

藤田 紗世 Sayo Fujita

情報生体システム工学専攻修士 1 年
内山研究室

感想文

I lived for two and a half months in California. I made many friends and had a lot of experiences there. I found there are so many things that I didn't know in the world, and I need to keep learning about them. I met a Japanese woman who has lived there for over 30 years. She said to me "In America it is important where you belong and what you believe. Many Japanese depend on their families. You are your own person. Family is family." I also believe what my parents believe. And I depend on my family too much. I should have my own idea, independent from my parents. Family is the most important, so we support each other. In Kagoshima, I live away from my family, but I'm still in Japan. Most people around me are Japanese, so I can usually find who I should believe and my family doesn't worry about it because I have lived in Japan for 22 years. And if I have trouble, I have family and friends who I can talk to. But my parents don't know about America, so in America, I had to decide who I should believe. I can't depend on my family. Also, I had no friends in San Diego two and a half months ago. This is the most difficult thing; who I should believe and what I should believe. Fortunately, I had no trouble. I really enjoyed staying in San Diego. I want to keep living here. In California, there are so many people, so it is easier to accept many cultures and people. Some people can't speak English well, but still, people in California can accept most of them. I should think about the bad points in California, but I tend to look for good points. I should turn my attention to problems for making the world a better place, but I can't do that. This is both a strength and a weakness.

Host Kids



地域貢献活動

I stayed at Sebastopol for 4 days. It was really exciting. I went there two and a half years ago, but it looked very different.

On the first day, I arrived in San Francisco. It was so cold and foggy. Then, I moved to Sonoma by bus. I met my host mother there. I was so glad to meet her again and she was glad too. We ate lunch and she took me to the mountains which had big mountain fires two years ago. I visited there 2 years ago, and I remembered the winery, but six months after I visited, they burned down due to the wildfires. Now, the winery begins to rebuild. Also, new houses are being rebuilt. When I heard about the fire, I was in Kagoshima, and I began a fund-raising for the fire with my friends. We raised 1000 dollars and sent it to the city. I was so happy that I could visit there and find the place began to recover with the money we raised. I want to go there again after it completely recovers.

脇 海 晟 Kaisei Waki

情報生体システム工学専攻修士 1 年
加藤 研究室

感想文

My host family is an older gentleman and older lady. They like traveling so they have been to many countries and they have received many homestays. They tell me a lot of stories. Their stories are very interesting so I always enjoy hearing their stories.

My host mother is down to earth. She teaches me various things every day and she likes language learning so she tells me correct English. I am not good at speaking and listening to English so I often cannot hear her English, but she speaks slowly and repeatedly and she waits for me to understand. What I felt most when I came to Australia was the difficulty of pronunciation and listening. She taught the spelling because I could not catch the words when I was talking with her. After that I was surprised because I knew the word. There are many such moments. I cannot catch a simple phrase so I bother my host mother. However, I am thankful that she talks with me patiently. I am scolded by her for various things every day, however, I am getting used to it, and I think that the number of times being scolded is reduced little by little, so I want to work hard at this condition.

My host father is a funny person. He is always wearing sunglasses and he is a good cook so I am happy at meal time. He said that he likes skiing but his leg is not good so he cannot ski now. He follows me as I am being scolded, but as a result he is scolded as well. He always says that English is easy because just say “f***”. My host mother and father are two extremes, but they are a very good looking couple.

Homestay Family



地域貢献活動

Perth city and Kagoshima city are sister cities so I thought the two cities would have a lot of things in common, but it was quite different. First, Perth's transportation is very good. Students can use a discount, so we can travel cheaply. Even if I am not a student, it is not expensive because Perth has “CAT” buses, and everyone can ride them for free. We can go almost anywhere on these buses. I think transportation is much, much better than in Kagoshima.

