

Approximately 40 to 50 Japanese students are currently enrolled in the exchange program that I am attending. I was assigned to a host family of 4. I was so nervous that I wondered if I could live in Canada without big problems because I thought I'm not good at English, but my host family is very friendly and kind, so I can learn English and have fun at the same time.

I experienced various things in this month such as watching fireworks, going to a Powwow that was held by indigenous people as well as going to my school.

Especially, I didn't know Canada has a lot of indigenous people until I came to Canada. All of school have orange shirt day, that is a symbol of solidarity. Wearing orange shirt commemorates the many losses of students and their families in the residential school.

Also, I watched and enjoyed their dance and drum at their powwow. These were interesting.

At home, we eat a lot of interesting and delicious food. Especially, Thanksgiving was very good. We had many dishes completely covering the tables. We had turkey, brussels sprouts, stuffing, mashed potatoes and sweet potato pie. For dessert we had apple and pumpkin pie. All of the chairs at the dining table were taken by many people invited and my host family's members. I went to the book store near the great grandparents' house, and I was very surprised because every book was as expensive as about 20-25 dollars. Also, I was glad that the bookstore had Japanese manga!

I'm in band in my school and play the saxophone, but I had never played it, so I have to practice a lot. The band has a lot of concerts. Last week, I performed in the hockey game. It was my first time to watch the hockey game. I wore school band uniform and held my saxophone, and it was very fun.

As you know I have not only band but also my classes. My classes, media art and introduction to business, are not available at the school in Japan. There are many difficult words in my business class, and I have lots of homework such as watching about one hour video and answer the questions, but it's good opportunity to learn English.

Slowly but surely my English is getting better than before. I'm surprised that I've lived in Canada for one month. It means one-tenth of my studying abroad has already passed. I don't have a lot of time so I want to make the most of it each and every day. I will give it my best every day. I hope my English understanding grows better and improves even more next month. Thank you for reading and see you next time.

