

UNSW Study Tour 2018 Report <Group A>

03 August 2018

Session 1 Reporter: Maho Harada

This is the beginning day of our university life in Australia.

The first English Lesson, with mixed up feelings of hopes and fears, was the most useful contents than ever. Now, I'll give you three points that I was impressed by the lesson.

First one is about how you communicate with others in casual ways. For example, the phrases which we learned from textbook in Japan aren't useful. The natives often use more casual sentences such as "How ya doin'?" or "How's it goin'?" instead of saying "How are you?". You can continue the conversation with many different responses such as "What's wrong?" and "What happened?". Those are the techniques to keep the conversation with others.

Second one is about how you greet to your superiors and elders. Saying "I'm pleased to meet you." is better than just saying "Nice to meet you." , You can use "Hi!" , "Hello" or "g'day mate!"('mate' can be used for 'teammate' or 'classmate' etc.)when you talk to your friends. We also learned about how to greet when you want to finish the conversation. You can say "Sorry I must go now, I've got to attend a class". And add a lot of farewells; "See you later", "Have a nice day" and so on. These are very useful knowledges for us as Japanese textbook learners.

Third one is about the Australian geography. As you know, Australia is one big continent. There are 6 states; Western Australia, South Australia, Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania. And 2 territories; Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory. Each states has their own law!

The most interesting topic for me is the reason why the capital of Australia is not Sydney but Canberra. According to the teacher's explanation, there was a long term competition between Sydney and Melbourne to be declared as a capital city. So, they decided to make the new city called Canberra as the capital city between Sydney and Melbourne. It is a very interesting story!

In conclusion, I have learned a lot about Australia in the only 2 hours of the lesson. Also, what I learned in the class was what I really wanted to learn, so I was very excited. Our teachers taught us everything in English, so it was not easy for me to understand 100%. But I listened carefully, took notes and used my imagination a lot. I sometimes got regret but I realized that I have to study harder from now on! I want to thank my parents for giving me such a great opportunity to study in Australia. I could do my best there, and also I will do my best to improve my English skills from today. I swear it.

Session 2 Reporter: Minami Ueno

Have you ever heard about the boat which is made of a lot of plastic bottles? We learned about this boat and its journey. This boat's name is "Plastiki".

David De Rothschild is an environmentalist. He read some information about all the plastic in the seas and oceans. Soon afterward, Rothschild decided to help the fight against pollution in the sea. To create publicity for the problem, he started to make a boat of twelve thousand five hundred reclaimed plastic bottles. Also the boat uses renewable energy sources including wind power and solar energy. The crew can make meals with vegetables from a small garden at the back of the boat. And the boat's shower uses salt water from the sea. So the boat was really environmentally-friendly and user-friendly. Of course it is

a true story! Don't you think it interesting?

Actually, "Plastiki" went across the Pacific Ocean from San Francisco to Sydney. That's fifteen thousand three hundred and seventy two nautical kilometers. It's so long. So the whole journey took one hundred and twenty nine days. Also crew had to take care during storms. I think the journey must have been so hard.

We read the article like this and we answered some questions on the handout. Most interesting activity in this lesson was that three boys in our class completely became David and answered the questions from other students. For example, when I asked them "Why did you come up with this idea (to create the boat which is made of plastic bottles)?" One of them answered "When I was a child I played with a toy boat. And I noticed that I can make a boat of plastic bottles..." He looked like he wasn't a Nagata high school student, but just like David. This activity was so fun.

Also, we could learn about the sea pollution caused by people. It is so big problem in the world. David made the boat to solve this problem. I think most of Japanese people don't know about David and his journey. And also I think we don't know about the real fear of the pollution. For example, humans throw away four out of every five plastic bottles they use and plastic rubbish causes about eighty per cent of the pollution in the sea. Also plastic bottles, shoes, toys and toothbrushes which we threw kill birds and sea life.

We must learn about the environment problems like sea pollution more and more. And we have to think about how to solve these problems. Not only sea pollution but also global warming, sea level rise, desertification and acid rain. So many people or Many animals are in trouble. We have to change these situations.

City Tour Reporter: Kana Miyamoto

August 3rd, afternoon, we took a walk in the city center of Sydney. We went mainly to three famous places. We had a good afternoon.