Second, I think Kagoshima lifestyle is slow. People walk slowly, and are sometimes late. In Perth, they are slow as well. I feel like time is slowly flowing. And on the weekend, their waking time is late. But they are more punctual than I thought. And all the people living in Perth are kind. When they get on or off a bus, most people greet the driver. If I greet the driver, they respond to me with a smile. When I went to the information center, they gave me information politely. Kagoshima people are the same. However, Perth people are more friendly than Kagoshima people. They start talking to strangers immediately.

Perth is much bigger than Kagoshima, and Perth has more transportation, shops, and internet; we can use city Wi-Fi and open sim is very cheap. I was surprised because I heard Australia's internet is not good. I think Kagoshima is pretty much behind on the internet. I hope Kagoshima will develop like Perth.

平田 大空 Hirotaka Hirata

情報生体システム工学専攻修士 1 年
渡邊研究室

感想文

I'll tell you about Rottneest Island where I went on a school tour. Rottneest Island is about 45 minutes by ferry from Fremantle. There, we can relax on the soft sand of the beach, observe abundant marine life and meet the happiest animals in the world: quokka. Sightseeing by car is prohibited, so everyone rents a bicycle around the island. We arrived there before 10 o'clock and rented a bicycle first. The first thing I thought about the island was that the color of the sea was different. I love fishing and came to Kagoshima from Fukuoka when I entered university. I have been to the sea in Kagoshima and I thought the sea in Kagoshima was beautiful, but the level was definitely different. The sea of Rottneest Island continues to the reefs offshore, and the range we can see is clearly visible to the bottom of the sea.

By the way, there are three courses to go by bicycle, but we chose the medium distance course. And on that road, I encountered a very large lizard. The lizard in Japan is small and cute, but this lizard was like a dinosaur. And there was another event that was impossible in Japan. That is what we encountered a wild peacock. I couldn't believe it. By the way do you know quokka? I had said many times during the GOES interview that I wanted to see this animal when I went to Perth. And my wish came true, and I finally met quokka. They are very friendly and close to humans, but we can't touch them because they are endangered species. I was able to take a selfie with a quokka. I am very happy with this trip.

Learning a Lot



地域貢献活動

We decided to research about three destinations. But there were places where we couldn't go together, so we decided to go separately. The demerit is that we can't share what we feel on the spot by going separately. However, there are also merits. One person goes to the place and asks some questions and finds some information, and shares information with the next person. Next, that person goes to the same place and asks what the first person didn't understand and some new questions. By doing this, our thinking is deeper and we can conduct research efficiently. In addition, since we ask questions alone, I think our English improves more. It's very effective because we need to do research in a limited time. We need to share information with each other in order to do good research. And I have noticed another thing in doing this. That is the importance of asking questions. When I go to sightseeing, I'm thinking of enjoying myself first. But I can deepen my thoughts by asking questions and I can discover new things. I can also use this in school classes. Japanese don't like to ask questions during class. But I try to actively ask questions. And this will be important for my life.

佐藤 舜 Shun Sato

電子電気工学専攻 修士 1 年
堀江研究室

感想文

My class is 3F. This class has a lot of very unique people, and we became good friends. My housemate Oguzhan is also a classmate. He always jokes and makes me laugh. Diego is from Colombia and is popular in class. He is very kind and will tell you immediately if you have any questions. Mick is a very interesting 26 year old from Taiwan. He is always with Diego and excites the class. But his pronunciation is not so good. Diena is an engineer from Colombia. She is very good at speaking and listening and I always ask her how to pronounce words. Monica and Sabrina are elementary school teachers from Taiwan. Monica likes Japan very much and can speak a little Japanese. Sabrina likes Japanese stationery. Nicole is from Taiwan and always hangs out with us. She loves parties and always drinks on Fridays and Saturdays. Sara is from Taiwan and is very good at Japanese, and every day she is taught various words from Yu. Recently, she has been able to do some typing in Japanese. Qi is from China and sometimes makes me laugh. So his teacher is often angry because he doesn't come to school and often uses his smartphone in a class. Hetch is from Taiwan and has never hung out with us but is a very kind person. If I get close to him, he will teach me Taiwanese. In the same class, there are Ryo and Yu. They are teaching me what I couldn't catch. Thanks to everyone, I have a good time every day.

