

Cambodian School Project Progress Report, Autumn 2023

We asked Thieng Pol, assistant at JHP, to interview the students, and we sent the following suggested questions: How far away do you live? How often do you see your family? What is the hardest thing to learn? What do you like to cook for the other JHP students? What job do you want to get? What makes you laugh? Have you made friends here?

The questions were asked and answered in English, and Thieng videoed the exchange. Our JHP students looked very serious, as if it were an exam. Here are some of their answers. Thieng also interviewed Sokna Uk, the computer teacher.

My name is Tra Khmao. I live 70k from JHP and I see my family 4 times a year. Everyone is very friendly, and I have new friends. It is a good school and good students. I am learning English, computers, and how to grow vegetables. The hardest thing is--I don't understand when the teacher speaks English, and it is difficult to speak English with the teacher and students, and it is difficult to practice English. When I graduate from JHP I want to be an English teacher. I like singing with my friends, reading books and finding new vocabulary in the dictionary.



My name is Tin Toeun. I live 30K from JHP and see my family 3-4 times a year. I've made lots of friends; everyone is very friendly, and we study together every day. I am learning English, computer skills, morality in life, and the teachers find a job for us after JHP. Speaking English is the hardest thing because we students speak Khmer all the time and it is hard to find someone who speaks English to practice with. When I'm cooking for JHP students I like to cook soup, fried egg, meat, and salad. What makes me laugh: when my friends speak a joke. I like volleyball and football. I want to become a receptionist because I want to improve my English language.

My name is Sokunthea Dou. I live 10k from JHP and see my family 4 times a year. I am learning administration skills, English grammar, and reading and conversation. And I am learning to type and use Word and Excel and Powerpoint, and I'm learning how to grow and cook vegetables. At the start I had a hard time typing on the computer and listening and speaking English. I like to cook soup, rice, and fresh chicken. I laugh when my teachers say funny things, and my friends like to make fun of each other. I hope to be a teacher.





My name is Panha Mey. I live 250K from JHP and I see my family 3 times a year. We have good teachers at JHP, and we don't have to pay to be at school, and the teachers find us jobs. Learning to speak English is the hardest thing. I laugh when we try to learn English with friends and when we have a good party. I like cooking Khmer food like rice, pork, beef, and vegetables. I want to get a job as a designer.

My name is Narng Kluy. I live 30k from JHP and I see my family 3 or 4 times a year. I have ten friends here and they are so friendly. The hardest thing is speaking English. I can speak a bit but it is hard; I want to study to speak English well. I like to cook Khmer food. I want to get a job as a receptionist so I can improve my English. What makes me laugh is when my friends say funny.



I am Sokna Uk the JHP computer teacher. I teach typing skills—English typing and Khmer typing—so the students can type a document. I teach word processing, Excel, PowerPoint, and how to use the internet and email. When the students understand these skills, I teach them graphic design and photoshop. I learned computer skills in Siem Reap from 2002 - 2006 and then in 2014 I studied computers at the University in Siem Reap. What would help me teach is if we had computers with more speed because some skills need higher speed, such as graphic design.

Our students at JHP work hard: they get up early, do homework, then attend classes. Afterward there is daily gardening, cooking, and general chores. When we watched the interview videos what really came through is how determined each student is to finish school and get a good job. Their lives will be forever improved through their hard work and your generous support. *Aukuhn sharahn.*