First, we arrived at the Opera House. Australia's largest city Sydney is famous for the scenery of the Opera House and Harbor Bridge. The visitors of principal avenue of the city will not miss the Opera House built in the Moorish style. The Opera House is classified as the UNESCO World heritage Site. It is really beautiful. I took a lot of photos there and touched its wall. It feels good sea breeze and light of the sun. I became feeling elegant just by looking at the building exterior. It makes me deeply moved.

Second, we went to the Royal Botanic Garden. The Royal Botanic Garden is next to the center of the city of Sydney, but it is the natural abundance of unbearably city. I saw rare birds and small animals. Blue sky, blue sea. White cloud, white Opera House. Green Garden and Green Island. This place was rich in color and has beautiful color contrast. Sunlight was filtering through trees – the interplay between the light and leaves, I've never seen such a great view! Also, there was no boundary, such as a fence. I think a good feeling that I saw birds within close distance. Among birds, I especially liked the birds whose head and tail are black and the rest part is white. I would like to know more about them. On the other hand, there was the bird that has blue face, red beak, green feathers and orange body. I probably can't see it in Japan. This experience was very valuable. So I want to imprint all things I saw there in my memory.

Finally, we went to the State Library of NSW. It was very big. There were a lot of books in the library. It seems that there are 5,000,000 collections. The spacious wall was lined with bookshelves. I was overwhelmed because introspection of the library was far beyond my imagination. The library felt solemn

and mysterious. I thought that it was like we were really inside the world of Harry Potter. This place was breathtakingly beautiful. It was so comfortable there, and I felt I wanted to live in the library. I will bring my family next time.

In conclusion, there were a lot of great attractions in Sydney. I want to find other good places. I'd live to go to Australia again!

04 August 2018

Blue Mountain Tour Reporter: Sakura Noguchi

The two cheerful guides, Damien and Jodie took us to Featherdale wildlife park and blue mountains. They told us a lot of things like history ,industry of Australia. these topics were little hard to understand but they were very interesting.

First, we went Featherdale wildlife park. We could see native Australian animals like koalas ,kangaroos ,parrots and so on. I touched wallabies. they were so cute and fluffy! Although we didn't have enough time, we could know many animals we didn't know and really enjoyed!

Next, we climbed Blue Mountains. Before this tour, I didn't know why Blue Mountains is called Blue Mountains. The reason is there are a lot of eucalyptus there. the oil volatilises from eucalyptus and reflect the sunlight. Then it looks blue. I thought climbing Blue Mountains was not too hard. But ,it was wrong...! We walked the edge of precipice!! I just hoped I wouldn't die but I happened to look up, there were fabulous view and beautiful sky. We could see huge stratified rock was called Grand Canyon of Australia and vast mountains. I was overwhelmed by the view and smiling unconsciously.

According to guide ,all the rocks are made from sand. So rocks are smoother than other rocks. 2 Cliffs were scraped away water over the years. They were beautiful and mysterious.

After this activity, we went to picnic area. We had delicious sandwiches, some fruits and many snacks! I picnicked on the grass for the first time in my life. It was refreshing and relaxing. I ate very nice snacks. TimTam, Lamington and potato crisps. I had been looking forward to eating them since when Damien said "TimTam Time!" in the bus. Lamington is a small square cake made with sponge cake covered on all sides with chocolate and desiccated coconut that originated in Queensland. It was very yummy!! I'll make that in Japan. I'd like to picnic again in Japan.

After that ,we went view point of, Three Sisters and souvenir shop. Three Sisters have been shaped for thousands of yeas. I felt the magnificence of nature when I see that. Then, I bought some souvenirs with my friends. I felt happy on the bus going university because I had great experience, memories and souvenirs. I think it is wonderful that we can enjoy developed city and beauty of nature in Australia. I really want to visit Australia again after graduate high school.

I love Australian and TimTam Time!

06 August 2018

Session 3 Reporter: Takumu Obata

We learned two things from this class.

First, we learned about adjectives describing personalities. The teacher gave us a handout about adjectives describing personality. Then, she told us to classify them into two kinds, good personalities or bad personalities. There were about 40 words. Some of them I saw for the first time. But we were

allowed to search meanings in electronic dictionary. So I searched, but I couldn't search all of words I didn't know. I think I have to learn more words. Then, she asked us our opinions, and checked whether it is correct or not. Some of them, both good and bad, depends on time and situation. "Shy" and "strict" are good example of them.

