but I always drink hot chocolate on Halloween and on my birthday.

LINER: I don't have a favorite drink, but we have different drinks like a national drink that is made Venezuela. It is rum. There is a lot of different ones in Venezuela, we are making rum. And I like that drink. We have a Christmas drink that is called punche de crema, "cream punch" or something like that [Laughter] it is made with rum but also has egg, milk and sugar.

MIRANDA: So like, that is comparable to our eggnog, sort of similar to our eggnog that we drink around Christmas. I don't personally drink it, but it is popular around Christmas. I was going to ask; the rum that you drink is it dark or light rum?

LINER: Dark rum.

OSCAR: It is rather dark.

MIRANDA: Okay, cool.

LINER: The thing when, you know we have a different kind of rum. But you know the rum is more special when the rum is sweeter.

OSCAR: And it is like that. In 18 years is more expensive than the 12 years or six years but a typical year a middle like rum is six years, four years is cheaper ones, but good ones.

LINER: The more special one is 12 years, 18 years. I don't remember what it is – distillate?

EMILY: No that is correct! Miranda, Katie, or Oscar, do you guys have a favorite drink?

OSCAR: For me, my favorite drink right now is whiskey. I used to drink a lot of rum but it has too much sugar and the problem is that if you drink too much, the next day it is too hard. The rum punches you too much. And so now, I'm drinking -- since like I think 10 years ago, whiskey. It's expensive but it's better.

LINER: That's not better! [Laughter]

OSCAR: Of course, it's better. It has a better taste. It is better. --

OSCAR: I will share with you my whiskey.

[Laughter]

LINER: I don't like it.

OSCAR: Blue label! You have to drink it from blue label.

MIRANDA: No whiskey for me either. But one drink that is popular for my family, not me at all, is beer, specifically Coors Light or Coors brand. Because my grandpa whose parents are migrated from Mexico, my grandpa, he retired from the Coors factory in Golden, Colorado. He still gets cases and cases of beer for so cheap and that is a huge part of any of our celebration is beer. I don't drink beer. I don't like the hops flavor of beer. I don't like it.

OSCAR: For me it is the wine. The wine is my favorite. But it is more common that people have whiskey at every celebration. It is easy to find it. For us, I studied in Chile and Chile has a tradition of wines so I really love the wines too.

KATIE: Yeah, My family doesn't have one that we like drinking. We really like apple cider throughout the fall season. I'm not a huge fan of it. That is pretty much it.

EMILY: Apple cider can be good when it is fresh. But okay, just to shift gears to the last thing. I think I was wondering what guys, what if you guys gotten out of these past two sessions so far? For me I feel like I've not only connected with the two of you in a way I could have never imagined, but I also have learned a lot about my classmates, some of which I've had classes with for maybe a year now, but only knew their first and last name. So I've gotten a lot out of that and I feel like it has been really helpful for me to see the world in a different perspective and to just learn about the lives of people that live in the same state as me but experience it completely differently.

MIRANDA: I would have to agree. I think the most impactful thing right now is that I feel like I am taking in new information that I feel like I would never know

about others culture, but also people in my culture celebrate their own things because everybody is so different and I think it is so cool to have two Venezuelan because it shows a some of the variance in how each of you in the same country celebrate yours. So we get a lot of different perspectives on it and I think it is so cool!

[Laughter]

OSCAR: Come on, Your turn.

LINER: My turn? Okay, for me to meet with you is like being traveling. It is great to know different cultures, different point of view on the same thing. And that is very-- That's enriching. I like it.

EMILY: That is a really beautiful way of putting it. I definitely feel that too.

OSCAR: I agree with Liner. I feel the same. We, all of us are really different people and you, for example, live here with your culture so I'm learning about it. We talk a lot. Some of you just say a couple of words. I think we talk a lot, it is a Latin way to live, we really speak and speak and speak a lot and some of you set a couple of words and answered what they had to say and I think we shared a lot of things. I am really happy to meet you and learn the way that you pronounce, the pronunciation and speak in the words that you are using. So, I am really happy to be here in this class.

EMILY: Katie, I am curious as to what you had to say but also Liner, do you feel like your skills of using English, do you feel like you are becoming a little bit more comfortable speaking with native English speakers or learning new words?

Because we really want to help you guys with that too. So if we can do anything more to help you with that please let us know.

LINER: Okay, how can I say this? I am not thinking, right now I am not feeling that I am improving. But that is right now I can realize how many mistakes I am making.

[Laughter]

And that is good for me because when I am not speaking -- I did not used to

speaking a lot in English. So I don't know how to make bigger or longer phrases.

And I don't realize until I have been here how many mistakes or the way I have to improve or focus more to improve my English skills.

MIRANDA: You have been doing so good. I feel like you speak so much. Oscar will hop in. But you are explaining things and elaborating. So You are making it, after you say something short, you'll explain it in more detail and it really helps us like understand the cool things you are talking about. It's awesome!

LINER: Thank you.

MIRANDA: Thank you!

KATIE: I think you are both doing amazing and I can already hear improvement from just the last time. I think it is fascinating to hear all of these different perspectives about people we have classes with and from you guys to see how differently we all celebrate the same things and I think it is super cool!

EMILY: All right. I think that is about it. I want to let all of you know that I really enjoyed this. You have done a great job sharing. I honestly think that both of you, your English is phenomenal. You are doing so very well. And if you are ever curious about how to say something in English like you guys have asked, we can help you. Like Oscar, when you're asking about different musical genres, like different types of music. Like we would love to help share that kind of stuff with you. So let us know.

OSCAR: Okay, thank you.

LINER: Thank you.

EMILY: Have a nice day you guys.

MIRANDA: Goodbye!

LINER: Thank you.

MIRANDA: You!

CAPTIONER: Meeting dismissed.

2:02 PM (ET)