With Friends in Perth



地域貢献活動

Australian culture is different from Japan. Usually in Japan men pay for other people at dinner or lunch or something. But Australians don't pay for other people, so they generally pay their own way. Also, when we order food at a restaurant in Japan there is a system to share food, but in Australia each person must order their own dish. But for this reason some restaurants can't separate the bill, so and it is difficult for me to know how to separate bill every time. The one major exception to this is when someone is invited out to celebrate a special occasion such as their birthday. In this case, it is common for other people invited to jointly pay for the person being honored at the occasion. Also I noticed differences in garbage collection systems. So I want to know why. Garbage is divided into those that are recycled and those that are not in Perth. Although garbage and recycling is separated, putting all the recyclable things together is no problem in Perth. We have to separate aluminum cans and PET bottles in Japan, so I don't know why they can be together in Perth. Another difference is the system in Perth uses only a robot arm to collect garbage from in front of each house, so it is very easy and it needs one worker. Finally I think that Perth's roads are very wide, and there are not many traffic signals. And many homes are flat and wide. I was surprised that many buildings like the Optus Stadium I saw first are very large.

平山 遼 Ryo Hirayama

機械工学専攻 修士1年
高橋研究室

感想文

I learnt a lot of things through this program. There are three important things I learnt through the program. First, I learnt about culture. I could know different culture through talking with my friends. It is so interesting. When I talk with different countries' friends, I could learn a lot of things so I thought talking with others is important. They teach me a lot of things I didn't know before. Talking makes me knowledgeable. Second, saying my opinion is very important. Especially, non-Japanese say their opinion strongly. I think almost all Japanese don't say it strongly but I had to tell my opinion when I talked with others. It was hard for me at first but I could get used to it. When I talked with my host mother, I was trying to say my opinion so I learnt saying my opinion is very important. Thirdly, I learnt that English is not a subject, it is a communication tool. I thought even if I don't know perfect grammar, I can tell my friend something I want to tell them. Then, not being shy is also important to speak English. I don't have to care about my mistakes. All people make mistakes so I am not afraid of making a mistake. I learnt these things through the experience. I had a great time in Australia so I won't forget anything that happened to me in Australia.

Best Friends



地域貢献活動

The most interesting topic for me is animals. I like animals and I heard some interesting rules about animals in Australia from my friend so I researched about it. First, I searched about native species. In Australia, there are 24,000 native species but in Japan, there are 6000 native species, so Australia has a lot of native species compared with Japan. I think Australia is a very big country and there is beautiful nature so many kinds of species are in Australia. The species are delicate and indigenous so importing and exporting animals and plants is so strict. If someone breaks the law, the person has to pay a fine and the person has to be put in prison for 10 years. Secondly, I researched about rules for animals that inhabit Australia. A lot of animals are protected by law and if someone kills these animals, it means they are put in prison and have to pay a fine. Then, if I encounter an endangered snake in Japan, I might kill it but if I did that in Australia, it is possible that I will be judged guilty and punished. It shows Australia thinks protecting animals is very important. The perspective is very good for animals. I thought laws about animals are very important because there are a lot of stray cats in Japan. It is one of the problems about animals. I think Japan also has to make stricter laws about animals.

安長 瑠人 Ryuto Yasunaga

建築学専攻修士 1 年
鷹野研究室

感想文

One of my first impressions of Perth, is that Perth is comfortable for Japanese people, because prices do not differ much from Japan and local food is delicious. I was surprised that it maybe be more delicious than a restaurant in Japan when I ate Japanese food “NAO Japanese Ramen” in Perth city. If someone says they want to eat Japanese food, I would recommend going there. Second, I felt that Perth city is beautiful. It has rich nature and there is a lot of green. For example, there is Swan River and Kings Park, the beach at Fremantle etc. I live in Como, and I can see a really beautiful sunset here and it is fantastic to see the sunset reflected in the river nearby where I live. I also noticed that Perth city has no telegraph poles and has many wide roads. So the atmosphere of this city is comfortable, and it has a good landscape. Finally, it is colder than I thought it would be in Perth in winter. And the weather changes often from sunny to rainy. This changing weather is impossible to imagine in Japan. Also the wind is strong when it is bad weather. So if you come here in winter time, I recommend that you should have rain shoes and a rain coat and an umbrella!

