

# APPENDIX A Write an Autobiography

Directions: The questions below will assist you in writing your autobiography essay. The following question will act as a guidance to help you recall your memories and provide a comprehensive picture of your experiences and contacts with people from various cultures and languages, as well as the memories of what you had to know, learn, or need to prepare yourself for before coming to live and study in Thailand. Write the essay on a separate sheet of paper, and try to be as detailed as possible.

- 1. Provide an introduction about yourself and describe your place of birth. (Who are you? Where were you born in Cambodia? What is it like? If you can recommend a few things about your province, what will you recommend? Which high school did you graduate from?)
- 2. Describe your motivation for coming to study abroad. (What is your current major, and what was (or is) your motivation to pursue this major? Why did you choose Thailand as your educational destination? What were your family members' opinions about your decision to study in another country? Explain your answers in detail.)
- 3. Describe your previous language ability and education before you come to Thailand. (How many languages can you speak? How did you learn those languages? Did you study with native or non-native English speakers? Have you encountered any challenges when learning the language(s)? Why did you choose to study the mentioned language(s)?)
- 4. Describe your previous experience(s) with people from other countries. (Who do you know of or have interacted with who is from another country or is now living in another country? What is your relationship with them? Do you frequently interact with or meet people from diverse cultures and languages before coming to Thailand? Did you have any difficulties when interacting with or participating in different activities with them?)
- 5. Describe your experience(s) participating in events, programs, conferences, or any other gatherings that involved people from different countries. (When you were in high school, were you able to participate in events or programs (volunteer, exchange, etc.) involving individuals of various cultures

- and languages? What were those events, what was the event or program about, and what were the reasons for your participation?)
- 6. Describe yourself in terms of your knowledge, attitudes, and perceptions of Thailand, Thai people, as well as people from other countries. (Based on your previous experiences, how do you see yourself in terms of your attitudes toward individuals of different cultures and languages? Did your experiences meeting or encountering individuals from different cultures and languages, as well as your understanding of Thailand, help prepare you to live and study in Thailand? How did it help you? What were your expectations and concerns before coming to Thailand? What did you do to prepare for living and studying in Thailand? Other than Thailand, what other knowledge do you have of other countries that you know of?)
- 7. Describe your experiences and thoughts about Thailand so far. (When did you arrive? What did you think of your new surroundings? Did you find it difficult to adjust? What did you find difficult to adjust to, and how did you overcome it? What have you done, and where have you been to, so far in Thailand? What were the most shocking discoveries you made in Thailand?)
- 8. Describe your thoughts and current experience(s) as a student at SUT. (What are some of the challenges you encountered? How did you overcome them? What have you done since your arrival? Have you made any friends here? Are they from the same country as you or from a different one? What did you discover or find intriguing about them? How did you adjust to the new environment in which you not only lived but also learned?)
- 9. Describe your current self after you've come to Thailand. (What has changed about you since you arrived in Thailand, as opposed to Cambodia? If so, how did you change? Do you believe you interacted with and participated in events or gatherings with people from other nations more than you did in Thailand, or is it the opposite? And why do you think that way? Do you believe you have grown more confident and at ease surrounding yourself and interacting with people from different countries?)

### APPENDIX B

## Guiding Questions for the In-depth Interview

# Section 1. Intercultural Experiences and Knowledge of 'Others' before coming Thailand

- 1. From your previous experiences regarding learning a foreign language (or foreign languages) with foreign teachers, what/who motivated you to learn the language?
- 2. Other than having experience(s) learning with a foreign teacher (foreign teachers), what other experiences have you had that involve you traveling to another nation or meeting foreign people in Cambodia?
  - Where did you go to?
  - What was the purpose of your travel?
  - If the purpose of travel was exchange programs or short-term scholarship...
    - What did you think of that experience? What did you do when you were there? What did you find challenging? How did you overcome them?
- 3. Have you ever done any volunteering work before? What organization was it that you volunteered (or which event did you volunteer for), and what did you have to do?
- 4. Do you think your experiences with foreign individuals before you came to Thailand were enough to prepare you for living in Thailand and studying in EME curricula? How did it help you?

### Section 2. Perceptions before coming to, and after arriving in Thailand

- 5. What was your perception of Thailand before you came to study?
- 6. What knowledge do you have about Thailand, as well as other countries that you know of, before coming to study?
- 7. How long has it been since you have arrived in Thailand?
  - Other than Korat, are there any other provinces in Thailand that you have been to? Where else have you been to?
- 8. What are the differences in lifestyles, or perhaps cultures or languages, between Thailand and Cambodia?
  - What are the things that you found similar?
  - What are the things that you found different?

# Section 3. Studying in EME curriculums (inside the classroom setting)

- 9. Tell me about yourself and your university life at the moment.
  - Why did you choose this major?
  - Why did you choose this university as your educational institution?
  - Are you an introvert or an extrovert? Why do you think that you are an introvert/extrovert?
- 10. What language do you mostly use these days?
- 11. Tell me about your classmates.
  - Where are they from?
  - What do you think about being in a class with students from different cultures and languages altogether in one room?
  - Do you think that it is easy or difficult for you to approach other international students? How come?
  - What are some of the difficulties you've faced in approaching or being with other international students? How did you overcome them?

## Section 4. Studying in EME curriculums (outside the classroom setting)

- 12. What do you normally do after class?
  - Do you have any extracurricular activities that you do after class? Could you share those activities?
- 13. Aside from classwork and class activities, are there any other programs, events, or activities that include you being and engaging with locals or people from other countries, or traveling to another country for any programs while you're here? Could you please elaborate?
- 14. Do you think you have become even more comfortable surrounding yourselves with people from different cultures and languages, and you can easily approach them anytime and anywhere? Can you give me an example?
- 15. In your opinion, what does one need to do in order to be able to approach any community at one's will?