

EPISODE 3 “SURFING AND SCRATCHING”

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CHARACTERS

ANNOUNCER Male Adult

ZAPCOM A 23-year-old computer geek, by village standards.

GEORGE 20 years old. Waits tables at his Uncle Kilu’s restaurant.

MUMBI 22 years old, Zapcom’s cousin and social worker. Female.

ISP TECHY 28 year old ISP technician

UNCLE KILU 55 years old. George’s uncle, owner of KULA TU FOODS.

OMWA 19 years old and jobless. Female.

YOUNG MAN 19-year-old internet enthusiast

INTRO

1. MUSIC: THEME MUSIC

2. ANNOUNCER HELLO AND WELCOME TO ANOTHER EPISODE OF THE ‘LEARNING BY EAR’ SERIES ABOUT NEW MEDIA. THIS IS EPISODE 3, ENTITLED ‘SURFING AND SCRATCHING.’

IN THE LAST EPISODE, ZAPCOM GOT HIS FIRST COMPUTER FOR HIS INTERNET CAFÉ. UNCLE KILU GOT MORE CURIOUS WHEN HE REALISED HE CAN MAKE MORE MONEY BY PARTICIPATING IN THE INTERNET CAFÉ BUSINESS. HE AND THE YOUNG PEOPLE ARE NOW IN BUSINESS PARTNERSHIP. WILL THIS MEETING OF THE OLD AND THE NEW SURVIVE THE DIFFICULTIES OF NEW BUSINESS START UPS? LISTEN ON...

SCENE 1: KULA TU FOODS

- 3. A-SFX: NORMAL MURMURING IN A RESTAURANT ON A SLOW DAY.**
- 4. UNCLE KILU (LOUD WHISPHER)** Tell me again, where are these people who have come to our restaurant from?
- 5. ZAPCOM (DISTRACTED)** ISP
- 6. UNCLE KILU** What is Iespee? Where is that?
- 7. GEORGE** It stands for Internet Service Provider. It is the company that offers its customers access to the internet. They use data transmission technology to ensure we can access information and communicate world wide.
- 8. UNCLE KILU (DAZZLED AND AMUSED).** Allalllalala, the world is visiting me, me Kilu, right here.

- 9. ISP TECHY** (**BIG SIGH OF RELIEF**) OK. Done. You are set (**COMPUTER KEY BOARD TAPPING**). You and your customers are officially global. You now have the capability to interact with anyone in the world through text, images, video, and audio.
- 10. ZAPCOM** Can our customers access gmail, yahoo and hotmail, browsers and search engines?
- 11. ANNOUNCER** THE VOCABULARY OF THE NEW MEDIA IS SLOWLY BECOMING NORMAL LANGUAGE FOR THIS GROUP. THE TECHNICIANS WALK THEM THROUGH THE CAPABILITY OF THEIR INTERNET CONNECTION. THEY ARE AMAZED AT THE AMOUNT OF INFORMATION THAT IS AVAILABLE. UNCLE KILU IS DAZZLED.
- 12. ISP TECHY** Ah, Sir (**REFERING TO UNCLE KILU**) What country would you like to visit?
- 13. UNCLE KILU** (**EXCITED**) South Africa, the land of that great man, Mandela. (**WITH IRONY**) Why, you want to take me there?

- 14. ISP TECHY** George, how about taking your Uncle to South Africa, here and now. Go to Google, or Yahoo, or any of the search engines and type in “South Africa” (**QUICK TAPPING OF KEYS**)
- 15. GEORGE** (**TYPING CONTINUES**) Uncle, I have always wanted to take you on holiday. So, how about now... voila! There are so many websites... over 20,000.
- 16. ZAPCOM** It means the name South Africa appears in many websites. Just choose any of the first websites.
- 17. UNCLE KILU** Are we camping?
- 18. ZABCOM** Website not campsite! It’s like opening a huge electronic book. Only with this one, you first say what you are looking for, then it gives you addresses to the many places where you could find what you are looking for. This means South Africa is mentioned in each one of these websites.
- 19. GEORGE** Uncle! There are many roads that lead to SA, let’s go meet Mandela..