School Chums



地域貢献活動

Australians like animals and cafes so I compared these. Many Australian people like animals and they particularly keep dogs as a member their family, so I can see many dogs in the city or in parks. I heard that there are laws about keeping dogs in Australia, from my host family. In Australia, they can have two dogs per household because if they have many dogs, some people may complain. For example, if the dog's barking is loud and they can't sleep well. There aren't such laws in Kagoshima and Australians like animals so they make such laws to keep a good relationship with other people and other pets. Next, I found that there are more cafes in Australia than Kagoshima. In particular, there are more personally managed stores than chain shops in Australia. There are many kinds of coffee and it's tasty. Australia was originally a British colony and was strongly influenced by British culture and tea was popular with British. Although tea was popular at first, immigrants from Europe and other countries which had coffee culture came and there are many coffee shops now. The style of cafe is different compared to Japan because there are many immigrants in Australia. The open time is short compared to Japan, and it is usually closed by 16:00. In Japan most cafés open until night so it is useful for customers but it is hard for workers. I thought that Japanese work style is usual but I noticed that it is important to think about work style and time more than money.

牧 百合恵
Yurie Maki

化学生命・化学工学専攻修士 1 年
橋本研究室

感想文

Today, I had to say good bye and leave Perth. I've finished the GOES program. It was beautiful weather in Perth. The weather made me more sad. Especially, I'm very sad to say good bye to my host family and friends. They gave me big love so I'll miss them. I learned a lot of things and had many experiences in 10 weeks. I'm sure, this experience will be a precious memory in my life. Last night, my host mother took me to an Italian restaurant for dinner. She said to me, "Your English improved a lot" and cheered me up. She always gave me courage and cheered me up so she really is like a second mother to me. I depended on her anytime. Although, I didn't want to say good bye, the time came. I couldn't stop crying or express my feelings well in words when we said good bye. I left a letter to host family so I could say a big thank you in the letter. My host mother is going to visit Japan in November so I can meet her again. Now, I'm feeling very sad but I'm looking forward to seeing her again soon. We were listening to "Sotsugyou song" on the way to Perth airport in the bus. Our suitcases were heavier than 10 weeks before. I believe the weight includes our warm memories.

CELT at UWA



地域貢献活動

I'm going to introduce some good things in Perth. First, there are big parks around residential areas and people very often take care of their lawns, so it is a very beautiful place. Second, it has good transportation and we can use it very cheaply. Furthermore, buses have auto-slope so everyone can get on and off easily. I often see mothers pushing a stroller or elderly people with a trolley in the bus. They can get off the bus very quickly by using the auto-slope without making other passengers wait. Everyone looks happy. I hope Japanese transportation also becomes like this. Third, I noticed the difference of trash collection. In Japan, we usually use plastic bags for collecting trash but in Perth, they use only trash boxes. On the day of trash collection, the trash boxes are lined up at the side of the road and then the garbage truck collects trash using a robot arm. It is simpler than in Japan. Unfortunately, I think the roads are too narrow to do it this way in Japan. However, we should make an effort to reduce using plastic bags by learning from Perth's example. One way is to pay for plastic bags at the end and to encourage consumers to use Eco-bags. Japanese supermarkets have a discount system for using Eco-bags but it isn't very effective. I could also notice the good things in Japan so I think comparison is very important.

