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### Relations to My Quest

My quest of learning the Nepali language is a difficult one. It is a very different language from my own, and it's quite a challenge to speak it. Nevertheless, I do the best I can to learn it so that I can have better communication with my in-laws. I know there are many themes out there that could associate with my journey. After all, learning a foreign language is pretty common these days. However, the themes I feel relate to my quest the best are from the movie "Spanglish."

In "Spanglish," a Hispanic woman named Flor, who does not speak English, works for an English-speaking family, the Clasky's. This makes it very difficult for Flor to communicate with her employers. It also keeps her quite confused most of the time. In the part of the movie where Mrs. Clasky finds out that Flor is the person she is interviewing for the maid job and not her cousin, she looks at Flor and responds, "You're gorgeous! (Mrs. Clasky, 'Spanglish')". Flor, not understanding what Mrs. Clasky had said, looks around in confusion. In the same way, I also feel a little dumbfounded when my husband's family or friends try to speak to me in Nepali. I have no idea how to respond if I don't understand.

Another way I feel "Spanglish" relates to my quest is through Flor's determination to learn English. Once she decides she wants to learn the English language, she begins watching Spanish-to-English videos. While watching these videos, she practices speaking what she was

learning over and over again until she had it memorized. Similarly, I also feel that determination to learn Nepali. I try to speak the Nepali phrases that I know as much as possible so that I will remember them. The lyrics, “Arise, and be all that you dream,” (Arise, Flyleaf), are really motivational to me. Anytime I listen to that song, it gets me determined and motivated, which aids me in learning Nepali. “What doesn’t kill you makes you stronger,” (Stronger, Kelley Clarkson), are also great lyrics that get me motivated.

Lastly, Flor’s sense of purpose to learn English also has a connection with my quest. She decides to start learning English, because she wants to be able to communicate with the Clasky family without having her bilingual daughter translate for her. Likewise, I decided to start learning Nepali, because I want to be able to speak with my in-laws. Knowing how to speak Nepali myself would also save my husband the trouble of translating for me all the time.

Overall, I think that the movie “Spanglish” really relates to my journey of learning the Nepali language very well. It possesses a lot of similarities that I have in my quest, such as confusion, determination, and purpose. Though it isn’t easy learning a foreign language, “Spanglish” is a very inspirational movie that gives me the hope I need to succeed in my quest to learn the Nepali language.

Works Cited

*Spanglish*. By James L. Brooks. Dir. James L. Brooks. Perf. Adam Sandler, Paz Vega. Sony Pictured Entertainment, 2004. DVD.

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Clarkson, Kelly. "Stronger." *Kelly Clarkson*. RCA, 2012. MP3.