Second, we learned about character. So we can use the words we learned a little time ago. We read an article, "The Power of the Introvert". Usually, introvert personalities is said to be not good. Many people think introvert person is not as confident as extrovert person. But it is not true. Introvert person is just as confident as extrovert person. They are simply quieter and need time to think carefully before they speak or act. According to Susan Cain, the author of a bestselling book Quiet, a third to half of us are introvert. I thought it too many people, but I think more people are introvert in Japan. Introvert person has weak point. They have to learn how to act like an extrovert. Introvert person enjoy spending time alone. They are happier to spend time alone, creating ideas or solving problems. So, in fact, the newest and the most unusual ideas often come from introvert. Einstein himself said, 'It's not that I'm so smart, it's just that I stay with problems longer.' Now, people who read this book change their practices.

After reading, we start to learn grammar. We learned about comparative. We looked for them in the article. There are 5 or 6 point. I knew all of them already, but learning English in English is my first experience. So it was interesting. To explain English grammar or words using English may be very important and very effective way to learn English, but most of Japanese people don't do so. I think we should learn English in English after learning in junior high schools or high schools. After we learned grammar, we tried to do exercises. They were easy for us. Some words are difficult, but grammar was not.

Session 4 or a Tragedy Reporter: Shunichiro Noguchi

I was told to write report of the class in the afternoon on August 6th but we only prepared our presentation at that time so I don't have things to write. I'll write some stories which happened on August 6th. It's so amazing.

Start of Toilet Story

At 5:30am I was woken up by my ringing smartphone. Soma, my roommate, was still sleeping. I rubbed his shoulder. I went to a bathroom. They were my routines at Australia and I was thinking that common day is starting.

But my guess was broken out soon. I pushed the button of toilet to flush my feces but the sound of water was little weak. Then the level of water was rising up! "WHAT HAPPEN?!" The level of dirty water was rising more and more. "OH DIRTY WATER IS SPILLING SOON!!" But the rising stopped. I relieved my shoulders. I pushed the button again. Then the level was rising again! And It stopped again. "I choked the toilet."

I thought what I should do. All family member was sleeping. I wanted to fix it by myself. Maybe I used too much paper. I searched the way to fix a choked toilet on google but I didn't know where tools was.(like a rubber cup) That meant I could do nothing. So I wrote a messages on a paper. "I'm sorry. I choked the toilet. I'll fix it after school." I put the paper on the toilet cover. Luckily the house has three toilets so family member could use the other two toilets. After eating breakfast made by me and Soma I left home for school with him.

Short Story of Password

At the university I wanted to use the school computer so I needed password. I wrote it on a paper not to forget it last week but I left it at home. It was in my suitcase then. I was so upset but luckily I remembered. Then I wrote it on my notepad on my smartphone.

Why Soma and I Call Sydney "Our Garden"

After taking class Soma and I were waiting for a bus. My heart was filled with the problem of toilet. The bus came with strong engine sound and stopped in front of me with the brake screaming. The door opened. I stepped on the bus and put my Opal Card that is traffic card of New South Wales on the place to put. "BEEP BEEP" A display showed a white X mark on a red background. "What does it mean?" The bus driver answered. "There is something wrong on your card. You can't use this bus." "Okay....." I got off the bus. Soma got off too to help me.

"What should I do?" I said "I want to go to the station to see somebody help me. Where is the nearest station?" Soma answered. "Redfern Station is." "How long does it take to walk there?" I asked. Soma answered. "It takes an hour!" "Oh..." "But we don't have another way. LET'S GO! HURRY UP!" Soma said and we started running. Google map leaded Soma, and Soma leaded me. It was getting dark. It felt so good to run through little cold Sydney.

We arrived at Redfern Station. It took about 30 minutes. I asked a middle-aged man in a orange-colored vest, a station staff. He asked me some questions and he explained politely. I followed his instruction and we could arrived at home station. I think Soma and I walked Sydney the longest distance of my classmates. Soma said "Sydney is our garden." But my heart was still the problem of toilet.