久留翼 Tsubasa Hisadome

化学生命・化学工学専攻修士 1 年
武井研究室

感想文

In this program, I learned that we can communicate with wrong English. Before I came to this country, I always worried about grammar. I thought that if I use wrong grammar, native speakers cannot understand me. But this turned out to be wrong. We can use gestures when we cannot make ourselves understood in English and if we do not know some words, we can use other words instead. Of course we can describe the words my friends do not know using easier words. This is very simple. But I could not imagine that. At the beginning, I often used a dictionary or website, when I did not know some words, but now I stop it and try not to use a dictionary. This helps me learn English because I have to memorize similar words and it gives me a chance to describe English words in English. In Japan, when I had a chance to speak English, I was afraid of making mistakes and it reduced the conversation. But English is just a language. If I can express myself, there is no problem. If I have chance, I want to speak English even though I make mistakes. Also I noticed that I have to get used to English spoken by anyone. Every country has a dialect in English because every mother language can affect their English. So it is easy for me to understand English by Japanese and it is hard for me to understand English by others. At the beginning it was difficult to hear English by non-native and non-Asian. However, I could understand their English day by day and now I can enjoy the difference. These are the things I learnt here.

Host Family & Flatmates



地域貢献活動

I think people in Perth are more interested in environment than people in Kagoshima. Especially, they are interested in recycling. Opportunity shops are famous recycle shops that sell a lot of things. For example, books, toys, and so on, gathered by people in this city. They gave them to the shops freely. Also, people seldom use plastic bags. They carry their own bags for shopping. But when I bought clothes, the shop gave me a plastic bag. I don't know the reason but I guess that they prevent clothes from getting dirty, so they use plastic bags in useful situations. Living without plastic bags is difficult but we should not use too many of them. People in Australia use them well. People in Perth are also very careful about using water. My host family does not use the washing machine often. At the beginning, I minded it a little because in Japan, I use it every day. But now, I do not mind it anymore and I think I used the washing machine too much in Japan. I never feel uncomfortable about not washing clothes every day anymore. And my host family also has washing machine for dishes. But this is also not used everyday. and they think carefully about what kind of dishes they use dish washer for.

相原 知佳 Chika Aibara

生命化学理学専攻修士 1 年
岡村研究室

感想文

The most impressive thing for me is that there are a lot of people who I never met before. This is an absolutely natural thing, but first-hand experience is important. Of course, this time was not the first time for me to go abroad. Moreover, I experienced going to language school in Vancouver for one month. Although it was also a good experience and memory, the school was not attached to a university like CELT is. So most of the students at that school went back to their country after graduating. In contrast, the students at CELT, especially in my class, go up to the UWA bridging course and into the IELTS course. Before I came here, I didn't have any idea of going university in a different country because I thought I couldn't do that due to my lack of English skill. I thought it was impossible. But my thoughts changed a little bit through meeting many people from other countries. Some of my classmates have children and they want to get a high IELTS score to get job here, other classmates just want to improve their English conversation skill. There are various students from various countries and they have various thoughts and purposes.

The Pinnacles



地域貢献活動

I think the biggest difference between Perth and Japan is cultural diversity. I could see many people who have a different background everywhere such as on the streets in Perth city, in the bus on the way to school and in the class in UWA. I know there is still racial discrimination but they enjoyed talking and hanging out with each other as far as I could see. In Japan, I cannot meet foreign people often. It is not a bad thing but we need to have more global views. Secondly, what I learnt is 'Respect differences.' In our class activity, we discussed the article related to the weekly topic. One group chose the article on tik-tok and one member said tik-tok is related to Chinese culture because it was made by a Chinese company. But one member of this group didn't think so, they almost had an argumentation battle. What I learnt from this situation is that there are many different people who have various thoughts, and we need to have a respectful mind about other's opinions and thoughts even if they are completely different from our own.

