

## Xue Yang

***What is your name?***

My name is Xue.

***How old are you?***

I'm 14 years old, almost 15.

***Where were you born?***

I was born in Vinai.

***Where did you live in Thailand?***

I lived in Wat Tham Krabok.

***How many years did you live in Thailand?***

I lived in Thailand for ten years.

***Do you have any brothers or sisters? If so, how many?***

I have five younger sisters and three brothers.

***What was the average life like in Thailand?***

Living there was good.

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

Yes, I want to become a teacher.

***Why do you want to become a teacher?***

I want to teach kids so they can get a good education.

***Did you go to school in Thailand?***

Yes, I did go to school.

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

There, if you don't try your best, they'll hit you. The schools there are not the same as here. There, the schools are dirtier than the ones here.

***How many languages can you speak? What are they?***

I can speak Thai and Hmong, but I know very little English.

***Which language do you think is harder to learn?***

Out of the three, I think English is the hardest.

***Why?***

If you don't know the words well, then you can't say them well.

***What sort of things do you not like about the hmong tradition?***

I don't have any.

***Do you prefer the Hmong culture or the American culture?***

I think they're both different in their own way.

***How old were you when you left Thailand?***

I think I was 13 years old, almost 14.

***You've lived here for a year, correct?***

Yes.

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

I didn't know many, but I knew some family members.

***Who helped you during your time of arrival?***

Our Aunt Bee helped us.

***Why did you come to the United States?***

I came to the United States because the Thai people didn't want us.

***Did you have any difficulties in the airplane?***

No, I didn't have any.

***When you first came to America, how did you feel?***

I think America is very good.

***Why is it good?***

It is more civilized and we get to go to better schools.

***Do you have any difficulties in America?***

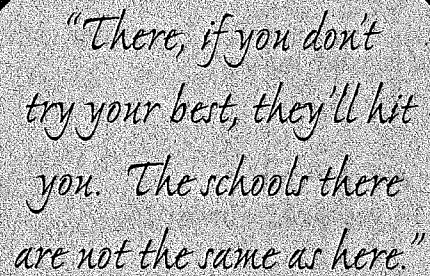
No, I don't have any.

***What do you think about inter-racial dating?***

I don't know.

***What is your view about getting married at a young age?***

I think it's not good because you don't know how to live on your own.



*"There, if you don't try your best, they'll hit you. The schools there are not the same as here."*

***What do you think about kids in America?***

I think they don't know how to speak Hmong as well as we do. Some can talk like us, but they are smarter.

***How do you think the stores in America compare to the stores in Thailand?***

I like the ones in Thailand better.

***Why?***

They have their own differences. There, items were just right, so we could go buy them which made shopping easier.

***How does the weather in Thailand compare to the weather in Wausau?***

The weather in America is better because over there it's very hot. That's why it's not as good.

***Were you happy when you first saw snow?***

Yes, I was happy.

***What do you think about the style of clothing in America compared to the style of clothing in Thailand?***

The clothes here are good, but I like the ones there more.

***Would you go back to Thailand if you could?***

Yes, I would.

***Why do you want to go back and live there?***

I was raised there and my home was there. You don't really want to live here if the food here is not the same as over there. Also, you miss your friends because you are so far apart.

***What food do you think is better?***

The food over there is better.