Toilet Story Never Ends

I was so nervous but I had little hope. I wrote I would fix but I wished my host family had fixed it. I can't say it loud. It shows my dirty mind.

I pushed a button of an interphone. Imam, who is a 12-aged boy and one of host family member opened the door. He said nothing but it's natural for him so I couldn't guess the situation of the toilet from his behavior. I went to the bathroom directory but my feet were so heavy. Arriving at the bathroom, the toilet cover was closed. I don't want to open it but I had to do it. I took a deep breath, and I opened it with the biggest courage. My eyes caught something brown. It looked like a puddle of dirty water. I didn't know what to say.

I was standing alone with saying nothing. Then Adam, who is 18-aged boy and one of host family member came into the bathroom. "Hey boy, don't worry about it. You don't have to do anything. Let's eat dinner." He said. I said "But I want to fix it. Is there some rubber cup?" "I tried everything but I couldn't. I'll call fixer. Close it and turn off the light. Let's eat dinner." I could say only "I'm so sorry." I couldn't find another word.

Afterword

Did you enjoy my stories? You can see I made a lot of troubles on the day. I'll write two more explains here.

First one is about the reason why I couldn't use my Opal Card. I don't know exactly, but I have strong guess. Perhaps there wasn't anything wrong on my card. The machine to put card on detected my card twice in a moment. Maybe the display showed V mark which means "OK" first, and it showed X mark next. I don't remember correctly but I think so. I could ignore the X mark.

Second one is about the toilet. The day after the next day fixer fixed it. I don't know how much did it cost to employ the fixer. Should I have paid? Maybe I couldn't pay because it cost too much money.

I made a lot of troubles but I believe they are good experiences. That's all. Thank you for reading!

07 August 2018

Session 5 Reporter: Soma Matsumoto

Today's first class is about the United Nations. Before this class, I have only a vague image of it.

First, we answered the basic quiz about the UN. At that time, I noticed that I don't know about it well. For example, I had been thought that about one-hundred seventy countries join it. But actually, one-hundred ninety three countries join it. And I don't know how often it has a new Secretary General. So I could learned a lot of new things about it.

Second, I read the passage about the UN. The passage said about the machinery of the UN, the Secretary General and the Messengers of Peace. I learned that the UN has a large department of international civil servants. Through this activity I think that the Secretary General may shoulder heavy responsibility. Because he or she is a symbol or face of the UN and his or her main works are to ask the UN to help with difficult situations in the world and to discuss world problems with national presidents and ambassadors. I think that these works are hard. Also, I didn't know the Messengers of Peace. So I became interested in it. It is chosen by the Secretary General. For example, George Clooney(actor), Midori Goto(violinist), Muhammad Ali(boxer) and YO-YO Ma(musician) were chosen it. They works for the peace of the world.

Third, we tried to explain the meanings of English words in English. Of course, it was very difficult for me. If you can understand the meaning of English word in Japanese, you should only translate the meaning into Japanese to the meaning in English. But most of words that we had to explain its meaning in English were very difficult for me to explain its meaning in Japanese. So I had to look the meanings of words up in Japanese. After that, I had to translate the meaning of the word that I looked its meaning up in Japanese into English. So in short, I had to go through two steps to explain the meanings of English words in English. Through this I think that I want to study English harder and I want to explain the meanings of English words in English easily.

Fourth, we answered some listening questions. I felt that these listening questions were rapidly. So I could practice listening English carefully.

Finally, we studied some English grammar. For example, we studied tense. I could deepen my understanding of English grammar.

Through this class, I could be exposed to real English. Besides, I could deepen my understanding of English. So I will make use of this experience and I will study English harder. I'm happy that I had a great time in Australia.

Session 6 Reporter: Nozomi Uenishi

We learned about article mainly and how to read graphs.

First, we did an activity which we choose one correct graph out of six graphs which is suitable for the contents of the sentences. It is easy just to choose. Reading keywords like "increase" or "fell" and looking for correct graphs were very interesting and fun. We were able to increase our vocabulary because we looked up the words which we did not know, cooperating with our group members.

