

EAP2 Midterm Exam

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A Long Way Home

Everybody knows that being in a foreign country presents many challenges. However, most people probably do not know how quickly those challenges begin. Before I tell you my story and what I learned from it, I would like to explain the context. A few years ago, I took a trip to France. At that time, I spoke almost no French, so my goal was to learn the language while I was in the country. I promised myself that, no matter what, I would speak only French. Five minutes after I got off the plane, I knew I had to make a hotel reservation, so I looked for a phone. However, once I found the phone, I realized I needed a telephone card to pay for the call. Because my French was so bad, I was very nervous about speaking to the person at the airport kiosk. I stood outside and practiced asking, "Do you have a phone card?" in French. I went inside and pretended I was reading a magazine, trying to find the courage to speak. When I finally spoke—hours later—I got a phone card and started making calls. Of course, speaking on the phone was very difficult, but I tried my best. Some people did not understand me, and I did not understand most of them. In my confusion, I actually called a woman, "Sir." She hung up on me. Needless to say, at seven o'clock that night when I finally got to my hotel, I was exhausted but extremely proud of my personal victory. In the end, I learned that I could find the courage needed to overcome my challenges.

References

“Quote.” www.google.com. Google Images. Accessed October 31, 2021.