For my assignment I did a conversation with a girl, Erica, in a pub.

Before starting I want to make it clear that I didn’t do the recording because the conversation started spontaneously and naturally, so I thought it was better not to record it.

For this reason, I put here my personal life story translated in English:

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Last week my friend and I known two guys from Milan.

At the end of the evening they kindly asked us to bring them at the nearly underground station (as we were by car and they were not).

They told us that they knew where the station was; we didn’t, but we accepted to bring them there.

We started; but, after few minutes:

SARA: How far is the station yet?

BOY: Don’t worry, we are nearly there...

SARA: Yes but...you told me that it wasn’t far! We have not much petrol...

BOY: We are near! ...Stop here.

SARA: Why we have to stop here? I don’t see the station...

BOY: (he smiles) If I told you that you were accompany us at home you won’t accepted...

SARA: (angry) Get out of the car...we already waste a lot of time.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Talking to her I found some difficulties because she didn’t understood immediately; even if my narration wasn’t exactly like the story I wrote above (because I didn’t memorize it and I left out some particulars) I’m sure that I spoke very clearly. Moreover I tried not to translate word by word.

However, in my opinion, I think that there are (maybe) some elements involved, like a little of embarrassment between us, or simply the fact that maybe the girl wasn’t interested and she wasn’t listening to my story.

When I finished to tell her my story, she said:

“So in that area there isn’t the underground?”

With this question I realized that she left out the principal fact of the story, that is that we were “tricked” by the guys; so I tried to explain again the concept with other words:

“Well, actually, I don’t know where all the underground stations are, because I don’t know all the quarters; but I think that in that quarter there is the underground because we were in the centre.

However that’s another matter, because the guys made fun of us...they only wanted to scrounge a ride home!”

Then the girl understood me and also made a wry face and said that they were so rude.

I conclusion I have to say that, it’s true, my communicative intent wasn’t understood at all.

However I did this “test” with only one person, so I can’t lump everything together; only if I continue to talk and confront me with native speakers, I will be able to confirm these difficulties.