Second, we did fill-in-the-blank questions. Those sentences were explaining graph's changes and trends. We chose correct words out of alternative. Because I did not understand basically role of article, it was very difficult for me to do this activity. But, our teacher told us kindly and politely like "to" is coming after "from". So, we could understand steady.

I think next activity was the most difficult and hard one. We did exercise in paraphrasing. We had to make sentences which had the same meaning as sentences written on the paper. It looks very easy, but it was very difficult. For example, change the noun appearing during sentence to the subject or remove the noun of subject from sentence and rewrite using a complicated structure. We used a lot of time to solve one question.

Next, we completed the sentences about digital music filling in the blanks. Words of subject like "increase" or "decrease" were true for these blanks. And, we wrote a graph suitable for the contents of writing. We filled these blanks ascertain whether the verb was suitable or not. Also, we thought that whether we should change the verb to the present form or the past form or the past participle looking in the front and in the rear of blank. Finally, Mrs Noguchi wrote graph that she thought it was correct in front of us, and we checked ourselves answers.

We talked in small groups about streaming applications which we know. We knew Apple Music and LINE MUSIC and Spotify.

As a summary of class, we worked in pairs and explained change and trend of other graph in own words. It was also difficult, but I felt my English skills improved.

At the end of class, the teacher arranged students in two rows and showed us last activity. It was discussion talking about themes projected onto the screen. It was very livened up. Everyone who talked about theme enthusiastically were shining and looked very fun.

Today's class was relatively difficult and we had to use our brain hardly, but we could work on all activities enjoyably and earnestly.

08 August 2018

Cultural Activity Day – Morning Reporter: Mizuki Kageyama

Today in the morning, we went to the rock museum. At the museum we saw many things that were used in the 19th century and 20th century. For example there were dishes, cigarettes, beer bins, pits and the buttons of the shirts. There were many Chinese dishes. The Europeans came to Australia and the trader started to trade with Asian countries like China. The people at the museum told us that in Australia there are 250 countries and each countries has the different cultures. The road in front of the museum was black and it is very old. People took out the rock and cleaned it up then put it back again, then made it as a road. I learned the history of Australia and the trade that people have made. There were many things and photos that they used in their daily life so I was able to imagine what kind of life they had in the 1800s and 1900s. The life they spent was very interesting for me.

After we took picture in front of the museum, we started to walk toward the town. There were a monument that explained about the disease that a mouse has brought. Mice brought a disease that many people died and many rats were killed.

Near the Opera house, there were houses that looked very old. The guide told us that the area where rich people live and the poor people live. Many of the poor people lived together as it seemed very old. We didn't see the houses that the rich people live but we heard that those houses are very nice and big.

When I was going to school the bus that I usually get didn't stop and I had to take a different one. I didn't know when and where to get off so I was looking at the map. Then a kind woman asked me where am I going and told me when to get off. She even noticed me before the station I had to get off. I didn't ask her for a help but she noticed that I was in trouble and helped me. I was very touched with her kindness and wanted to say thank you to her but I had no other words but thank you so I thought that I wanted to learn English more and get more vocabularies and learn more repertories of words.

Cultural Activity Day – Afternoon Reporter: Asumi Katsuyama

In the afternoon, we went to the botanical garden and learned about Aboriginal. Aboriginal are indigenous people in Australia. Our guide was a woman whose ancestor was Aboriginal. First, the guide showed us some Aboriginal tools, and some of them were very interesting for me. For example, there was a tool to tell that the men coming back from the ritual. It is made of wood and string, and a piece of wood is tied on the end of the string. They spin it and make big noise. Also, boomerangs were interesting. There were several kinds of boomerangs. Famous one's shape is like a "V". But some boomerangs had strange shape. They used both by throwing, but they changed the type depending on the purpose. When they wanted to hunt small animals, they used "V" shaped boomerang. When they hunted big animals such as ostrich, they threw strange shaped one.

After looking some Aboriginal tools, we heard some stories about their history, culture, and some wisdom for survival. We learned some edible plants, how they made some living ware, and how they used to live. I was surprised that there is a plant which we can use as soap. The most interesting thing for me was their culture. They think a lot to protect their baby from wild animals by using nature. When someone died, they buried in a large tree. So the children were told not to get close to these trees. Some stories were bit scary for me. For example, some girl's pinky is cut down by their mother when they were a small baby. This means that they gave a part of them to the ocean, so they can take fish from the ocean. Also, when the boys become adults, they have to finish a ritual. At the ritual, boys will be broken their front tooth, and they mustn't cry. I was very surprised to hear these things.