20. B-SFX: CHAIR PULLED LOUDLY. HEAVY BODY SITS AND SIGHS. PALMS RUBBING.

21. UNCLE KILU Let’s go!

22. ANNOUNCER. IT IS AN EXCITING TIME FOR THE TEAM AS THEY VISIT MANY PLACES. COMING FROM AN ORDINARY VILLAGE TOWN, THEY HAVE BECOME VIRTUAL TOURISTS. SOON, THEY WILL REALISE THAT THE INTERNET IS NOT ONLY FOR ENTERTAINMENT, IT IS A MAJOR SOURCE OF INFORMATION AND EDUCATION.

SCENE TWO: KULA FOODS RESTRAURANT, END OF WORKDAY

23. C-SFX: LOUD NOISES OF PEOPLE EATING AND TYPING OF KEYBOARDS.

24. MUMBI (IMPATIENT) Hurry up, Omwa.

25. OMWA It is not my fault that I cannot type faster! You know I never had money to go to a typing school.

- 26. MUMBI** (ANGRY) That’s your problem, always making excuses! Go on, search for ‘touch typing programmes’ in the internet, NOW, and start practising. If everyone typed like you, our business will fail within weeks.
- 27. OMWA** (EXCITED) You mean I can get typing classes right here on the internet?
- 28. MUMBI** (LOSING PATIENCE) How will you know if you do not take the initiative to search and surf?... Make it quick, I need to look for funding for my women groups.
- 29. OMWA** (AMAZED) You can find that too?
- 30. MUMBI** (EXASPERATED) You have so much to learn! Get off the computer, I need to surf!
- 31. ZAPCOM** Hey, you two, I need to check on the new courses in that school I went to in the city. Are you done?
- 32. D-SFX: APPROACHING QUICK FOOTSTEPS. PANTING.**
- 33. YOUNG MAN** (OUT OF BREATH). Ha... it is true then, you have internet here. Quick, I need to check out the European football results... a big match has just ended...How much do I pay?

34. ANNOUNCER THEY MAY HAVE JUST BEGAN THEIR BUSINESS BUT IT IS ALREADY BECOMING QUITE POPULAR. THEY MAY HAVE TO THINK CREATIVELY ON HOW TO EXPAND IT.

MUSIC: BRIDGE MUSIC

35. UNCLE KILU (UNUSUALLY CALM) Zapu.... Young man, what is wrong? You have been sitting here holding your jaw like you have the problems of a man my age.

36. ZAPCOM It's the internet connection. It's slow and then, we have too many people coming in. I don't know what to do.

37. UNCLE KILU (SOUNDING WISE) I know just what you need. **(PAUSE)**, goat soup! I will go get you some, it will help ... you know... with the brain.

38. SFX: FOOT STEPS

39. E-SFX: MOBILE PHONE RINGS

40. ZAPCOM Hallo cousin Mumbi. I hope you are having a better day than me.

- 41. MUMBI (VO) (ON PHONE)** Is any computer free, I want to come over and surf?
- 42. ZAPCOM (FLASTERED)** Don't even ask.
- 43. MUMBI (VO)** Well, I thought I should call first instead of walking there and getting disappointed.
- 44. ZAPCOM (EXCITED)** That's it!... Thank you so much.
- 45. MUMBI (VO) (SURPRISED)** For what, Zapcom?
- 46. F-SFX: PANTING, HOBBLING AND CLATTER OF CROCKERY**
- 47. ZAPCOM (EXCITED)** For using your phone!
- 48. UNCLE KILU** Excited already...?
- 49. ZAPCOM (EXCITED, ADDRESSING UNCLE KILU)** I know what I have to do.... **(TO MUMBI)** Go ahead, come over immediately, but make sure you bring your mobile with you.
- 50. UNCLE KILU (SULKY)** I guess you will not be needing this goat soup.
- 51. ZAPCOM** Uncle? Leave that soup right here!

52. ANNOUNCER ZAPCOM IS SOON REALISING THAT THE USE OF NEW MEDIA AND THE INTERNET MEANS BEING ON YOUR TOES AT ALL TIMES. YOU START OFF WITH ONE GOOD IDEA, IT CATCHES ON LIKE WILD FIRE AND THEN PEOPLE WANT MORE. FORTUNATELY, THE NEW AGE MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES AND POSSIBILITIES ARE VAST FOR ONE WHO IS WILLING TO LEARN AND BE CHALLENGED.

