

Chatterbox #235 – Interview with Lindie Botes

Episode description

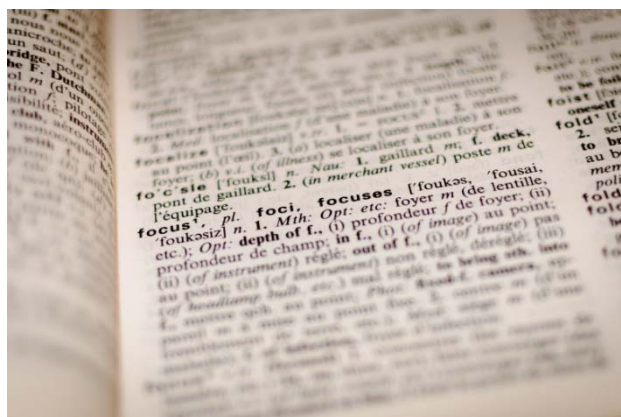
Imagine being fluent in two or three languages—that would be great! But some people can speak five, ten, twenty languages! Those people are called polyglots. In this Chatterbox episode, Andrew speaks with polyglot YouTuber Lindie Botes about language and the best techniques to learn many of them.

Fun fact

Ziad Fazah is recognized as the man who speaks the most languages in the world. He claims to be able to speak 59 languages, although not everyone believes he is fluent in all 59. Regardless, that's an impressive title to have!

Expressions included in the study guide

- A polyglot
- A community
- Conversational
- A bit
- Collecting dust
- Quality over quantity



Transcript

Note: The words and expressions that appear in **bold text** within the transcript are discussed in more detail in the Detailed Explanations section that follows the transcript.

Andrew: How's it going everyone? On today's addition of the Culips English Podcast, we have a very special guest joining us. Her name is Lindie Botes and she is a YouTuber and a **polyglot** and a language lover, and I was super stoked to get to talk with her. In this episode, we chatted about many different things, including her life, living aboard in many different countries, her love and passion for language learning. And she shares some of her tips with the Culips **community** about how to study foreign languages, and I think you'll find it really, really helpful. So without me chatting for too much longer, let's get right to the interview. Here it is my chat with Lindie.

Good evening, Lindie. Welcome to the Culips Podcast.

Lindie: Hi, thank you so much for having me.

Andrew: Where are you located right now? Where are you calling from?

Lindie: I live in Singapore.

Andrew: But you're not originally from Singapore, are you?

Lindie: No, I was born in South Africa, and then my family and I lived in a few different countries, and then I moved to Singapore earlier this year for work.

Andrew: OK, so you haven't been there too long?

Lindie: No, only about 5 or 6 months.

Andrew: Only 5 or 6 months, OK. Cool. So, Lindie, you run a fairly successful YouTube channel, you have lots of subscribers and lots of videos, and this is how I came to know about you. Could you just briefly introduce your YouTube channel to our listeners?

Lindie: Sure. My YouTube channel is mainly about language learning. So I like to make videos where I share language learning tips, how you can better learn a language, and sometimes I review textbooks. And I like to make videos in different languages, as well.

Andrew: OK. Yeah, and I guess you could say that you're a **polyglot**, right? A lot of the videos on your channel are about learning multiple languages, not just one foreign language.