At the end of the activity, Marchia took us to an ice cream shop. It was her recommended shop. Everyone enjoyed having delicious ice cream. After dismissing, I went to a souvenir shop with my friend. She and I bought many things for ourselves and for our friends and family.

We learned a lot and walked a lot. I got tired, but moreover, I really enjoyed this day. I would like to share what I learned and my experience.

09 August 2018

Session 7 Reporter: Haruka Kominami

In the first English lesson on August 9th, we studied about emails. At the beginning of this class, we discussed a few themes in pairs. After that, we studied with handouts. We learned ten tips which are very important when we send or write formal emails. Following things are the tips:

1. Think carefully and creatively about your subject line. It should capture the reader's attention and state the purpose of the email clearly.
2. Focus on one subject per email, so that the reader can locate the message easily and deal with it appropriately.
3. Always double-check that you are sending the message to the right person, and copy in any relevant individuals.
4. Remember that emails, just like letters, can be formal or informal: the style used depends on the writer/reader relationship.
5. Use fancy fonts, colors and emotions ('smileys') in personal emails only.
6. Do not use CAPITALLETTERS-it is like shouting: you can use a point*stronger*if bold. Italics and underlining don't come out clearly in your emails.
7. Use relatively short sentences, use paragraph and, whenever appropriate, use headings and bullet points.
8. You can include 'signature' (i.e. your contact details, like on a business card) , but keep it short and up-to-date.
9. Be careful with attachment if you have to send a large one, you might want to tell the recipient in advance.
10. Always proofread your emails and use spell-check and grammar check before sending them off.

Then we did some activities, for example, finding mistaken points and choosing the most appropriate sentences in the emails. Lastly, we consider that what do people think if we use wrong expressions.

I realized that subject of an email has the importance. I used to send an email with no subject or add a subject without thinking because I didn't know the importance of subjects. But I learned how convenient subjects are today, so I'll decide subjects carefully when I send emails from now on.

In addition, I was surprised at the fact that English has honorific expressions. I had been thinking English does not have any honorific expressions, so was very shocked. English is not easy language to learn! To communicate with others well, I'll be careful if I have a chance to send emails in English, although it's quite difficult for me.

Session 8 Reporter: Yuka Sugie

In the class of the latter half, we learned how to “Ask for and give opinions; agreeing and disagreeing.”

First, we practiced listening. We listened to the discussion of the characters and answered the order of design they discussed. Also, we answered that the content of the statement were true or false for the content of the listening.

Next, we practiced asking for opinions. When you ask for opinions, you can say “What do you think

about ...?", "How do you feel about ...?", "Don't you think ...?" Then, we practiced replying. When you replying the questions, you can say "I'm not sure, but...", "Yes, I do.", "No I don't.", "I think..." Also we practiced agreeing and disagreeing. When you agree the opinions, you can say "I think you're right.", "I totally agree.", "Absolutely!". When you disagree the opinions, you can say "Do you think so?", "No I don't think so.", "I see your point, but...". We have learned a lot of new way of speaking.

After that, we had a conversation with a lot of new expressions. The teacher distributed a handout to each student. We read the statement on the handout and marked the agree—disagree line with a cross to show how much we agree or disagree. We talked with the classmate about the statement and told their own opinions.

In addition, we also practiced the English pronunciation. For us Japanese, the pronunciation is very difficult. The teacher taught us about the difference between pronunciation of "r" and pronunciation of "L" and difference between pronunciation of "th" and pronunciation of "s". Then we practiced it. Especially, we practiced pronunciation of "th". It was too difficult for us to pronounce but we became good whenever we repeated a number.

The above is the contents of the lesson that I received at UNSW in the latter half of Thursday. Finally let me share my impressions of the class.

This was my first time visit abroad so I was tense. I thought I could not keep up with my English lesson. However, it was very fun and to actually receive and I thought that I would try English harder. Especially, the English pronunciation's lesson was worth doing. I was good at pronunciation from the beginning, but I think that I was able to pursue about it more. Besides, it become very good to know that there are various ways of speaking to tell the same thing. I was pleased that I could experience many things.

