
Jean-Pierre ROSSIE and Boubaker DAOUMANI

VIDEO 3 – DOLL PLAY IN SIDI IFNI, 10.02.2002

Sidi Ifni, Morocco, 10.02.2002, 39 minutes of play activities
Followed by 6 minutes interview with the players by Boubaker Daoumani, interview continued on mini-audiocassette.
Written parental authorization given by the father of Awatif and Jalila.
Video recording Jean-Pierre Rossie.
Video Panasonic R55 VHS

Players

Awatif Atbib, girl, 7 years 4 months, born in Sidi Ifni, primary school, speaks Moroccan Arabic at home.
Jalila Atbib, girl, 9 years 3 months, born in Sidi Ifni, sister of Awatif, primary school, speaks Moroccan Arabic at home.
Malika, girl, 9 years, primary school, born in the village Tioughza (Sidi Ifni), friend of the other two players, speaks Tashelhit at home and also Moroccan Arabic.

Language and dialogues

The players use local Moroccan Arabic.
Dialogues recorded on the video and on a separate mini-cassette.
Translation of dialogues first in French by B. Daoumani and JP. Rossie (available in manuscript).
Translation of French into English by JP. Rossie.

Place of action:
Small rural city Sidi Ifni, Atlantic coast, Southern Morocco, on the flat roof serving as terrace of the hotel-restaurant Suerte Loca, owned and run by Awatif’s and Jalila’s mother’s family, located near the seashore and a camping with several mobile homes.

Play material

Several Barbie dolls Awatif and Jalila received from family members living in France and from a few regular hotel clients, a baby-like doll, a few very small figurines, some teddies, soft or plastic animals.
Toy beauty-set, toy utensils, toy telephones, set of imitation Euro banknotes, music toys.
Small chairs, tables and armchairs of the hotel, wooden frames to put cushions on.

Family situation

Mother of Awatif and Jalila, about 40 years, comes from an Arabic-speaking village near Sidi Ifni, sixth year of secondary school, housewife, speaks Moroccan Arabic and French.
Father of Awatif and Jalila, about 45 years, born in Mesti in the Sidi Ifni region, seventh year of technical secondary school, speaks Tashelhit, Moroccan Arabic and French, employee of Maroc Telecom.

The parents of Malika are illiterate.

Middle class family (Awatif and Jalila). TV with satellite antenna, Awatif and Jalila go to an Internet shop to play games and have a computer at home used especially to make designs. They come into contact with tourists on a daily basis.

Popular class family (Malika).

Scenes and dialogues

Jalila, 9 years, dressed with a whit T-shirt and jeans.
Awatif, 6 years, wears jeans and a headband in her hair.
Malika, 9 years, wears a long skirt above knitted pants and her hear in a pigtal.

