Crying exercise

**Exercise 1**

Transcribe the clip below, using both the conventions covered so far, and the following six elements of sound characteristic of crying:

1. *Elevated pitch*: preceding (1 word) ↑Yeah or enclosing (more than one): ↑Yeah I am↑
2. *Tremulous* or wobbly delivery - enclose in tildes (~): preceding (1 word) ~THAt or enclosing (more than one) ~THAt wasn’~
3. *Aspiration particles* in words - parenthesis (*h*) represents plosive outbreath; *h* represents ‘breathy’ delivery.
4. *Creaky delivery* – preceding (1 word) #ma or enclosing (more than one) #ma best.#
5. *Tut*: .tch or .TCH
6. *Sobbing* – can be breathy and done as inbreath: .hihh or outbreath: huhh or sharply inhaled or exhaled – if the latter enclose in greater/less than symbols: >huh huh< >.hihh<]
7. **UI3: uptight 13.00**

Call: The police don’t take any notice of me and they  
misunderstand the things I say and I

CT: Mm

Call: I mean I get very uptight when I’m talking about it and I’m   
probably saying all the wrong things

**Answer**

**UI3: uptight 13.00**

01 Call: Th-the ~↑police don’t tahke any ↑no:tice~

02 of me.=An they (.) °d- .Hhuh they ~misundersta:nd

03 the things ah say:=an~ #I[: ]

04 CT: [Mm:]::,

05 Call: .Tch .hhh ah mean I-I-I get (0.3) very (0.4)

06 uptigh**t** when a’m talkin about it.=an a’m

07 probably sayin all ~the wrong thing:s\_~ .HH↑ihh

**Exercise 2**

Transcribe the sob and sniff in the following fragment

**Answer:**

1. **UI Sob and sniff 13.40**

A: AHhuh (0.3)

B: °°hhm[m h h h h°°]

A: [.HH↑uhh=.sh]ih ((squeak))

**Exercise 3**

The following fragment contains talk that may be hard to hear through the crying. Try to represents all the words and sounds you can hear:

Clip:

**Answer:**

**UI3: Nobody else 27.28**

01 Call: h .hDHhh °~I’m the one ehverybody lea:ns on.~

02 (0.5)

03 Would you ↑belie:ve it↑?°

04 CT: Mm.

05 (0.4)

06 Mm.=

07 Call: °My sister\_°

08 (1.7)

09 Call: °My godson\_°

10 (0.7)

11 CT: Mm.

13 Call: Hhhh .HH[hh ]

14 CT: [.Hh]h (0.5) [Th-]

15 Call: [°Wh]en things go wrong

16 >°°I’m the one they wanna come to?<°°

17 CT: Yeah.

18 Call: >.Hh .Hh<

19 (0.8)

20 Call: °°Nohb’dy helse°°

**Signs of upset**

*Sniffs -* inhalation, with possible voiced vowels and consonants: °.snih’ (a quiet nasal sniff) and ‘.SCHHIH’ (loud ‘wet’ sniff).

Silence – may be unusually long

*Sobbing* – can be breathy and done as inbreath: .hihh or outbreath: huhh or sharply inhaled or exhaled – if the latter enclose in greater/less than symbols: >huh huh< >.hihh<]

*Where talk is attempted through upset*

*Elevated pitch* - may be unusually high pitched: ↑↑Yeah

*Tremulous* or wobbly delivery - enclose in tildes (~): ~THAt wasn’ #ma best.#~

*Volume* may be reduced to the point of ‘mouthing’ or whispering: ◦◦khhay◦◦

*Creaky delivery* - #)

*Staccato delivery* - iteration of a ‘cut off’ symbol (e.g. ‘it-is-cut-off-’)

*Visual features* of upset

*Facial features*: screwed up eyes; tears; downturned mouth with eyebrows drooping down from the middle of the face; flushed appearance especially around the eyes and nose.

*Bodily elements*: trembling face and/or hands; touching eyes or face; looking down/hiding ones’ face/turning away

*Swallowing* can be described in ((transcriber comments)) unless it appears interactionally significant

**Expressions of pain and discomfort**

May include elements of upset as described above, often through pain cries e.g.

*Sobbing* - sometimes within moans or pain cries: u::(huh)h::

*Elevated Pitch* - OW::: MY:: ↑↑~TOO:TH

*Tremulous delivery -* ~Don’t touch it.~

*Creaky delivery* - #My tu:mmy hur:ts:.#

*Changes in volume* - may be reduced or elevated: ˚˚#hurts:˚˚ / OW:::

*Stretched delivery* - ou::tsch:: ↑O::: ↑↑::::W.

**Other non-speech sounds**

*‘Hysteria’* - words interspersed or replaced by gasping sounds: we(HHH)- .HHHH we’ve(HHH) HUHHH

*‘Lip smacks*,’ – precede with a period to indicate their inhaled quality: .pl.hh or .kh or .mp[t

*Tuts* - as with lip smacks precede with a period to indicate their inhaled quality: .tch or .TCH

*Throat clear -* hkm or mhgmhm or MHGHM! E.g. to attract attention