MUSIC: BRIDGE MUSIC

SCENE THREE: KULA TU FOODS

53. G-SFX: CASH BOX OPENS AND CLOSES. HUM OF BUSY BUSINESS. CLATTER OF CROCKERY AND KEYBOARD TYPING.

54. YOUNG MAN George, can I have a 500 shillings scratch card?

55. UNCLE KILU George, some new customers have just walked in, go take their order.

56. YOUNGMAN The scratch cards George, I can't wait forever, I need to make some phone calls and check my mail on the phone!

- 57. UNCLE KILU** (**SHOUTING**) The customers, George....
Today.... Now...
- 58. GEORGE** Yes, yes, Uncle (**SHOUTING TOWARDS THE CUSTOMERS**). I am coming... I am coming to take your orders!
- 59. YOUNG MAN** (**TO GEORGE**) Speed man, speed!
- 60. GEORGE** Here, here.....(**RUSTLE OF PACKAGING**)
- 61. UNCLE KILU** Anyway, tell me again what these cards are. I see you sell them and your customers scratch them like chickens looking for grains in the sand.
- 62. GEORGE** (**CHUCKLES**). It's air time Uncle. We can either be post paid which means having a contract with the mobile company or we can buy these (PAUSE). They work best for us. Now that we have helped them set up internet on their mobile phones, it is good business to sell the cards here as well.
- 63. UNCLE KILU** You mean these small phones are also computers?

- 64. GEORGE** Well... yes... well.... Internet connection is not just for computers... The same technology of connectivity works on many phones as well.
- 65. UNCLE KILU (MUMURING AND WALKING AWAY)**
Computers and connections, surfing and scratching and buying air time, which God gave us free. What next?
- 66. GEORGE (BEMUSED)** Uncle, I think you have been eating Zapcom’s goat soup.
- 67. UNCLE KILU** So... anyone who has a phone in this town can come here and buy scratch cards?
- 68. GEORGE** Yes, they can.
- 69. UNCLE KILU (SHOUTING OVER THE NOISE AND HUM)**
Everybody... listen, I have news for you.
(EXAGGERATED TONE) From now henceforth, when you come to Kula Tu Foods, we will fill your stomach and fill your phone...
- 70. H-SFX: LOUD LAUGHTER**

71. ANNOUNCER INDEED UNCLE KILU HAS NOW BECOME A SALESMAN FOR THE BUSINESS. HE CONTINUES TO DISCOVER WAYS OF EXPANDING HIS BUSINESS USING NEW MEDIA AND BY WORKING WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE. THE ONCE FLAGGING BUSINESS HAS NOW PICKED UP.

MUSIC: BRIDGE MUSIC

SCENE FOUR; UNCLE KILU’S HOME.

72. UNCLE KILU I thought we should take time away from the busy restaurant and have a talk here at my home. It is difficult to even think straight at Kula Tu Foods. My son, Zapu, you have been looking very tired lately...

73. ZAPCOM It’s the long hours of work...

74. UNCLE KILU I am also getting very tired, cooking nearly 24 hours a day...we need more people if we are to continue working day and night. Son, you know, many hands make light work.

75. ZAPCOM You are right, uncle.

- 76. UNCLE KILU** Tell me, is this internet and mobile phone business something that will come and go? You know, like fashion?
- 77. ZAPCOM** **(WITH ENTHUSIASM)** Oooh no, it is the opposite. Adopting new technology is the only way to go. The world is moving and we cannot be left behind. The only way is forward. Wait till you see what happens when they bring in the fibre optic technology.
- 78. UNCLE KILU** Fibre who?

MUSIC: THEME MUSIC

79. OUTRO

80. ANNOUNCER THERE IS NO END TO LEARNING FOR THE REBRANDED UNCLE KILU. JUST WHEN HE THOUGHT HE WAS CATCHING UP, THERE IS MORE TO LEARN. INDEED, BUSINESSES AND MINDS THAT EMBRACE THE NEW AGE MEDIA AND INTERNET NEVER REST. IT GROWS ALL THE TIME. WHAT MORE IS IN STOCK FOR HIM AND HIS BUSINESS PARTNERS?

TUNE IN TO OUR NEXT EPISODE AND FIND OUT. YOU CAN ALSO VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT www.dw-world.de/lbe FOR MORE INFORMATION ON LEARNING BY EAR PROGRAMMES. DON'T FORGET TO SEND US YOUR COMMENTS AS WELL.

UNTIL NEXT TIME – GOOD BYE.