

Maeda, Hideo
Toshikazu, Mr. Samejima.
Eku be, Mr. Hideo.

Transcript.

105-1

MR. HIDEO MAEDA
MR. TOSHIHARU SAMEJIMA &
MR. HIDEO KOKUBO

October, 1972.

Fishing Out Of Steveston; Change In Fishing Equipment'
"My Son Will Not Be A Fisherman."

Interviewed by: Maya Koizumi
Daphne Marlatt

Mr. Maeda's Father was a Barber in Richmond but Mr. Samejima and Mr. Kokudo's fathers were Steveston Fishermen; Mr. Maeda has one Brother Fishing and Mr. Samejima two; They Do Not Mind Being Fishermen themselves; Great Improvement in Living Conditions Since World War II; Best Equipped fishing Boats Owned by them; Children have Higher Education than their Fathers and Will not be fishermen.

R.R.A.S. Oral History Programme, Vancouver.
Cultural Communities Series.

Interview No. 105, Tape 1, Tracks No. 1 & 2, Speed 3 3/4.

Vancouver, R.R.A.S. 1972. (form 105)

Conversations/interviews on the wharf of Canadian Pacific Camp at Steveston, Thursday, October 5, 1972

Interviewers: Maya Koizumi, Daphne Marlatt

Interviewee: T. Samejima also: Hideo Kohubo

S: ... I was born in Canada, yes... in Steveston.

K: In Canada?

S: Right here

K: Yeah? When was it?

S: In 1922. That's long time ago, 50 years ago.

K: Your father was a fisherman?

S: He was a fisherman, yes.

K: When ... did you do fishing? The first time.

S: First was...uh 1939? from there, before the war. And I came back from Alberta, start fishing from 1950. I've been fishing for 22 Years now steady (seagull cries)

K: Is that so? You didn't do fishing before the war?

S: I did. ~~22xxx~~ 2 years.

K: 2 years? Did you work with your father or...?

S: No, with my brother.

K: How many brothers do you have?

S: I got 5. 5 and 1 sister.

K/ Are they older than you?

S: 2 is older than me and 2 is younger.~~th~~

K: Uhuh. Brothers all fishermen?

S: Oh yes.

K: How was... how was it, fishing the first time?

S: It's not a bad life. I like it, fishing.

K: Did you have... your bother had his own boat?

S: Oh yeah.

K: How big was the boat?

S: You mean the one I have now or what?

K: No, the one you did...uh, fishing the first time.

S: First was, uh, 33 foot, I think it was 33 feet.

