

Introduction to Indian English

Listening Transcript

Uh...I was born in Delhi in 1984 and then my father was transferred to Calcutta – in 1994, so I left Delhi when I was ten years old and then I spent uh most of my time in Calcutta – my schooling, and also my graduation. And for my post-graduation when I decided to come back to Delhi, I found out that Delhi has changed a lot. Anyway, I was a ten-year old kid, so I didn't remember most of Delhi anyway. Uh...but I could make out that the city has progressed a lot and ...uh... but what really bugs me these days is that people whoever sees me here, the first question they tell me is which city do you like better? Calcutta or Delhi? And as I have come to realise over the last one and a half years, it's very difficult to make a very clear-cut choice and distinction between the cities. uh... Delhi was the city I was born in uh and I am here right now. I've great friends, and a good University and everything is just good. But Calcutta was the place I grew up, and especially for a boy, who's eleven-twelve years old, right up to his graduation: that is the point where he enjoys his studies, his friends a lot. And so when I first came to Delhi, I used to miss Calcutta a lot. Uh... but then I realised that what I was doing was I was shutting myself off from the environment of Delhi itself and then I decided to uh open up and visit other places and make new friends and tried to begin the old activities which I did in Calcutta uh... And now I've, I am seeing that Delhi is a very nice place itself. But still that doesn't go very well to make a choice between Calcutta and Delhi and this is a question that uh these days I am turning around to other people who've come from Calcutta or from people from Delhi who are settled in Calcutta. And uh I really find that everybody is in the same situation. Nobody can make uh a clear choice about uh his or her city.

Arijit (male), 22-years-old