0. View of the environment and play area with the players
1. Malika arranges the 'utensils' on the small chair serving as kitchen.
   Jalila arranges the dolls in one place.
   Awatif gives two Barbie dolls and a soft doll to Jalila.
2. Jalila takes the lower part of a moving Barbie with the motor and does as if she drinks.
   Awatif manipulates a few dolls and then she combs the hair of a doll.
   Malika continues to arrange the kitchen and takes some beauty-set objects.
3. Malika takes a mirror.
   Awatif continues to comb the doll's hair.
   Dialogue 1: Awatif says "I shall comb her hair kindly".
   Jalila takes the toy phone, makes it ring but doesn't talk.
4. Malika says something about a doll to Jalila, she takes a lady's handbag and puts it near Jalila.
   Dialogue 2: Malika says to Jalila "Where are this doll's earrings?"
   Dialogue 3: Malika says "No, these are not the earrings I said".
   Jalila puts the phone on the ground and takes the handbag Malika putted near her.
   Dialogue 4: Malika tells Jalila "Put them in the sac and then I shall show you, OK".
   Awatif takes the elastic out off her hair.
5. Awatif tries to put the elastic in the doll's hair but as she cannot do this she asks her older sister to help her.
   Dialogue 5: Awatif says "Who wants to put an elastic in this doll's hair?"
   Malika takes a toy cooker, puts it on the kitchen table and stirs in it with a plastic spoon.
   Dialogue 6: Malika says "Where are the cups, I didn't see them".
   Jalila opens the bag, takes the doll from her sister and puts the elastic in the doll's hair while looking at Malika and replying
   Dialogue 7: "There are no cups".
6. Jalila finds this doll not suited to put an elastic in the hair and takes a humanized animal with long hair and a long tail (like my little pony). She starts to put the elastic in the horse's hair.
   Awatif looks at her sister and makes the girls laugh by saying something about Jean-Pierre.
   Dialogue 8: "Just like the one who makes the program, like Jean-Pierre, Jean-Pierre, Jean-Pierre".
   Jalila replies "you must do as if the camera isn't there".
   Malika continues to stir in the cooker, says something and then takes a bundle of toy keys.
7. Awatif takes a musical box, winds it up and plays the music.
   Malika makes some noise with the keys, takes the handbag, looks in it and puts something inside.
   Jalila continues trying to put the elastic in the horse's hair.
   Dialogue 9: Malika says "Give me the dolls".
8. Jalila removes the elastic and starts again. Now it works.
   Awatif takes something and talks to the girls.
Malika takes a textile bag.

9. Awatif asks the keys who are around Malika's wrist. She stands up, puts her slippers on and walks outside the home area. From there she stands watching for a moment while turning around the handbag.

Dialogue 10: Malika tells Awatif "Go to the market to do errands".
Malika gives the keys to Awatif.
Jalila manipulates two dolls and a teddy, looks at Malika, takes things out of the small textile bag Malika putted on the ground.

Dialogue 11: Malika says to Jalila "No, it isn't there where they sleep".

10. Awatif comes back, takes of her slippers and enters the 'room', looks at the other girls.
Malika and Jalila look at some objects that represent the jewels and talk about these.

11. Malika found what she wants, namely earrings she tries to put in her ears.
Malika continues trying to put the earrings in her ears. Then she talks to Jalila.

Dialogue 12: "Let me use these earrings, my ears are pierced".
Awatif puts the handbag and the keys under the chair serving as kitchen. She starts the motor in the detached lower part of the moving Barbie doll with a Hawaiian dress and raï music from Cheb Khaled is played (3').

12. Awatif takes the telephone but puts it immediately back on the ground.
Jalila puts a first earring in Malika's ear.

13. Awatif makes a cup fall down from the kitchen table. She takes the telephone and pushes a button and puts the telephone back on the ground. Then she lifts the little cup from the ground and lays it back on the table.
Jalila puts the second earring in Malika's ear.

14. Malika takes the handbag and the keys from under the chair serving as kitchen table.

Dialogue 13: Malika says to Awatif "No, no, go now to make the errands and only come back when we say you to do so".
Jalila takes the telephone and pushes the buttons.

Dialogue 14: Jalila says "Hallo, hallo, it's you who are asking for me a moment ago?"
Awatif takes the handbag, the keys and a second telephone. She stands up and puts her slippers on.

15. Jalila arranges the table, takes the textile bag and puts some small objects in it.
Malika stands up but stays on the carpet in the room. She talks over the telephone to Awatif.
Awatif responds to Malika over the telephone while walking around.

16. Malika stops phoning to Awatif. She turns around and an earring falls down.

17. Jalila lifts the earring from the ground.
Malika takes the earring from Jalila and tries to put it back in her ear.

18. Jalila takes two bags and puts them behind front part of a traditional tent standing on the terrace and used for the tourists.
Malika asks Jalila to help her with the earring and Jalila does it.

19. Jalila and Malika take something from the ground.

Dialogue 15: Malika says "Eh crazy girl, come here you, I shall speak to you, come".
Awatif enters the room and goes to the other two girls saying.

Dialogue 16: Awatif says "Hallo, hallo".
Then she walks out of the room (4'37")

20. Malika takes a telephone, hits the numbers (her way of handling the phone shows that Malika is less used to do this than Jalila and Awatif).

