

The first interview is with Moaath Odeh, a Syrian refugee, and the second interview is with Jessica Menz, volunteer at the refugee camp.

*Hi. Thanks for meeting me today. Miriam (My German teacher) told me a few things about you and said you could help with this project. Could you please introduce me to yourself, like your me, where you come from, etc?*  
My name is Moaath, i come from Syria and I am 14 years old. I come from Daara, center damascus, in south. I moved here 3 months ago.

*Would you still call [Daara] your home?*

Yeah, but not often because its not good for them. maybe the police take them. Now its getting better step by step.

*What languages do you know?*

I know English and Arabic.

*and now you are learning German.*

Yeah. (little chuckles)

*and when or at what age did you start learning English?*

I started learning English at the age of 7. We learn it in school but it's so simple, so i learned from TV. From [the age of] 7 until now its nothing. you can learn from the TV its better.

*And how is your German coming along?*

It's alright, it is very hard.

*Do you like Berlin ,the food here, or any place in specific?*

Here? no. Berlin is nice.

*So, when did you family and you decide to move?*

They starting bombing houses, So we decided to move before it was getting worse. [There was] a lot of wars there. so you don't have a future there. if you don't move, you will die.

*and you came with your parents? Do you have any siblings?*

I have 2 brothers and 1 sister. and before coming here I loved to play football and tennis. Tennis is my favorite sport.

*Do you play here? I tried once here.  
How long have you been playing tennis?  
Maybe 2 months.*

*(I talk about my interest in Tennis and about how I used to play tennis  
when I was young)  
You can speak chinese?*

*Yeah, it is an interesting language. it is fun. people in China are super nice  
as well. (I share my story about applying to american college)  
You can speak German or no?  
Ein Bisschen (A little). I am still learning the language.  
(I talk more about my family and my siblings)  
How old are you?*

*Ah, I am 20 years old right now.  
So, What is your birthdate?  
24 October.*

*so it was recent! What did you do?  
nothing.*

*Did you spend more time with your family or spend it with your friends.  
nah, i did not have place for this.*

*What does your average day look like here?  
I go to school and then I come back. I sit on the facebook until 4 or 5  
clock. And then I go my friend's place until I like.  
How far is the school?  
It's a 20 minutes walk.*

*what subject do you learn?  
We learn math, english and Deutsch. School from monday though Friday.  
Saturday and Sunday is off.*

*What were your first expression of Berlin and Germany. What made you  
decide to come here?  
We come here for just a good future. [Germany] has the most important  
universities. It is good for studying.*

*Did you know something about Germany or any German culture?*

Just a little bit.

*What do you feel about the city and being here?*

I feel bad for being here. First [I have] to get your own house and then i'll feel better here.

*what do you miss most about being home?*

my computer (laughs). I love computers.

*What is the meal system here.*

The food is not halal here for muslims. I started having food which is not halal. We have started going outside and buy some sandwiches, but still try to get some halal. Breakfast is 7:30 but people wake up at 9-10 and just prefer to eat outside. We cook every friday. There is this lady close-by . She likes to eat Syrian food so invited to cook with them.

*How do you like the german people here so far?*

they are so good. they are nice. A lot of people here are so good and a lot of people here are so bad. Here we don't have our own rooms. if you go inside you will see everybody sleep together. the families are always fighting. There are always new faces everyday.

*How do you like school?*

before, i did not like school because the teacher will only speak in Deutsch but now its getting better and better.

*What do you want to do in future?*

I will study medicine, or pharmacy, computer engineering or anything about computers. so interesting.

*(This conversation was followed by sharing my other personal experiences and talking about Chinese, China, India, Hindi, which fascinated Moaath a lot)*

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