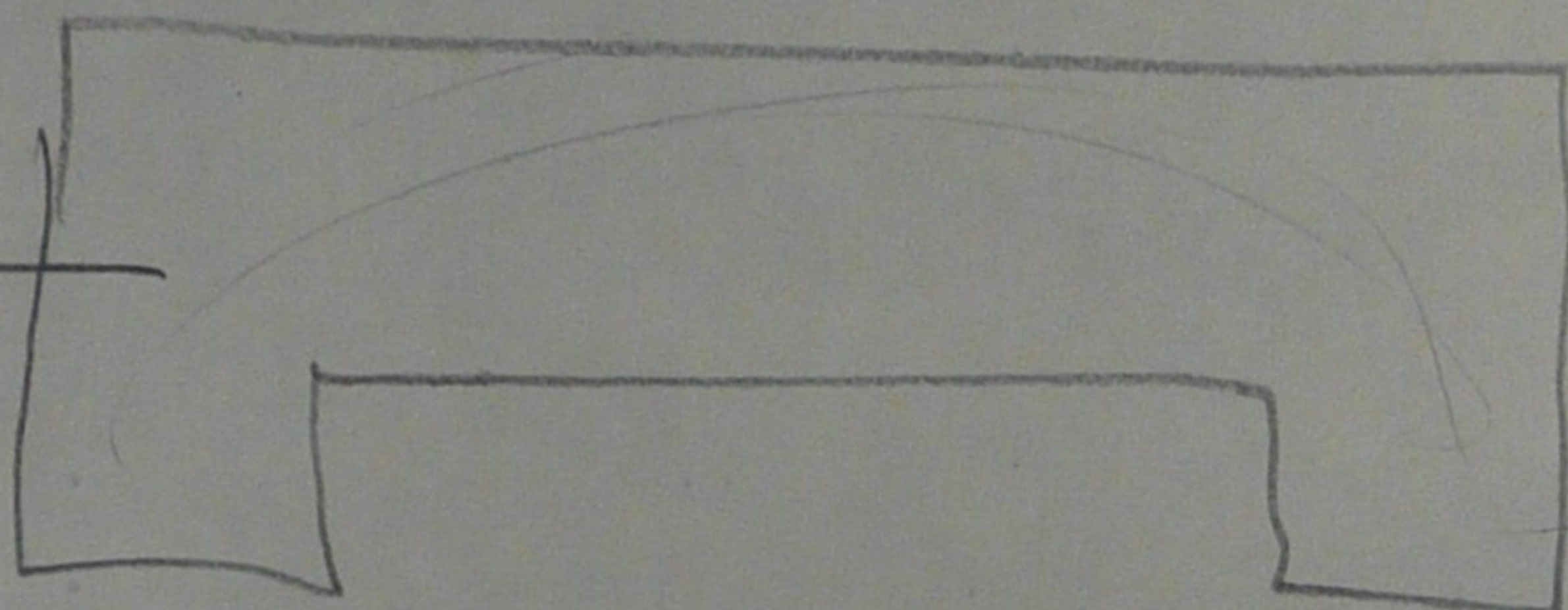
K: And how many people worked on the boat?

S: Uh, one. Just by myself.

