“Do Animals Have Accents?”

Transcribed by: Martin Porcheron <porcheron@acm.org>
Fragment: S2.G5.F17
Length of fragment: 1 min 30 secs

Recorded in a neighbourhood café in a park as the friends are socialising. They have been asked to use the conversational agents on their mobile devices instead of typing, where appropriate (i.e. if they wish to use type for personal matters, that is fine).


The group are seated around a rectangular table in the following order: the Researcher, Gary, Karl, Lilly, and Antonius. Names are anonymised, and words spoken to the conversational agent on the device are in bold, words spoken by conversational agents are in italics.

#01:08:54-0#

01 G ((points at A))
02 G how do you do (..) a fro:g (0.5) in (0.3) Austria
03 L ((incomprehensible))
04 K I know::: (0.3) the question [ is do (0.5)=
05 L sound actually sound ]
06 A er:::m probably (0.9) so there's the written thing
07 K =do cats acth- (0.5) can ] you work out [ whether it's
08 L you find in children's (0.5) children's book (0.3)
09 is::: books: is: (.) vwrak
10 G quack!
11 A vwrak vwrak
12 G like a duck?
13 A vwrak vwrak
14 K reminds me of the bit (. ) from Family Guy
15 L ((picks up mobile from table, leans back, taps screen))
16 G ((begins to point towards A)) [ oh with the o::: ]
17 A [ no wait ducks! ]
18 G we say it with an (.) o::=
19 A =no way=
20 G =we say oack
21 A weren’t- (.) we’re talking frogs here?
22 G yep=
23 R =yeah! (.) frogs
24 (2.7)
25 A I (.) can’t: (.) un(.)rivet it (0.6) ts (0.4) so now K =but it it’s European (0.5) he’s like listen to this shit!
26 [ whenever I think of (0.4) whenever I think of ] (and it goes) the Cow says das moo:::
27 [ frog::s ] ((laughs))
28 G [ (((duck noises))]
29 [ I can ] do it by mou::
30 G [ (((duck noises for 1.6))]
31 A [ I::: think I think of rivet rivet ]
32 G (((duck noises for 3.2))
33 A °so wwa::
34 35 G (((duck noises)) like that!
36 [ (((duck noises))]
37 R [ is that the way you’d write it in the ] K =w-where are we? and they’re staying the field and
38 [ looks though? ]
39 G (((ducks noises)) we’d say (0.4) o:::
40 a:: [ c: ] hoack K =a cow next to them and (the cow goes)=
41 A =I feel” ]
42 A I feel like (1.1) I feel like I should go back (.) K =well we’re somewhere in Europe
43 home:: (((laughs)))
44 A ((while laughing::)) fresh: (.) en up my En-
45 [ (((laughs))] K/L ((both laugh))
46 G [ Austrian! ((gestures quotes with fingers))]
47 R frog: language K ((glances at G))
48 G frog language [ ye:fs: ]
49 A [ Tyeeah! ]
50 G [ (((duck noises))]
51 A I’ve forgotten what its- [ I’ve forgotten L er:::
52 A Lemer:::m::
53 A what they do! ]
54 K [ Are we talking about the
frogs the language of the small green happy things.

L [ ((lifts phone up to mouth)) ]
R [ he can’t remember ][ frogs sound like in Austrian? ]
L [ do animals have accents? ]
G (0.3)
A cud (. ducks and (. and [ frogs I think have the same sound ]
G [ yes they do actually I think I have read something ]
L I think I have too ]
G [ yeas! ] [ (0.6) cows! I- I ] read about cows that they have different accents around the world
L I thought you said cars
G calves maybe as well (. who knows=)
L =DO: ANIMALS HAVE ACCENTS?
(1.4)
G (duck noises))
(0.9)
L "rubbish"°
R ( )
K [ parrots ] presumably do=
L can you ask it? ((holds phone out in front of K’s face))
R ((retrieves phone from pocket))
K DO: ANIMALS HAVE ACCENTS?
(2.4)
L no!!
R sorry I’m- ((home button pressed))
(while looking at phone screen) do animals have accents?
(2.0)

K (                )
L do: animals [ have accents? ]
R [ ok I’ve found this ] on the web

((sigh))
G do [ they? ]
L [ ah! (.) ] It’s working now!
R (( touches top search result on device screen ))