- Lindie: Yes, that's right. I think there is a big **polyglot community** on YouTube, and lots of people like to make videos about speaking multiple languages.
- Andrew: And for our listeners that don't know, a **polyglot** is someone who can speak multiple languages. Do you know, like, if you speak two or three languages, I guess you're not a **polyglot**, you're just multilingual? What is the, how many languages do you need to know before you can wear that hat that says **polyglot**?
- Lindie: That's an interesting question, and many people debate the answer. Some people say it's five languages, some people say it's seven. But the word poly just means many. So there's no real number attached to it. But I think I would say more than four or five, because you have monolingual, monolingual, which is one, bilingual, which is two, and trilingual, which is three. And I don't really know if people say quadrilingual or anything. So I would say from about four onwards, it's just easier to say the word **polyglot**.
- Andrew: Yeah, I agree with you. I think that makes a lot of sense. And so, OK, how many languages can you speak or do you know or do you study? What do you tell people when you first meet them?
- Lindie: Usually I tell people it's difficult to answer that, because all the languages are at different levels.
- Andrew: Sure.
- Lindie: But then I guess I can say I'm **conversational** in about five or six. But I'm learning maybe up to 15. But they might just be very, very basic.
- Andrew: Right.
- Lindie: So I can communicate in about five or six.
- Andrew: Wow, that's amazing. And so what got you interested in languages?
- Lindie: Honestly, when I was a high school student, or middle school student, I was never really interested in languages outside of the school classroom. So I took French and Arabic and Urdu and Afrikaans at all the different schools I was at. But I always thought languages were just a school subject. And only when I was in my last year of high school then I discovered I enjoyed learning other languages, outside of the school languages. So my first foreign language was Korean, and I started learning Korean in 2009. So that's almost 10 years of the language.
- Andrew: Yeah.

- Andrew: Wow, that's so cool. Now, I have to rewind a little **bit** here, because you mentioned just a second ago that you studied some really, I guess I would say some unique languages in high school. Like, I'm from Canada, we have to study French in high school. But you studied Arabic and Urdu and these, I guess we'd say, less commonly studied languages. How did you get that opportunity?
- Lindie: My father is a diplomat, so we lived in a lot of different countries because of his work. So when we lived in Pakistan for 3.5 years, I took Urdu and a very little **bit** of Spanish. But then we had to evacuate the country when it became dangerous after 9/11. So we weren't able to live there longer or continue learning Urdu or Spanish. Then French is, I guess, a very common language in lots of schools around the world. So French has stuck with me throughout my school career, and Afrikaans was the home language I took when I lived in South Africa.
- Andrew: OK. And so what is your first language, or I guess you would say your native language? Is it English or Afrikaans?
- Lindie: I think both, because we speak Afrikaans at home, but I'm English educated. So I can't do math or science in Afrikaans, but I speak Afrikaans to my family.
- Andrew: Gotcha. OK, wow, that's such a unique experience. It sounds like you have or had a really interesting upbringing going and travelling in all these different places and studying all these different languages.
- Lindie: Yeah, my family and I really enjoyed it.
- Andrew: I bet. So I wanna get into language learning **a bit** more. And, now, when you're studying all these different languages, it must take up a lot of your time, and you must develop a lot of good study techniques, I think. Some sort of shortcuts or some hacks that work for you, from, you know, learning one language you can apply to the next time you start a new language. And that's what I really wanted to talk about today. I was hoping that you could share some of your study tips with our listeners.
- Lindie: Sure, I'd be happy to. First of all, I think it's very important to have a language learning **community** around you. So I've learnt a lot of my tips from my friends who are also language learners and by just watching how other people, **polyglots**, do it. And a good friend of mine, Alex Rawlings, he's a British **polyglot** who also speaks Afrikaans, and he also wrote a book so I wouldn't perhaps read books that **polyglots** have wrote about language learning and use those tips. But, indeed, over the years I've developed some tips that work for me. And it's important to remember that everybody has a different study style. So what works for me may not work for somebody else and vice versa.

Andrew: Right, sure, sure.

Lindie: So I'll just talk about my main tips, mostly when learning a language, it's very important to immerse yourself in the language fully. So what I like to try to do is to do everything that I normally do in my native language to try and do that in a different language.

Andrew: OK.

Lindie: If I'm writing a shopping list to buy groceries, I will try to and write that in Korean, for example. If I'm listening to music on the bus, I should listen to Korean music. If I'm watching TV, I should watch Korean TV. That way you are constantly learning the language and you're getting used to native pronunciation and grammar and how things sound.

Andrew: Sure.

Lindie: Also important to remember how babies learn a language. A mother doesn't give her baby a textbook, right?

