

Name: Mauto Matsuhisa (Yamada High School)

Title: Good experience in Australia

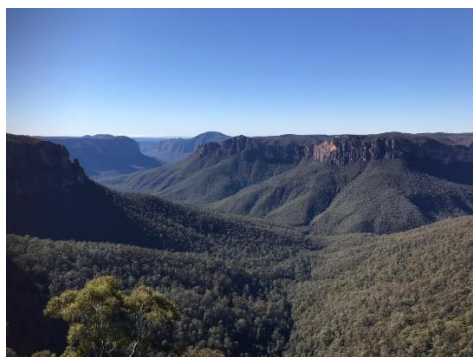
I've never been to foreign countries, so this is the first time I went to foreign countries. I feel these experiences improved my English skill, and this experience changed my thought and perspective. I was surprised at various situations.

There are three things which I was surprised and felt. Firstly. What I was surprised at most was attitude of students in the class. I visited two high schools in Australia and I took some classes there. When I was taking some classes, I realized that there are two major differences. One is Australian students were actively taking classes. I felt that is incredible because in Japanese high schools, we see the teacher just teaching seriously all the time, and students just write down what the teachers say on their notebook in the class. The other is almost all students are interested in the class and always raise their hands. It is also unbelievable because almost all Japanese students are shy and hesitate to raise their hands.

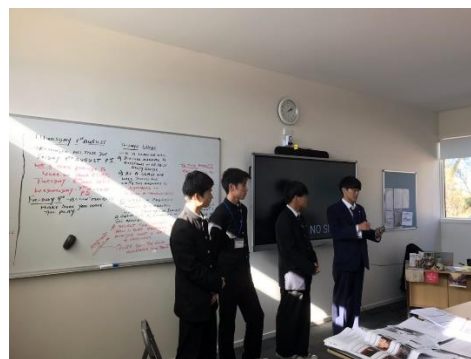
Secondly, students in Australia were friendly. When I was taking some classes, many students talked to me. Also in the recess, many students invited me to some recreation. They made me positive. Thanks to them, I was able to talk to other people more actively. I did a home stay for four days. On the days, my host families talked to me and listen to my talk seriously. I was glad. They made me more positive. So I didn't hesitate to talk to other people. In this way, I think foreigners are friendly.

Thirdly, I was surprised at great nature. In this program, we visited places which has a lot of nature like Blue Mountains. I didn't know the reason why the mountains were called Blue Mountains until I visited. But when I saw them, I found the reason. The mountains' color was blue, just like the name. According to my host family, this is because of the colors of the trees on the mountain.

The 12 days I stayed in Australia was very satisfying. I'm glad to learn many things. For example, I have experienced Australian culture, a homestay, high schools. In addition, I learned how to converse with foreigners. These are the great experiences. I intend to study abroad at college so I want to use this experiences and improve my English skill.



Blue Mountain



Class