Name: Ai Uchiyama (Tomida High School)

Title: My Memories in Australia

Through this project, I had a lot of experiences that I could not do in Japan. I spent only 12 days in Australia but I experienced a lot of things, which were new to me. I think this project made me change.

On the first day, we went to some famous places in Sydney. All the places which we visited were really beautiful, so I was very excited. Bondi Beach and the Opera House are particularly memorable. On the next day I visited St Aloysius' College in Sydney. I was a little nervous but everyone was kind and a lot of students spoke to me in the college, so I was able to talk with them well in English. Also I was surprised that the school life there was very different from that of Japan. For example, all the students carried their own laptops and they were very active. It was a valuable experience.

Between July 30 and August 3, we stayed in Blue Mountains. We visited the Three Sisters and the SCIENIC WORLD. We saw the Three Sisters from various directions. I really enjoyed it. And then we went to Blue Mountains Grammar School and met my host family. I was nervous but when I met them, they welcomed me warmly. During the homestay, I got to know about Australian daily life. In Blue Mountains Grammar School, I learned with my host brother in class. I was surprised that many students asked some questions about a topic. It was amazing. The most memorable class is physical education. At the beginning of the class, they made their own practice plans and practiced over music according to them. The 5 days in Blue Mountains passed very quickly. I missed them very much.

On August 3, we went to Sydney again. We visited Taronga Zoo. Two volunteer guides explained about a lot of Australian animals to us. They were so cute. I was excited. The next day, we went to JETRO and learned many things about economy in Australia. And then we went to the City Hall of Sydney to pay a courtesy visit. I was nervous because I was to make a speech as a representative student, but I had learned that I mustn't be shy, so I made a speech with confidence. On the last day of Australia, we went to Sydney University. It was large and had a long history.

In Australia, I had many experiences. And I learned that we mustn't be shy in everything. I thought that it was important to have my own intention and express it. So I myself want to speak to others. And I think I have learned to speak English better than before taking part of this project because in Australia we used English whenever we needed to talk. This experience is my motivation to study English harder from now on.



