

ティアラ先生にインタビュー！

Q、How was your year in Japan?

A、My year has been great. I really enjoyed living in Japan. I learned a lot about Japanese culture. It's quite different in Japan but it was easy to get used to. I feel like Japanese society and culture are quite comfortable to fit into even if you are a foreigner because everyone is polite and welcoming. I also really enjoyed going back to school even if I wasn't a student. It was really fun to go back to a high school and be teaching there. It's a really nice experience and I was pleasantly surprised by the students. I was quite worried at first because in England that usually means trouble but the students here are really lovely and sweet.

この一年間どうでしたか？

いい一年でした。日本での生活は本当に楽しかったし、日本の文化沢山学びました。日本とイギリスは結構違いますがすぐ慣れました。日本の社会や文化はとても心地よくて外国人でもすぐ慣れると思います。生徒じゃなくても学校に行くことが楽しかったです。エトワールで教えるのはすごく面白かったです。いい経験だったし、生徒のこと、いい意味で、ビックリしました。最初は心配してたけど、ここの生徒はとても優しくかったです。

Q、What was something you found difficult to get used to?

A、I think the language. I've lived in different countries like France and Chile but it was always because I've studied the language before. Not being able to read Kanji was quite challenging for me because I wasn't used to having to use translators or struggle through broken Japanese, especially when you're in the town for the bank. It was a challenge but I think I managed to get through it with my broken Japanese. The biggest surprise for me was finding out that not many people speak English here. Although everyone is generally very friendly to foreigners, it is quite rare to find people willing to speak in English as most are quite shy or unsure of their speaking skills.

慣れにくいと思ったことは？

日本語かな？フランスとかチリとか、いろんな国に住んでいたことあるけどいつもその言語を勉強してから行きました。翻訳とか使うのは慣れてなくて、特に銀行などの時に漢字を読めないのは本当に大変でした。大変でしたが私の変な日本語でも何とか出来ました。笑

Q、What were you most surprised about with Japanese school life?

A、This is not the case for all Japanese schools, but the most surprising thing for me at Etoile was that the students get their own iPads! I think it's a really good studying tool, especially given that students had to study online due to corona.

Otherwise, I was also surprised by the students cleaning their own homerooms and the greetings/bowing that happen before and after each class!

日本の学校生活で一番驚いたのは？

全ての日本の学校は同じではないとわかるけど、エトワールの生徒全員がiPad持っていることに一番びっくりしました！いい勉強道具だと思います！特にコロナでオンラインの授業になった時にとっても便利でした！

Q、What other differences in culture did you notice?

A、In the school, I thought the greetings were quite Japanese. It was a big difference but it was quite nice. The other differences with culture is the hierarchy system which is not so prominent in England. I think the system is also more Americanized. You have your own individual desk and you sit in rows whereas in my high school we always had tables of 5 or 6 students so it was easy to do group work.

I also learnt a lot about Japanese manners and customs. One of the first things I learnt about was omiyage culture and how it is polite to bring food to your office if you have travelled somewhere.

他の文化の違いは？

学校だと・・・挨拶とかは特に日本っぽい。全然違う文化だったけどいいなと思っていました。他の違いは先輩・後輩の分類で、イギリスには一切ないです。正直日本の学校はイギリスよりアメリカのスタイルに近いと思います。日本もアメリカも自分の席があるけど私の高校ではグループワークが多いため、5・6人に座れるサイズの机が基本でした。

日本のマナーと習慣も沢山学びました。最初に学んだのは旅行する時に会社へお土産を持っていく文化は丁寧だと感じました。

Q、 What was the first Japanese word you learned?

A、 Actually, I studied a little in England before coming here. I took a mini beginner's course so I think it was probably “私の名前は～” because I remember coming here and JET gave us the exact format. My favorite is “よろしくお願いします”.

最初に覚えた日本語は？

実は、来る前にイギリスでちょっと勉強しました。短いビギナーズコースを受けて、JETが挨拶のフォーマットを教えてくれて・・・「私の名前は～」だと思います。一番好きな日本語は「よろしくお願いします。」です。

Q、 What was the most recent Japanese phrase you learned?

A、 It was probably food. Actually, I remember the word for giraffe - キリン - because I looked it up for my class.

最近覚えた日本語は？

多分食べ物？あ、「キリン」ですね。授業で動物の話してたから。

Q、 What's your dream for the future?

A、 My dream for the future is to continue living and working abroad. I really enjoy exploring new countries and learning about different cultures. While living in Japan has been fun, I hope to move to Spain for the next chapter of my life!

将来の夢は？

将来の夢は、海外での生活と仕事を続けることです。行ったことない国を探検し、さまざまな文化について学ぶことを本当に楽しいと思います。日本で住むのはとても楽しいけど、次はスペインに行きたいです。

12) Something you'd like to say to the students

Thank you for a great year. Good luck in the future and I hope to see you all again!!