Andrew: Of course not, no.

Lindie: They learn from hearing and repeating. If your mom points at a cup and says cup and then she picks up another cup and says cup, you are going to learn without her giving you a book that the thing that looks like this is a cup. So I've had very successful language lessons with teachers where they only speak the language they are teaching me. So I'm currently learning Spanish online and my tutors never speak English in the lessons. That's very important, because it forces me to try and think in the language. So that's something else you can do, but if you are self-studying, it might be difficult to try and create an environment that is only in your target language.

Andrew: Right. I actually have a tip for our listeners about that too, and I don't know if you know about this because I just learned about it recently. But Netflix is awesome for lots of reasons, but one of the things that I learned about Netflix recently is that it's usually only with the Netflix-created content, but you can choose an audio setting that gives you audio descriptions. So if there's a scene with no dialogue, let's say somebody's at a cafe and they're drinking a coffee, the narrator will actually narrate all of the actions that the character is doing. So if the character's name is Bobby the narrator will say, "Oh, Bobby's lifting his cup, he puts his cup to his mouth, he takes a sip of coffee, he puts the cup down." And you get this tons of great input and a really nice description of the scene. So I've found Netflix to be really, really helpful for making kind of an immersive environment. It's really nice.

Lindie: Yeah, that's wonderful. I think that's excellent for the visually impaired as well. And I know a good language learner friend of mine is actually visually impaired and she has to rely only on podcasts and things like Netflix that have those descriptions to learn languages, and it's a very good method indeed.

Andrew: I've been watching some dramas with it, it's been nice.

Lindie: Cool.

Andrew: OK, Lindie, you mentioned that you've been studying Korean for almost 10 years now and I've been studying Korean for about 6 years now, and I guess that's how I found out about you originally was searching for, you know, Korean study stuff on YouTube. And one thing that struck me about your Korean and, of course, I'm not like a native speaker or anything, but I did think that your Korean sounded very good. And one thing that I noticed was that your mannerisms were super Korean. You had Korean, like the way that Koreans breathe when they speak is very different than the way that English speakers breathe when we speak. And the way that English speakers pause is different than Korean speakers' pause. And I noticed these things, and I was like, wow, they're so Korean. And, actually, I showed your video to my Korean friend and she said the same thing, wow, the reason her Korean is so good is that she imitates Korean speakers while she speaks. And so I was wondering if you could talk to that **a bit**, about the importance of mastering the gestures of your target language.

Lindie: So when I was at school, my brothers and I would always practice imitating different accents as a joke and we used to put on plays playing different characters. And I think that is where I started learning the importance of an accent and, honestly, accents only really come from imitation. You have to sit and try and copy how the person sounds. In the beginning, you may sound funny, but try to force yourself to copy one person's way of speaking. And often Korean speakers may have a particular accent when they speak English, and Americans or Canadians may have a particular accent when they speak Korean.

So what I like to do is put that in the inverse. So I will try and think how does a Korean person speak English, what kind of words do they pronounce and what kind of way and then I'll take that accent and I'll try and replicate it when I'm speaking Korean because the way your mouth is formed is the way you pronounce certain sounds, is how it should be natively when you're speaking the target language. So I try to focus a lot on copying people's pronunciation, which is where I think it helped me to get a natural accent.

Lindie: But really the biggest thing for me was spending time with lots of Koreans. I think people, if I may give a specific example to Korea, in the Korean school system, students spend a lot of time just taking exams and reading from books and doing comprehension, but they don't spend enough time speaking. And speaking to someone, speaking with someone, is really where you are going to pick up on those nuances of hand gestures and pauses and expressions like "wow" or "mmhmm" or "mmm," those kind of things you'll never learn in a textbook, you'll only learn from talking to people.

Andrew: Right, right.

Lindie: So try and put yourself in the situation where you can practice with someone, you can go to a language exchange event. Big cities in the world have language exchange events where you can go and practice languages with somebody. You can phone a friend, you can find a teacher on Skype, as long as you are getting **conversational** practice, you will keep hearing the language and you will naturally start to imitate it later.