芥 圭 一 郎
Keiichiro Akuto

数理情報学科専攻修士 1 年
松本研究室

感想文

In fact I was nervous to go abroad before I went to Perth because I was worried about food, communication and whether I'll do well etc, but it wasn't worth thinking about it. In other words, I should think how to enjoy myself rather than worrying. I've made many friends in Perth and there were some Chinese in my group of friends. They liked playing basketball and I liked it too so we often played together. They also liked Anime so we sometimes talked about it. I want to say that the most important thing is to be familiar with other people by trying to do something you like together. I also think going to eat your country's food is quite effective. Because of my experience, I changed my mind about Chinese. I didn't have nice image before I went to Perth but now I think they aren't very different from Japanese after I talked with them. It's important to have no prejudice! Anyway, actually there were many nice and gentle people, delicious food and comfortable places in Australia. Whenever I wanted help, many people helped me. There were some more delicious food than I could get in Japan, so I felt spending time in Australia was easier than what I imagined, and now I want to go Perth again, and other countries. I think I should try something new without being afraid.

My Classmates



地域貢献活動

I'll introduce you the differences I have noticed between Perth and Kagoshima. First, there are more kind people in Perth than in Kagoshima. I've heard that there is the idea of 'ladies first' in foreign countries. I saw many men allowed ladies to pass first many times. I also had a men give way to me several times. I thought that Japanese men should learn more about this. Second, most people are tolerant to sound. For example, when the people take public transport, they usually talk as loud as usual. When some people start singing, the people around them don't seem to be annoyed and they sometimes start singing with them. It's interesting. Besides, there are many basketball courts in Perth. It's not just schools and parks they are also in residential areas, and people don't mind the noise of the game. Third it's recommended to walk on the left side of the road and most people follow the rule. I think that the people who follow the rule are at most half of all, in Japan. I started to think Australians are more diligent than Japanese! I've also learned two things in Australian Culture class. First Australians tend to be blunt. In my experience it's true. Second, Australians generally pay their own way. It means there is no habit to treat other people. I also heard they usually don't treat someone on their birthday but I doubt it, because I don't believe it, incredible!

宮脇 由羽
Yu Miyawaki

人文社会科学研究科法学修士 1 年
鳥飼研究室

感想文

I was looking forward to going to Perth when I stayed in Fukuoka. But I got nervous when I took the plane to Perth. Someone came to welcome us when we arrived at Perth airport. And they took us to homestay, so I talked with the man who took me to homestay. I got very nervous, so I didn't know what the man was talking about. He said "Australia is safe." But I thought "what is a saifu." I understood when he taught me safe's spelling. Then I went with a woman and Yuri and Hiro. First we arrived at Yuri's house. Next we arrived Hiro's house. I remained alone, and the woman said something, but I couldn't catch it. Finally we arrived at a house, but it was a place I have seen. Because we made a big mistake. Yuri came out when I trying to enter this house. Yurie and Yu names are similar for Australian people and they mixed us up.

Finally I could arrive at my homestay. Then I talked with my host father. I found my room was decorated and there were letters in my room from 4 little girls who are my host sisters. At that time, I was happy and I wanted to talk and play with the little girls, but it was late. When I arrived in this room, my worry disappeared. It was very good for me to live in here, because I like little children. The next day I played with the little girls and got along well. I think I want to speak English well and I wanted to talk with them. So I thought "I'll do my best everyday." After all, the little girls became my best teachers.

My Real Teachers



地域貢献活動

We found good points of Perth. For example, almost everything is barrier free, people care a lot about ecology here, and there is a different way of working, and lifestyle. I realized when I got on the bus, Perth buses are almost all barrier free, and there are many barrier free buildings. Australia is an eco friendly country because to my surprise my host family does not use any tissue and a lot of people carry their own bottle, especially when people want to drink coffee. I thought Japanese often use a lot of tissue, and we often use pet bottles. It's convenient for us to use it but it's not good for the earth and environment. In addition, there are a lot of recycle shop in Perth, more than in Japan. My host family often shops there. Next Perth's stores close early, I think it is a good point. Now Japan is very convenient, but people are working too hard, and Japanese are too busy. Recently some convenience stores have stopped opening 24 hours a day, and I think this should spread. Then, Australian people live happily, even if they have children. They value their time, and they are more active than Japanese. When I went to the beach on Wednesday, there were a lot of people and they were relaxing. I thought Perth is very good because there are so many nice beaches, nature, and parks nearby. Kagoshima has it too, so we should spend our time appreciating them more carefully.