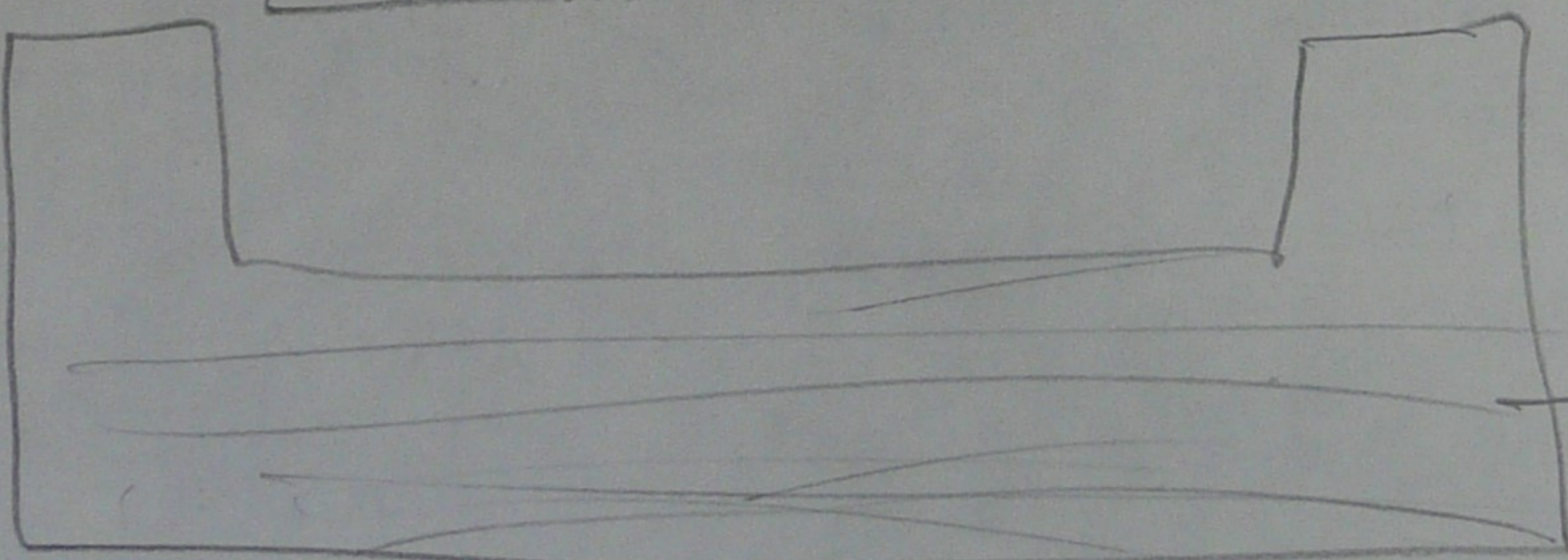
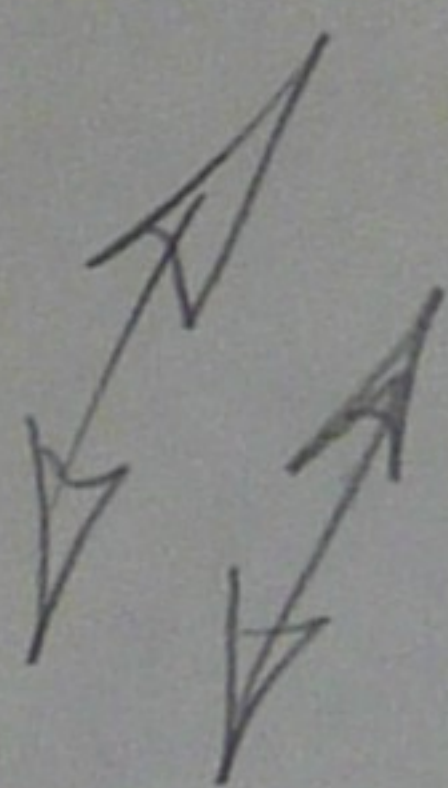
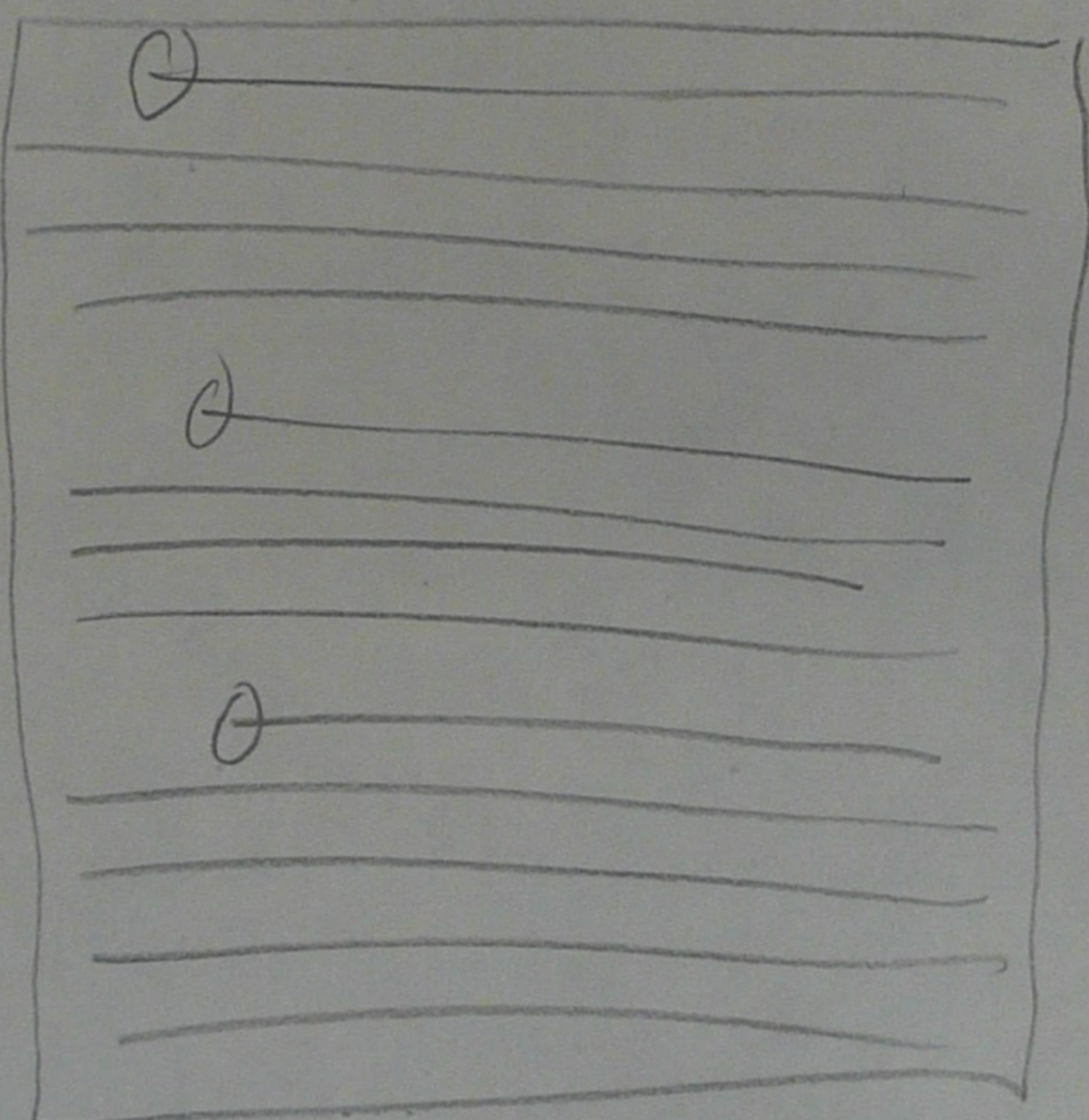
K: Did you do fishing around this area?

