I like to give opinions. I have accounts on all different kinds of rating apps, movie rating, food rating, travel rating, you name it. And I always have one principle on giving opinions of certain things: I need to experience it first. I will buy the ticket of a movie that the whole internet says is bad, and I will go to a restaurant without seeing its ratings first. Especially for travelling, I love to travel to places and see whether it really has stuff that people claim to be negatively influential, or unacceptable, there. Carrying this principle, I went to Finland last year to explore its beautiful landscape and unique culture that I have never experienced before. I found a local from a tour app and asked him to take me for a city walk in Finland’s capital city Helsinki. During the walk, he has showed me the local architecture of Finland plus their historical backgrounds. I have learnt that the Finish people all live in houses that are decades of years old, but they will renovate their home to make it safe and comfortable each year under the funding from the government. Aside with this interesting fact, the tour also told me that the Finish people might look cold and apathetic, but they are some of the most warm-hearted people who would invite a stranger passing by the road to a BBQ party or teach you how to walk on the usually icy road if they saw you trying to walk carefully. These facts about Finland and its culture has strongly contrasted with the comments I have heard of Finland. On the internet, people usually accuse Finnish people as direct and cold-blooded people who prefer loneliness and describe the buildings there as old and boring. But once I have truly been to Finland myself, I have realized that many of the negative comments about Finland is wrong. And some of the negative comments has become understandable after I truly know their culture. For example, the Finnish people might look poker face all the time was not because they were cold-blooded, it is because they were always thinking about something since just Helsinki itself has about 15 national libraries in the city. If you ask these people for help, they will change their poker face to a smiling face immediately and give you all the help they can give.

I believed that such confusions caused by cultural clashes and the unfamiliar culture could be found in Abu Dhabi. I would like to explore this city and see whether the comments about the middle east is subjective or biased. I would walk to every corner of the city, see its architecture and landscape, and talk with the locals there to experience a real middle east, my middle east. There is also a local event I was really interested in called HackAD. Which is a hackathon event in Abu Dhabi for computer science. One of the spirits of NYU, “In and Off the City”, can perfectly describe my way of living once I came to a new city. I was born in Japan, but I went to China at the age of three. During the years living in Shanghai, I have fully explored this city. I know where you can get the best local food, where do you have the best view of downtown, and where can you listen to the best live concert of indie bands. Once I have fully explored a city, I will see it as my community, and I always love to contribute to my community. I have made so many videos about Shanghai and uploaded them to Chinese video sites to attract the tourists. Witht he help of NYU Abu Dhabi’s startup program, StartAD, I could do more to help the local community of Abu Dhabi and NYU. 好了我不知道还有啥能写的，老师你先帮我看看上面这个结构行不行吧哈哈哈哈哈。