Dialogue 17: Malika says to Awatif "067176413, go, go further away".
Dialogue 18: "Did you bring with you the things I asked for?"
Awatif answers a few seconds later while walking around on the terrace and holding the handbag and the keys.

Dialogue 19: Awatif: "What shall I bring?"
   Malika: "You should bring a small tin can of tomatoes".
   Awatif: "What are you saying?"
   Malika: "A small tin can of tomatoes".
   Awatif: "I didn't hear you".
Malika: “A tin can of tomatoes and also a dirham of yeast”.
Awatif: “Oh” (said in a way that indicates it is too much).

Jalila is working in the room at the table.

21. Malika stops phoning, puts the telephone between her legs and puts back an earring that felt down from her ear.
   Jalila puts small objects in the small textile bag and then she helps Malika to put the earring in place but this is quickly broken off.

22. Jalila takes the earring and puts it in the bag that she closes with a string.
   Malika opens a box she holds in her hands.

23. Malika drops the box and takes a doll's dress. She shows it to Jalila.
   Jalila takes a Barbie doll, places it among the other dolls and takes another Barbie doll she quickly lays back.

24. Malika takes another Barbie doll and puts the dress on it.
   Jalila takes a dress for a small girl, shakes it out and then walks with it to her sister.
   *Dialogue 20*: Jalila says to Malika “Do you have a hairclip for me over there?”

25. Malika continues to dress the Barbie doll and walks to the upper left corner of the carpet.
   *Dialogue 21*: Malika answers “There it is”.
   Jawila walks back to the place where Malika is standing and takes a hairclip out of Malika's hair.

26. Malika pulls out the dress that is too big for a Barbie doll and drops it. Now she hangs the small textile bag over the doll's shoulder.
27. Jalila talks to Malika and comes back to the room where she takes off her slippers.
   Malika turns herself towards Jalila (6'45”).
28. Jalila points to something with stretched out arms and says "look".
   *Dialogue 22*: Jalila says to Malika “Give it to me”.
   She takes the dress dropped by Malika and then puts her slippers on.
   Malika continues trying to hang the small bag on the doll's shoulder.
   *Dialogue 23*: Malika says “Don't come Awatif, stay there a bit longer”.

29. Jalila takes another hairclip from Malika's hair but drops it.
   *Dialogue 24*: Jalila says "We will put on their clothes".
   Malika shows where it is while continuing to put the little bag over the doll's shoulder.

30. Malika hangs the small bag on the doll by putting the string over its head meanwhile she talks to this doll as if it is a child.
   *Dialogue 25*: Malika says to this child (doll) “You are going to school”. "These one's will stay at home". To one of the other girls she says "Come here to teach them".
   The school is represented by a wooden frame to put cushions on and used as a bench.

31. Malika walks with the child (doll) towards Jalila and says
   *Dialogue 26*: “Go take them to school, go, go!”
   Jalila answers “wait, wait, not yet”.

32. Jalila hangs a doll's dress with Malika's hairclip on a rope fixing the tent.
   Awatif stands near Jalila with her handbag, the keys and a telephone in her hands.
   *Dialogue 27*: Awatif tells Malika "You are going to answer the phone?"

33. Malika is putting dolls and teddies on her arm to bring them to school.
   *Dialogue 28*: Malika says each time she puts a child (doll) on her arms "You are going to school".
   Jalila looks at the things Awatif keeps in her hands and then she walks to the room.

34. Awatif is waiting near the room and imitates a ringing telephone "srr, srr". She wants to phone to her sister.
   *Dialogue 29*: Awatif says several times to Jalila "Hey, I am calling you".
   Jalila doesn't answer the phone call.

35. Awatif reacts by hitting with her foot Jalila's foot.
   Jalila now takes a telephone.
   *Dialogue 30*: Jalila to Awatif “hello, who is talking?”
36. Malika sits with some dolls and teddies on the bench. She takes a baby-like doll and puts a dress on it.