S: Right now I fish West Coast of Vancouver Island for about 3 months and then here for about 3 months (wind interferences) Fraser River.

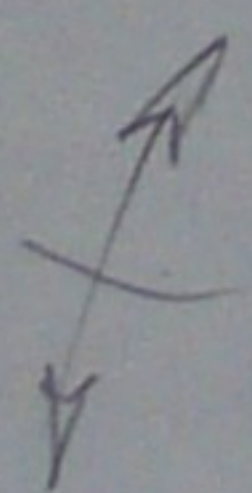
past



present



future



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K: How about before the war?
S: Before the war we only fish around here. It was restricted to go outside (wind interferes)
K: How many days did you do fishing?
S: Before the war? 5 days. 5 days.
K: Like...uh...the war...
S: Now we only get 1 day in here a week.
M: Is there less fish now? than there was before?
S: I dunno. Maybe too many boats I think, there's more boats than before.
K: What time did you start working before the war?
S: We start from 8 o'clock Monday morning til 8 o'clock Saturday morning. That was before the war.
K: So you stayed on the boat all the time?
S: Oh yes, pretty well.
K: Did you cook on the boat?
S: Yes. I didn't want to starve (laughs)
K: What kind of fish did you catch.
S: Oh, salmon.
K: Salmon and... something else?
S: No, strictly salmon before the war.
K: And the season would be from April?
S: Used to be...uh... February, I think it was, til end of November.
K: So it was much longer then?
S: Oh, was much longer then.
K: Was fishing good? (drone of plane for next few minutes, very loud)
S: Now we start from April 15th...
K: Til?
S: Til about middle of November.
K: Was fishing good that time?
S: Oh yeah, it was, yeah, lots of fish. But the price wasn't so good then.
K: Price? How much was one piece?
S: Gee, I dunno, I forget now.
Ko: Not very much.
S: (asks question in Japanese)
Ko: Oooh--
S: Dog salmon.
Ko: 50¢, 60¢.
K: One piece?

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Ko: Something like that.

M: A..a pound or a piece?

K: Each, each piece.

S: The whole piece, yeah.

K: Like how many fish generally you could get, for a day?

Ko: ^{uh} It's hard to tell but...

S: It's pretty hard to tell, it depends on the season, times...

K: Were there good times?

S: Some of the people get quite a bit, but some people don't get anything.

K: Ooh. Nothing at all?

S. No.

K: When it's good, like, you could get a hundred?

S: ^{uh yeah, yeah,} Sure. You could get a hundred easy, yeah.