

Karen Feng (2004 graduate)

Current employment: Gateway Computer Helpdesk Engineer in Tokyo



I have been in Japan for 3.5 years! If you had asked me where do I see myself in 5 years' time when I was a freshman, without a doubt, being in Japan would never been part of my answer. Why? I for one am neither the really ambitious nor adventurous sort. Frankly, all I wanted was to breeze through varsity life, to finish up my degree and settle on a steady job. Besides, the Japanese language was just an interest and nothing more.

I took up Japanese under the persuasion of a friend. Lessons were tough (imagine 7 hours of lessons per week with plus alpha homework) but I persevered on thanks to the company of a whole bunch of classmates. In 2002, I took part in a home-stay program in Hiroshima and I begin to think about experiencing life in Japan. Nearing graduation, I started to explore the possibilities of furthering my studies and that saw me take off to Japan soon after. Japanese had turned from an interest, to a hobby, to a passion and finally a career for me.

I am not sure though where I will be in 5 years from now. But I am sure it will definitely be a job in which I can continue to use Japanese.