**Dialogue 31:** Awatif: "Hey, you see I didn't find tomatoes".
Jalila: "Yes, and what about the carrots?"
Awatif: "Carrots! I haven't brought them with me yet".
Jalila: "Hurry, the children are still in school. At the same time ask the teacher if they work well in class".

37. Jalila has a phone in her hand and talks to Malika:

**Dialogue 32:** Jalila: “Hello, look you did not take one of them with you, crazy one",
Malika: “What? Which one of them?”
Jalila: “Look she is at home”.
Malika: “The one who is so small?”
Jalila: “Yes”.
Malika: “This one is still small, that is why I didn't take her along”.
Jalila: “May God beware us (from this foolishness), bring her to the school for the little ones”.
Malika: “Bring her to me”.
Jalila: “Eh, eh! (a way to express refusal) I am preparing dinner. Send the one who is with you”.
Malika: “Go yourself”.

38. Malika continues to cloth the baby-like doll while talking to this doll.

**Dialogue 33:** “Put on your sweater your dirty one”.

Malika puts the doll back, takes it again and says

**Dialogue 34:** “She doesn't want to grow up, this one”.

39. Awatif brings the remaining dolls to the school and gives them to Malika. Then she goes to sit on the bench and looks how Malika dresses a doll.

40. Jalila is still in the room, puts on a small backpack and her slippers and walks to the school area.

Awatif leaves the school, walks towards her sister Jalila but is passing her while saying

**Dialogue 35:** Awatif: "What did you say about the missing carrots? I shall bring them".

41. Jalila arrives at the school area and sits down with a phone in her hand.

**Dialogue 36:** Jalila to Awatif “You know how many (children) did not arrive yet (in school)?”
Awatif: “That one, and that one, they should go to school, isn’t it? Those two should go to the school for the little ones, not only one?”
Jalila: “Eh! I did tell you two”.

42. Malika sits on the bench. She wants to take the mobile phone out of Jalila’s hands while saying:

**Dialogue 37:** “Give the mobile phone so that I talk to this one (Awatif). You, must teach them, you must play the teacher”.
Jalila takes the mobile phone back.
Malika pulls Jalila’s arm while standing up. Then they walk three steps together.

43. Malika takes the mobile phone from Jalila and gives it to Awatif.

Awatif walks away two steps with the phone.

**Dialogue 38:** Malika says to Jalila “you will teach them now, you will play the mistress”.

44. Jalila stands with her two hands on her hips in front of Malika and talks to her (10’45”).

**Dialogue 39:** Jalila says to Malika: “no, I don't want to do this”.
Jalila walks away as if she is angry and speaks like that. Malika quickly follows her.

Awatif is walking on the terrace.

45. Malika arrives first at the room and lays down the mobile phone.
Jalila walks towards the room and puts off her backpack.

**Dialogue 40:** Malika says to Jalila “These (children) are to small. You gave them some milk? You didn't give them anything!”
Jalila replies "I gave them (milk)".

