

I would like to start with getting to know who you are

I'm Xinyuguo, and I'm a student from China

Here they just call me Meriam

How do you like living in Denmark?

Very quiet, and I like Denmark because there aren't so many people in the streets, there isn't so much noise

No, so it's very quiet

Where in China do you live?

In Shanghai, which is a very large city, yes with many people.

So it's peaceful in Odense?

Yes, yes

How did you learn Danish?

In a language school in Odense, it takes two years

But I do not speak Danish very well

I think it's good

Thanks!

What was it like at the language school?

I got many friends from other countries in the world

And our teacher is very kind

Did you speak with one another there?

Yes, it was very good and very cozy.

What was it like then coming here?

Here? Most students are Danes

And I'm afraid of speaking with Danes because of my Danish

Don't they talk so much with you?

No!

What is it like then? Do you walk around alone or what?

Yes, but my class team has two more students from abroad

One from Iceland, and we are good friends

An one from Poland - yes, also a girl

You have told me you are puzzled about the television in this country

Emm, very boring!

Yes, because there is not so many Danish programs

No, it's only American movies.

In China we have many programs, and lots of fun.

And we also have our own movies.

But I do not know so many Danish movies.

How do you like Danish food?

I don't like Danish food!

It's very bland.

Most is with potatoes and tomatoes.

We do not get so many vegetables here in Denmark

In China we always get vegetables and fruit, but not in Denmark

How do you like the opening hours of the shops here in Denmark

They close too early!

Because we like to go into town after dinner

But here the shops close at six

And they close on Sundays.

You have told that it's very different to be together with students here compared to China

Could you tell something about that, how it is?

We were always at school in China, so we always met one another. So we had good relationships

But here in Denmark we just arrive and when we have finished we go home again.

So there isn't so much of a social relationship here?

No!

I think it's very difficult for us, for foreigners, to get a close relationship to Danes

Why?

I don't know, I just think so

I have many friends, who just talk to Chinese friends, but not to Danes

Is that because we are different?

Yes, I think it's because we have different lifestyles.

Yes, I think so

You think Danes are colder?

Yes, they cannot talk with us

And I have many friends who don't speak Danish

I think they communicate with Danes in English

But Danes don't like talking English with us, because we speak so bad English

So they prefer speaking English with Americans and English people

Because it's difficult to understand you?

Yes.