Christina Giobauta (CG) and Selwyn Takana (ST) talk about their schooling in the Solomon Islands. Text collected on 22nd March, 2010 at the University of Waikato, New Zealand by Daryl Macdonald.

ST
Ohodeing kwou Tina.
morning IMP.2DU Tina
N PRO N
Morning to you Tina.

CG
Ohodeing Selwyn.
morning Selwyn
N N
Morning Selwyn.

ST
Na ru goq keiseiq qaok-o tiqtiq qaok huat i heiq, qaok
DEF thing and so when 2SG -VH be small 2SG be born where 2SG
ART N CONJ ADV PRO Va PRO Vi INT PRO

huat i Honiara nam qaok huat i hanoa i
be born PLACE place name or 2SG be born LOC village PLACE
Vi ART N CONJ PRO Vi MARKER N ART

Malqiat?
place name
N
Well, when you were small, where were you born, in Honiara or in the village in Malaita?

CG
Nauk huat i Honiara.
1SG be born PLACE place name
PRO Vi ART N
I was born in Honiara.

ST
Goq keiseiq qaok tiqtiq koul leak long sa oqla ki?
then when 2SG be small 2PL go also LOC garden PL
CONJ ADV PRO Va PRO Vi MOD MARKER N MARKER
Then, when you were small, did you also go to the gardens?

CG
Iyu keiseiq keil tiqtiq aos ki teghou keil
yes when 1PL.EXCL be small day PL all 1PL.EXCL
FORM ADV PRO Va N MARKER QUAN PRO
ka  leak sukul.
IMP  go  school
MARKER Vi  N
Yes, when we were small we went to school every day.

KWChildhood.007
CG
Sukul  sui  useil  meiq  keil  ka  donga  long
school  finish  return  towards  IPL.EXCL  IMP  follow  -OBJ.3  also
N  Vi  Vi  MOD  PRO  MARKER  Vt  -SUFF  MOD

tyaq  nau  sa  oqla.
mother  POSS.1SG.AL  LOC  garden
N  PRO  MARKER  N
After returning from school, we would also follow my mother to the
garden.

KWChildhood.008
CG
Ma  aeiyoq  mo,  keiseiq  qaok  tiqtiq  i  qaok  huat  i  heiq?
and  2SG  QUE  when  2SG  be  small  LOC  2SG  be  born  where
CONJ  PRO  MARKER  ADV  PRO  Va  MARKER  PRO  VI  PRO
And how about you, when you were small. Where were you born?

KWChildhood.009
ST
Nauk  huat  i  Honiara.
1SG  be  born  PLACE  place  name
PRO  VI  ART  N
I  was  born  in  Honiara.

KWChildhood.010
ST
Eiya,  wikend  ki  neq  keika  leak  sa  oqola.
okay  weekend  PL  SUB  IMP.1PL.EXCL  go  LOC  garden
DISC  N  MARKER  MARKER  PRO  VI  PREP  N
Okay,  it  was  in  the  weekends  when  we  used  to  go  to  the  garden.

KWChildhood.011
ST
Eiya,  oqola  ru  neq  nauk  teiq  eil  ein-i  neq  ei
okay  garden  thing  SUB  1SG  one  dislike  with  -OBJ.3  SUB  this  one
DISC  N  N  MARKER  PRO  NUM  VI  PREP  -SUFF  MARKER  PRO
Vi

ad  ohodeing,  ohodeing  ubein  ni  neq  ku  leak
be  awake  morning  morning  you  know  3SG  SUB  1PL.INCL  go
VI  N  N  DISC  PRO  MARKER  PRO  VI  DV

karis-i  hu  ka  isiel  ubein  nei  teiq  eil
grass  -VH  for  IMP  be  wet  you  know  FUT.1SG  one  dislike
N  -SUFF  ADV  MARKER  Va  DISC  PRO  NUM  VI
Okay, with gardening, the one thing I dislike about it is that you get up early in the morning, in the morning, you know, it’s that we used to walk through the wet grass, you know, that’s the thing I dislike about going to the garden.

When we reached the garden it was alright.

What about you, were you willing to go to the garden?

Well, if you weren’t willing to do that, then you didn’t eat in the evening either.

Okay, then what about schooling?

NEG.3PL stay be together be about 1PL.EXCL IMP return LOC home
With schooling, because I was born in Honiara about 1980, and my mother and my father no longer lived together at that time, we went back home with my Mum and we stayed at home and I went to school there.

KWChildhood.017

CG

Nauk sukul stat naq an-a kindegaden kindegaden ka

1SG school start COMP to -VH kindergarten kindergarten IMP

PRO N Vt MARKER PREP -SUFF N N MARKER

Dao naq an klas siks sui nauk pas naq an

arrive COMP to grade six then 1SG pass (exams) COMP to

Vi MARKER PREP N NUM CONJ PRO Vi MARKER PREP

I started school at kindergarten and went from kindergarten to year six and then I passed my exams and went to Selwyn College, and then I returned home again, there to Honiara.

KWChildhood.018

CG

Ei aeiyoq mo?

okay 2SG QUE

DISC PRO MARKER

Well, how about you?

KWChildhood.019

ST

Nouwaq nauk tigtiq ku leak sukul i Weitria stat naq an

1SG 1SG be small 1SG go school PLACE White River start COMP to

PRO PRO Va PRO Vi N ART N Vt MARKER PREP

Klas wan ka dao naq an klas siks

grade one IMP arrive COMP to grade six

N NUM MARKER Vi MARKER PREP N NUM

Nauk leak naq an Honiara sekondri naq ku leak naq

1SG go COMP to place name Secondary School COMP 1SG go COMP

PRO Vi MARKER PREP N N MARKER PRO Vi MARKER
When I was just small, I went to school at White River, started in grade one and reached grade six, then I went to Honiara Secondary School, then I went to Malaita and did form four and five, returning to Tenaru for form six.