46. Jalila takes some objects and puts these on the little chair serving as kitchen table.
Meanwhile Malika puts some toy-utensils on the kitchen table saying to Jalila
Dialogue 41: “Oh! What has she been doing to me in the kitchen a second tim”.
Jalila reacts by repeating exactly the same phrase in an ironic way. (11’20”).
47. Jalila arranges the utensils.
Malika takes over this job.
Awatif 42: Awatif says to Jalila “Eh, put these (plastic flowers) in the kitchen”.
Malika says to both girls “The carrots are they cut?”
Jalila sings “lalalala…”.
Malika: “Give me a plate but don't make dirty the other one. No, no, I put it there especially. Oh! This one she (Jalila) is tiring me”.
Awatif: “I shall teach the boys, teach them kindly”.
Malika: “Look!”
Jalila: “You don't want me to help you?”
48. Awatif takes two phones and steps off the carpet. She puts on her slippers, takes the handbag and the keys.
Malika arranges the cups.
Jalila wants to help.
Dialogue 43: Malika says to Jalila “Don't disturb me, look what I have done”.
Jalila replies “OK”.
49. Jalila stands for a while with her hands on her hips, she walks to the other side of the table and pulls out the mobile phone's antenna.
Malika continues to arrange the table.
50. Jalila speaks in the mobile phone.
Dialogue 44: “Hello, Hello”.
Awatif sits on the bank with the pupils (dolls)
Dialogue 45: Awatif to Jalila “Hello, what's the matter?”
Jalila answers “Listen, bring the girls now”.
Awatif: “OK”.
Malika says to Awatif “If you cannot bring them all, leave some”.
51. Awatif takes half of the dolls and walks towards the room.
Meanwhile Malika goes to the rest of the dolls and brings them also to the room”.
52. Jalila talks to Malika.
Dialogue 46: “Bring this big one (doll)”.
Malika answers “That one, that one it is dressed. If she needed to be dressed, she is already dressed. What are we going to do to these (dolls)? They don't want to sit down. Look, what are we going to do with them now?”
53. Malika starts to put one child (baby-like doll) at the dining table. Then she takes a teddy and does the same with it.
Jalila comes back with the little girl's dress.
54. Jalila takes a Barbie doll lying on the ground and speaks to it while moving her finger before it saying “look you!”.
Dialogue 47: Jalila to Awatif “give me this jar (conical music playing part of a Barbie doll), give, give”.
Then Jalila takes the moving part of a Barbie doll puts it outside the carpet and makes it play music.
55. When it reaches the wooden frame serving as school, Jalila says to Malika
Dialogue 48: “give me this one (a doll)” (2x), Malika replies “no, no, leave this one here, I want to put it on top”.
56. Malika finally can take of the little bag of the doll and then puts the doll back at the table where she is putting all the dolls. (13’50”).
Jalila brings up both her arms and expresses her admiration for Malika’s arrangement of the dolls by using the stereotyped expression “tbaraka Allah” said when one sees something wonderful but at the same time serving as protection against the evil eye.
Dialogue 49: Malika takes the Hawaiian Barbie saying “see them”, Jalila looks at her and says “and the other one?”, Malika “its like she stands upright here, that is why I did place her like that”.

57. Malika puts the other dolls in a second small chair next to the other one. She sings “aïdo milad” (happy birthday). Jalila wants to help but Malika refuses this. (14'20”). Jalila stops trying to help and looks at the scene with her hands on her hips.

58. Somewhat later Malika sings in English “happy birthday to you”, “yalala” (15’50”).

59. Jalila is still filming with the moving part of a Barbie figuring a video camera, meanwhile Awatif continues to lay down. Malika stands up.

Dialogue 50: Malika about Awatif “she will not come to the anniversary, this one”, Jalila to Awatif “hey, hey, wake up you”, Malika to Awatif “hey, wake up you”, Jalila “this one, sleepiness has overwhelmed her”, Malika “hey, it is the anniversary, you crazy one”, Malika “finally I did arrange them, isn’t it”, Jalila “me also”.

60. Jalila now films Malika (17’15”).

Dialogue 51: Jalila “where is your face?”, Malika “oh my little mother (ih amwemti, an expression used to indicate astonishment), Jalila I want you the camera to see them all, crazy one, see them all”.

61. Jalila speaks to Awatif who lies on the ground (17’35”).

Dialogue 52: Jalila to Awatif “move, so that I can turn this on”, Malika reacts saying “no, I do not want you to turn this on”, Jalila “no, no, I want”, Malika interrupts her saying “no, no, leave it”. Jalila insists on doing it.

62. Malika goes to the wooden frame used as classroom and puts the Hawaiian Barbie on it (18’20”). Meanwhile Jalila continues to film her and Awatif is lying down.

Dialogue 53: Jalila asks “what are they going to do?” answering herself “they will come to the anniversary”, “get up, get up”.

63. While Awatif is still lying on the ground, Malika transports the other children to the wooden frame. (19’30”)

Dialogue 54: Malika to Jalila “turn it (the music) on when it stops, turn it on, turn it on quickly, quickly, now they will sing”. Jalila now changes the video camera again into a music player, then she moves her body while listening to the music, afterwards she uses it again as video camera.

