

Wonderful days with friends in Hong Kong

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This trip was the first time for me to go to Hong Kong. Before I attended the summer camp, I thought that I would not talk with any Chinese students, because there is a gap between Japan and China. All Japanese students were born after the World War II, so it was not because of us (students). But it might be sure that most of Chinese don't like Japan even now, and most of Japanese don't like them, either. I was worried about this travel.

When we arrived at the university, a student in the university welcomed us. She, Cathy, was our ambassador who told us the schedule and showed the university with working around. She was kind, so her kindness relieved my nervous. And I found it really easy to communicate with her. My view of Chinese came to change a little.

After all, I was talked by a Chinese student in a shower room. At first, she took me for one of Chinese students, so she talked to me in Chinese. Then, I told her that I can't speak Chinese. I felt uneasy, because I couldn't predict her reaction. She seemed to be convinced something, and then, she said "So, are you Japanese? Where did you come from? Tokyo?" Tone of her voice was not hard. Though I had ever been to foreign countries, Canada and New Zealand, before this trip, I was never afraid to hear the word "Japanese". But in that case, I was nervous to hear it. However, then, she smiled and told me where her school stands. My nervous was completely dismissed. We talked about our own schools and the climate which each hometown has. And a Singaporean student joined us after that. That was a good time for me.

Three days later, I met one Chinese girl who would come to be close friend. After all presentations, we had a time to discuss the presentations. The conversation was in full swing, and we were talking a lot. I was talked by one girl. She showed me her cell phone and asked "Do you know this?" I found that it was one of Japanese animation characters... I like watching it, so I could understand what she showed me. She looks so exciting, and I was happy, too. We talked about the history of Japanese character, ancient history and politics like one-child policy. She told me that she wanted to have sibling, but that she has no choice because her country has a lot of people. She envied one of my friends who have younger brother. We exchanged e-mail address each other, so I keep on touching with her, now.

I also interacted with other foreign students. But the most impressive interaction was with Chinese students. I assumed Chinese to hate Japanese. But in a sense, it was incorrect. One Chinese girl was so kind to us, and students in Hong Kong showed around the town. Thanks to them, I could spend wonderful days in Hong Kong. I would like to express my deep gratitude to all our friends.