Andrew: Yeah, that's such a good point, because if you're just getting your input from TV, you don't really get these things, these are the parts of speech that we edit out of TV, right? The people wondering what do I have to say or the being confused or you know, we call it hedging, where you're kind of delaying your speech, this is all edited out of TV. So if you don't have those real-life, face-to-face conversations, you can't learn it. And, of course, it's not in a textbook, either.

Lindie: Right, yes. And you really do pick up on, I mean, your speech sounds very natural when you are using things like "mmm" or "hmm." And it'll sound very strange to somebody if you are speaking Korean and suddenly you will throw some English in like, "Mmm, how do you say that?" If you learn those filler phrases in Korean, you'll sound more natural. And a textbook never taught me how to say, "뭐라고 하지? (*hmm, what should I say here?*)," but only speaking to Korean people. I heard that, when they are thinking, they'll say "뭐라고 하지?" or "뭐라 그래야지? (*how should I say this/how do I say this?*)." Then I was like, oh, so that's what you say when you are thinking and then I can use this and it's a lot better than "Korean, Korean, Korean, how do you say that?" So try to learn phrases, that will make you sound a lot more natural.

Andrew: I agree. And this goes for any language, of course, not just for Korean.

Lindie: Absolutely.

- Andrew: OK, Lindie, I wanted to change gears **a little bit** and talk about what you do, because as far as I know you are a designer. Is this correct? Do I have this information correct?
- Lindie: I am a designer.
- Andrew: OK, you're a designer and I've seen videos on your channel about minimalism, as well. Could you just briefly describe, because maybe some of our listeners don't know what minimalism means in the context of a lifestyle, minimalist lifestyle?
- Lindie: Yes, minimalism is based on the premise that you only keep what is very important to you and you get rid of the rest. So the way we are raised in a capitalist life, in a consumer's life, is that the more you buy, the happier you will be. Minimalism is the opposite of that, not necessarily the less you have the happier you are, but it's just on only having the things that are important to you and only keeping things that are meaningful to you. You can apply it to your wardrobe, for example. If you only buy good-quality clothes that will last you long, you will be happy with your wardrobe and it will last you longer and it will save you money. Instead of buying the latest fashions every week, you just keep the important specific pieces that can last you years. That's a practical example of minimalism.
- Andrew: Cool. And as someone myself who lives in a foreign country, I think I practice this lifestyle by default, because I just hate moving things around.
- Lindie: I was actually slightly sad when I came to Singapore, because at one stage I had over 700 language books. But when I came here, I couldn't take all of them with me, so I put as many as I could in my suitcase and I mailed myself three boxes. But now I only have one tiny bookshelf of language books. But it's been good, because I'm focusing on the books that are important and the books I'll use and the other ones are not **collecting dust** or being useless.
- Andrew: Right. For sure. And so, as a designer, I would imagine that you are highly creative person. And I was curious, I don't know if you have an answer for this or not, but do you think there's any connection between your work as a designer and your minimalist lifestyle and language learning? Does this influence or impact the way that you study languages at all?
- Lindie: Yes, previously, I think with my creative brain, I always got excited about so many different things and I would get frustrated because I would buy as many textbooks as I could and try out as many apps, and I was just using way too many things that were confusing me.