Conversation Club Reporter: Moe Hamada

There was a conversation club on Thursday afternoon. We discussed some topics with many university students. In my group, we were thinking about mountain fire and climate.

Littering of cigarettes and camping cause the mountain fire. In Australia, the air is drier, so the mountain fire often happens. Next, about climate, most of the women put on sunscreen in summer. Some people put on their cap. But we hardly see people who wear their sunglasses. In Australia, there are many people who wear their sunglasses. Because the sun is stronger in Australia. So we must put on sunscreen before we go out. Otherwise, our skin hurts from sun burn.

I talked with an international student from China. He was very kind. He explained the words that we could not understand. He likes Japan, so he could speak Japanese very well. He especially likes a comic dialogue. He has been to Osaka and seen Yoshimoto new comedy. I have never been there, so I was taught a charm of a comic dialogue by him. I came to want to watch it.

And his friends also like Japan, so they told us things that they know about Japan. I was very glad to hear that. I was able to come to know people who were interested in Japan.

Some of us like Arashi, Japanese singers. And some of the university students also like them very much. So they enjoyed chatting about them. They are from different countries, but they could get excited over talking about the same topic. I thought how nice it was.

Hearing that conversation, the university students sometimes spoke Japanese. It seems that they have learned Japanese from their favorite song's lyrics. They said that they wanted to speak Japanese better, so they wanted to learn Japanese. I thought being interested in something and coming to like something were

very important. A singer, anime, reading books, cooking, anything is OK. We surely should get something from them.

I was able to learn many things in this conversation club. I could speak English a little. I could get to know a picture of Japan seen from foreign countries. Moreover I could realize the important thing. I don't have a dream for the future yet. But I like English. Through this conversation club, I strongly wanted to talk with many foreigners in English. So I will study English very hard and I want to find a dream for the future.

10 August 2018

Session 9 Reporter: Karin Fujinuma

Group presentations

1. Development of underground electric lines and opal card

Bad points of underground electric lines are hard to install, cost, and so on. Now, in Japan, a lot of line of gas and water supply are underground. So it is difficult to take a balance between electric lines and other lines. And to install underground electric lines takes 20times as much as to install electric poles.

Good points of underground electric line are cityscape, barrier-free, disaster prevention and so on. If we have underground electric lines, we can enjoy beautiful cityscape more. And sidewalks can become wider, so more people can pass through them. Moreover, underground electric lines can prevent any further damages to property and persons. In fact, the percentage of destroyed underground electric lines is less than that of destroyed electric poles. This proves that underground electric lines are more durable and would be less of problem during natural disasters.

In Japan, the percentage of underground electric lines is 15%, and the percentage of underground electric lines in Australia is 27%. However, the percentage of underground electric lines in famous cities such as London, Paris, Hong Kong, and so on is 100%.

To enjoy cityscape and to prevent secondary disasters, Australia and Japan have to install more electric lines.

1. Opal card has a lot of benefits. For example, if I use opal card a lot, I don't have to pay more than standard price. Japan have to emulate the card system.

2. Euthanasia

Euthanasia is allowed in Canada, US, Korea, Australia and so on. There are a lot of opinions about euthanasia. For example, some people think that they have the right to decide their death. And most people who work in medicine companies agree with it. Other people think that only got have to decide their death.

3. Climate and lifestyle

There are a lot of classification group of climate in Australia. And UV rate is higher than Japan. In Japan, people add vinegar to rice when they make sushi, but in Australia, people add sugar to rice. The most popular fish of sushi in Australia is salmon, and it is also the most popular fish in Japan.

In Australia, there are roundabouts at intersections. It is good to reduce the number of traffic accident.

4. Smoking

In 2016, 86000000 people died with diseases from smoking in the world. And 884000 people died with second hand smoking.

Now, 1117000000 people is smoking all around the world. The percentage of smoking in Japan is 22.5% and the percentage in Australia is 14.8%.

Things to improve

1. Try to reduce notes

If we write the complete sentences in our notes, we often read them. So we have to write just key points.

2. Slide

We must not use complete sentences in our power point slide.

3. Structure

We have to tell the structure of our presentation first.