64. Malika deals out the Euro banknotes (22’30”).

Dialogue 55: Malika “to the ones who are great we will give three and to those who are not great I shall give only one, one to this one here, one to this one there”. Jalila reacts “eh no!” (she does not want Malika to separate the banknotes). Malika whispers “it is on purpose, on purpose”, Jalila “hey no, no on purpose, it is not my problem this on purpose, daughter of shame (bint el hram is an insult), if you cut another banknote I shall show you, we have only brought them (to our house) with great difficulty”. Quickly after this discussion Malika asks Awatif, who is taking out objects from a bag and putting them on the wooden frame, “where is the comb?”.

65. Malika and Awatif phone to one another (23’30”).

Dialogue 56: Malika “tell them that I shall come for the aïd el kebir”, Awatif “OK”, Jalila walks towards Malika and states “we will all come, not only you!”, Malika adapts to Jalila’s reaction saying to Awatif “it is to say we will all come, did you here?”, Awatif “yes”, Malika “oh it is broken of (the communication), may God give you” (bad things, expression used when something is not well or goes wrong).

66. Malika takes the phone and talks to Awatif, Awatif has another phone and replies to Malika, Jalila wants to take the phone away from Malika and after a short dispute she gets it, Jalila then phones to A. (27”). Later on it is Malika who tries to take the phone from Jalila, Jalila first refuses but then gives in. (33”).

Dialogue 57: Awatif to Malika “hello (4x) give me Jalila”, Malika “OK she is here, take, speak to your aunt Aïcha, derreta” (derreta is an expression for an insulting joke), Malika “my aunt Lubna (a modern name) not Aïcha (a traditional name)”, Awatif “hello Jalila, my mother has said that you will all come for the aïd el kebir”.
67. Awatif is trying to get the other player’s attention for a while

*Dialogue 58:* Awatif “are you playing with me or what are you doing?”, Malika “wait (3x)”, Jalila to Awatif “hello, what do you want?”, Awatif “do you play with me?”, Jalila “what, what do you want?”, Awatif “I am phoning to you since yesterday during the evening and you do not want to listen to me”, Jalila “we have been sleeping yesterday evening and we have closed down the mobile phone, we have closed it down”, Awatif “OK”.

78. Malika and Jalila discuss about what they shall do with the children.

*Dialogue 59:* Malika “listen, we will take them to pass summer (have a vacation) for a while, OK?”, Jalila “no, till tomorrow (2x), not now”, “but crazy you, now that it is warm, get up, take this”, Jalila repeats in an ironical manner “take this”.

79. *Dialogue 60:* Malika “hey you, speak fusha Arabic (standard Arabic)”, Awatif “and then”, Jalila “no, no, you speak ta’arabt (Arabic influenced by Amazigh: Moroccan Arabic)”.

80. Malika and Jalila are discussing over the phone:

*Dialogue 61:* Malika to Jalila “not yet, I shall send them (the children) to you but I am waiting for a money order to come”, Jalila “money order for what?”, Malika “shut up (3x), don’t you know the money order?”.

*Dialogue 62:* Jalila “I shall go out”, Malika “where are you going, where, where?” Malika “that is none of your business”, Malika “where are you going?” Jalila “I shall go out, is that your business?” Malika “we will find you in that cafe, OK., with the little ones, OK?”.

*Dialogue 63:* Jalila “hello”, Malika “where? You will leave for Spain you?” Jalila speaking in an ironical manner “you will leave for Spain you? is that your business?”, Malika “you are going as a clandestine or what?”, Jalila continuing in an ironical manner “I shall go by airplane me, give me my red bag”, Malika “give her the red bag, watch it if you stay longer than twenty days once more”, Jalila “I shall stay longer than twenty days and I shall visit my friends that’s it, I shall stay longer than twenty days, is that your business? It is not for you to command me the whole day”.

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