- Lindie: So now that I have started a new language, Spanish, I'm trying to stick to only two or three main resources so that I can stay more focused. So I'm only using online lessons, the Duolingo app, and watching a series on Netflix and listening to music. Those are my only sources of input now, because I know I will waste time trying to look for new things.
- I'm trying to apply a minimalist approach in terms of how many books and resources I have. I don't even own a single textbook for Spanish. I'm doing everything digitally.
- Andrew: Wow, so I guess it's more **quality over quantity**.
- Lindie: Yes. That's right.
- Andrew: I see.
- Lindie: And in terms of using languages in my work, I've always been inspired by Korean, Japanese, and Chinese typography. So a lot of personal graphic design work will be exploring different ways to write characters or making posters of Japanese songs or how can I visually represent what the language sounds like to me.
- Andrew: That's really cool.
- Lindie, I just realize that I totally forgot to ask you which languages you study, and I'm sure some of our listeners are dying to know. Could you just tell us what languages you've studied in the past or are studying now, aside from Spanish?
- Lindie: So home languages is Afrikaans and then English, and then I guess chronologically it would be Urdu, French, Arabic, Korean, Mandarin, Japanese, Vietnamese, Indonesian Malay, Turkish, Hungarian, Spanish. I think that is it. And then I've dabbled here and there with other languages like Mongolian and Finnish and Estonian or Norwegian, but I just keep those to the side. So right now, my main languages are Mandarin Chinese because I live in Singapore, Korean and Japanese because they're my most fluent and I want to keep them on a good level, and Spanish because it's a new language.
- Andrew: Oh, that's so cool. So, Lindie, I don't want to take up too much of your time here, but just before I let you go, I wanted to ask you about YouTube, because I love YouTube so much. It's my favourite website, probably. And what's it like being a YouTuber?

Lindie: It's very strange when people call me a YouTuber, because I never started my channel with the intention of becoming famous or being a YouTuber. I only started it to share my love of learning languages and to meet other language learners. So when my channel started growing, it was a very strange feeling. And sometimes people recognize me in the street, and that makes me think the world is very small. But I'm also happy that there are so many people learning languages.

Lindie: So I guess, in a sense, the fame is still something I'm getting used to. When people ask for my, like, for a photo with me or when they recognize me on the street, that's very strange. But I feel very comfortable making videos and sharing my love of languages with people. And it's such a wonderful way to meet other language learners. So it's been a very good experience so far.

Andrew: That's awesome. So could you let everyone know what your channel address is so that our listeners could come and visit your page and watch some of your videos?

Lindie: Yeah, thank you. So you can just type in my name, Lindie Botes that's my channel name so my name is L-I-N-D-I-E and my surname Botes is B-O-T-E-S. So you can just find me if you just search Lindie Botes on YouTube. And I also have a website, just lindiebotes.com.

Andrew: OK. Lindie, it's very interesting, your family name and my family name are just one letter difference. Mine is B-A-T-E-S, Bates, but very different pronunciation, though, between the two.

Lindie: Yeah, my surname is actually Dutch.

Andrew: Dutch. OK. That's interesting. I wonder if somewhere down the line we have a common ancestor or something, because I think I have a little Dutch heritage, as well.

Lindie: Oh, very interesting.

Andrew: Yeah, maybe a thousand years ago or something we had a great-great-great-great-grandmother together or something.

Anyway, Lindie, I think we'll wrap it up here. Thanks so much for joining us tonight. And I do wanna encourage all of our listeners to go check out your channel, because it's super interesting to watch your journey with all of these languages, and some of the other topics that you vlog about are super cool as well. So definitely, guys, please go check out Lindie's channel. And, Lindie, thanks for joining us.

Lindie: Thank you so much, Andrew, it was really great to talk to you. Thanks for having me.

Andrew: Yeah, thank you. See you later.

Lindie: Bye.

Andrew: I hope you enjoyed that chat as much as I did. Don't forget to go visit Lindie's social media accounts and her website. All of the information you need for that is on our website. You can find those links on our website, Culips.com, C-U-L-I-P-S.com.

We also made a study guide for this episode, and we think you would really benefit from studying with it. It's got a transcript, some explanations of the important vocabulary that we used in this episode, and lots of other good stuff. So to download the study guide, just visit our website, Culips.com.

If you like Culips, please help us out by leaving us a nice review and ranking on Apple podcast or wherever you listen to your podcast. It will help new English learners discover Culips and help us to grow.

OK, that's it for now. I will be back soon with another episode and we'll talk to you then. Bye.

