

Ze Pao Vang

*Ze Pao Vang was born in Thailand.
He now resides in Wausau.*

What is your name?

Ze Pao Vang.

How old are you?

I'm 14 years old.

Where was your place of birth?

Vinai.

Where did you live in Thailand?

Wat Tham Krabok.

How many years did you live in Thailand?

I lived in Thailand for 11 years.

Do you have any brothers or sisters?

I have six sisters and two brothers.

What did you do in Thailand?

There wasn't much to do, but I carried logs and got water.

Do you have any future plans? If yes, what are they?

I don't have any yet.

Did you go to school in Thailand?

Yes.

What are the differences between schools in Thailand and schools in America?

In America, you have school in a building, but in Thailand, you have school outside.

How many languages can you speak? What are they?

I can speak three: Hmong, Thai, and a little English.

Which is the hardest language?

For me, the hardest language is my original language, green-hmong. I've been with the white-hmong, and I speak white-hmong more than green-hmong.

What types of things don't you like about the Hmong tradition?

I don't like how they don't let us go to play.

Do you prefer the Hmong culture or the American culture?

The American culture.

How old were you when you left your homeland?

I was 14 years old.

Did you know a lot of people in the U.S. before coming?

I only knew a couple of people.

Who helped you come to the U.S.?

My grandmother helped us.

Why did you come to the United States?

I didn't want to come, but my whole family was coming, so I had to go.

Did you have any difficulties in the airplane?

No, not really, but when the airplane started shaking, I got scared.

When you got to the United States, what did you think about it?

When I first got here, all my cousins came to see us and I was very happy.

When you first got here, did you have any trouble?

No.

What do you think about inter-racial dating?

I don't mind it.

What do you think about kids in America?

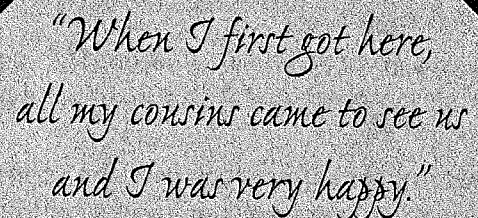
I don't like it when we ride the bus because the kids yell and scream on the bus.

What do you think about the stores in America compared to the stores in Thailand?

In America, the stores are very different because they are in a building. In Thailand, everything is outside.

Do you like the weather in Thailand better or the weather in America?

I like the weather in America better.



"When I first got here, all my cousins came to see us and I was very happy."

Do you like the American clothes or the Thai clothes?

I like the American clothes. The clothes in America are sure better than the clothes in Thailand.

What are some of your hobbies?

I like to baby-sit and I also like to hunt. Back in Thailand we usually went bird hunting. I remember once when we went bird hunting and I got bit by a snake.

Do you want to go back to Thailand?

No, because all of my family members are here. No one is still over in Thailand.