Study Abroad In Japan And Culture Difference

I interviewed with one of my American friends. She have been strongly interested in Japan for some years. She told me about her study abroad in Japan. She stayed in Kanazawa, Japan for two weeks. Kanazawa is one of Japanese prefectures, and it has Kanazawa Institute of Technology. The university has a contract about exchange students system with Rose-Hulman. She used the system to go to Japan, and she had many experiences in Kanazawa.

She spent her time from June to August in Japan last year. She had some classes related her major at Kanazawa Institute of Technology. The classes used not Japanese but English, so she did not have any problem in the university. She had a host family, but it was prohibited to live with them together by the exchange program. Then, she rented and lived at an apartment. She had to go to buy something to live and cook. Her had a first trouble at shopping. Many Japanese employees could not listen to and speak English at all. She had learned Japanese for two years in Rose-Hulman, but she could not communicate with them very well. Some Japanese students who belonged to KIT (an abbreviation of Kanazawa Institute of Technology) helped her shopping. They were very kind for her and other exchange students from Rose-Hulman. They taught English and Japanese each other, and the experience helped her to communicate with her host family in Japanese.

In the weekend and during vacation, she visited many famous places in Japan.

Kanazawa is also historical town which has some old architecture and traditional festival. Her

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host family took her those places, and she enjoyed exchange culture. She had an experience that she can not forget it. She, other exchange students and three Japanese students went to a summer festival in Kanazawa. When the fire flower started, they moved to a deserted street because main street was very clouded. Then, a police officer came to them, and he asked, "What are you doing? Are you foreign tourists?" He misunderstood that the exchange students threatened Japanese students because Japanese students were only three, and they were surrounded by the exchange students. Japanese students explained to him, and they went back to main street to avoid such misleading.

She learned different culture, Japanese language, and she got many good memories.

Living alone in foreign country developed herself mentally. She has kept in touch such

Japanese friends and host family. She hopes that she see them again in the future.