Detailed Explanations

A polyglot

Noun

A polyglot is someone who speaks multiple languages. In this episode, Lindie mentions there is a debate about how many languages that means. Some say at least five, some say at least seven. In Lindie's opinion, **a polyglot** is someone who speaks four or more languages.

Here are a couple more examples with **a polyglot**:

| | |
|--------|--|
| Barry: | I heard that you speak many languages. Is that true? |
| Chloe: | I speak a few. |
| Barry: | Which ones? |
| Chloe: | Oh, I speak English and Spanish. And I'm pretty good at German. |
| Barry: | So you're a polyglot ? |
| Chloe: | No, no. I would have to speak many more languages to consider myself one of those! |

| | |
|-------|--|
| Nat: | I was thinking. If you could have a superpower, which one would you want? |
| Kyra: | Flying. 100%. How about you? |
| Nat: | I would love to be a master polyglot . I would to be able to speak dozens, if not hundreds, of languages. |
| Kyra: | That's not the same. |
| Nat: | What do you mean? |
| Kyra: | Flying is not humanly possible. But if you study intensely, you possibly could speak dozens of languages. |
| Nat: | I guess you're right. |

A community

Noun

In this episode, Lindie talks the big polyglot **community** on YouTube. **A community** means a group of people who live near each other, but you can also use the term to mean people who have a similar interest. You can have the soccer **community** in your city, and you can **a community** of soccer fans online.

Here are a couple more examples with **a community**:

| | |
|--------|--|
| Yves: | Is your husband coming to the barbecue on the weekend? |
| Maria: | Unfortunately, he can't make it. He's busy volunteering. |
| Yves: | Oh. Can I ask you where he's volunteering? |
| Maria: | Sure. For years, he's been giving his time to the deaf community in the city. |
| Yves: | Really? I didn't know that. |
| Maria: | His parents were hearing impaired, so it means a lot to him. |

| | |
|--------|---|
| Cecil: | Hey, I called you earlier. Were you busy? |
| Hitch: | Oh, I'm sorry. I was busy. I was chatting online. |
| Cecil: | That's OK. Were you chatting with a friend? |
| Hitch: | A group chat. I'm part of an online community that gets together and talks about silent movies from the 1920s. |
| Cecil: | Wow, that's really specific! |
| Hitch: | I know. But I just love silent movies! |

Conversational Adjective

In this episode, Lindie says she is **conversational** in about five or six languages. That means she can comfortably have a conversation in those languages. If you say you are **conversational** in English, you are above the beginner level, but under the native/advanced level.

Here are a couple more examples with **conversational**:

| | |
|-------|---|
| Anna: | You're studying Spanish, right? |
| Pete: | Yeah. I started not long ago. |
| Anna: | So come over here and meet my friend Pedro. He's from Ecuador. You can speak Spanish with him. |
| Pete: | Oh no, I can't talk to him! I'm not yet conversational . I've only learned a few verbs so far. |

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Brigitte: | How many languages can you speak? |
| Masood: | Only two, actually, Arabic and English. |
| Brigitte: | But I thought you studied languages? |
| Masood: | I study linguistics. So I know about a lot of languages, but I'm only conversational in two. |

A bit

Noun

A bit means a small amount of something. This is an extremely common saying native speakers use. It is often used with little, as in **a little bit**.

Here are a couple more examples with **a bit**:

| | |
|--------|--|
| Jacob: | How is the meal? |
| Mina: | The steak was good, but this cake is amazing! It's probably the best cake I've ever had. |
| Jacob: | That's so nice of you to say. I made it with my mother. Would you like some more? |
| Mina: | I really shouldn't, but it's so good! OK, just a little bit more. |

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Diana: | Oh no! I forgot to get money out at the bank. |
| Taeyoung: | That's all right. There's a bank machine a couple of blocks from here. Let's go together. |
| Diana: | Actually, it would be better if you waited in line for the restaurant, and I'll join you later. |
| Taeyoung: | Really? |
| Diana: | Yeah, don't worry. See you in a bit . |
| Taeyoung: | OK, see you in a bit . |

Collecting dust

Idiom

In this episode, Lindie mentions books **collecting dust**. That means those books are not being read or even touched, so dust accumulates on them. Saying an object is **collecting dust** is a humorous way to say you are not using something. This expression is only for objects. It would be strange to say a person is **collecting dust**.

Here are a couple more examples with **collecting dust**:

| | |
|---------|---|
| George: | We need to do some spring cleaning. We've got too much junk in the basement. |
| Fanny: | What are you thinking of doing? |
| George: | For starters, you have a huge collection of old newspapers that are doing nothing but collecting dust . We need to throw them out. |
| Fanny: | No! Not my newspapers! |
| George: | They've been there for 10 years, and you haven't ever touched them. They need to go. |

| | |
|--------|--|
| Suri: | My friends invited me out for a bike ride on Saturday. I'd love to go, but I don't have a bicycle. |
| Carly: | Maybe I could ask my dad to lend you his. |
| Suri: | He won't mind? |
| Carly: | I doubt it. It's just in the garage collecting dust . He hasn't used it in years. |
| Suri: | Oh, that would be great if you could ask him! |

Quality over quantity

Idiom

Near the end of this episode, Lindie says she is only using two or three online resources to study Spanish. Andrew responds by saying that's **quality over quantity**. That means he believes a few quality resources are more important than having many resources of varying quality. Lindie also mentions something similar when talking about minimalism. She believes it's better to have a few pairs of pants of good quality than to have many pairs of pants of lower quality.

You can also flip the expression for the opposite effect. You can say you prefer quantity over quality, meaning you think having a lot of things is more important than having a few good things.

Here are a couple more examples with **quality over quantity**:

| | |
|------|--|
| Liu: | I just came back from your father's restaurant. There were so many people! |
| Tia: | I know. It's packed every night! |
| Liu: | Is he planning on opening a restaurant at another location? I'm sure he could make so much money. |
| Tia: | He's not interested. He's really focused on making good food. For him, it's always quality over quantity . If he opens a new branch, he feels the quality of the product would go down. |

| | |
|---------|--|
| Martha: | I loved your last book. When you are going to publish a new one? |
| Yuri: | I like taking my time when I write a book. |
| Martha: | I know. You write a book once every 2 or 3 years, correct? |
| Yuri: | That's about it. |
| Martha: | Are you trying for quality over quantity ? |
| Yuri: | Not necessarily. I just write very slowly. |

Quiz

1. What can the expression collecting dust mean?

- a) not using something for a long time
- b) an object has real dust on it because you haven't used it in a while
- c) both a and b

2. True or false? A little bit can only be used when talking about time.

- a) true
- b) false

3. What does quantity over quality mean?

- a) you value the quality of things
- b) you value the quality of things more than the amount of them
- c) you value the amount of things
- d) you value the amount of things more than the quality of them

4. To be conversational in a language is to be able to _____.

- a) pass a conversation listening test
- b) converse easily
- c) construct sentences in your notebook
- d) recognize key words

5. True or false? You need to be living in the same city to be part of a community.

- a) true
- b) false

Writing and Discussion Questions

1. What advantages in life you would have if you were a polyglot?
2. Which extra languages would you like to be fluent in?
3. Which of Lindie's suggestions do you think would help you the most?
4. Do your mannerisms change when you speak in English? How so?
5. In this episode, Lindie talks a lot about minimalism. Do you think that's an important philosophy to have when learning language? Why?
6. Where do you stand on the quality over quantity debate? Which is more important to you, in general?

Quiz Answers

1.c 2.b 3.d 4.b 5.b

Episode credits

Today's guest: Lindie Botes

Host: Andrew Bates

Music: *Something Elated* by Broke For Free

Episode preparation/research: Andrew Bates

Audio editor: Andrew Bates

Transcriptionist: Heather Bates

Study guide writer: Matty Warnock

English editor: Stephanie MacLean

Business manager: Tsuyoshi Kaneshima

Project manager: Jessica Cox

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