

Hello. November has just ended and 2025 is coming to an end. Most of the leaves fall, and every time I wake up, I can feel that it is getting cold. This month, I got to experience Thanksgiving, which is one of the biggest events in United States.

Thanksgiving is an event where family gathers and eat delicious foods like turkey with a gravy, stuffing, squash and so on to celebrate the abundant harvest. To put it simply, it's a day that we eat, eat, eat and eat. This year, both of their grandparents, uncles, aunts, and their cousins visited our house. We were in charge of preparing turkeys, stuffing and gravy. Gravy is a popular sauce that you dip the turkey into when you eat it. You can tell from its name, but this sauce is made of turkey's gravy that dripped when we put it in the oven. Stuffing is a dish made of bread and many other kinds of spice and sometimes vegetables. There are multiple ways to cook it, but one of the common ways to make it is that you put all the ingredients into the turkey loosely. That way, bread will suck the gravy and tastes amazing. One of my host mother's grandparents brought calzone, Oreo cheesecakes, apple cheesecakes, and quiche. Their desserts were so good that I asked her for the recipe when I had a bite. One of the uncles and aunts brought garlic toast, chocolate chips cookies and brownies. Brownies were made of Reese's Pieces or Andes. Reese's pieces is a famous candy in the United States that is made from peanut butter and chocolate. Andes is chocolate that is mint-green layer sandwiched with two thin chocolates. I liked the one made with Andes.

I enjoyed spending time with their families, surrounding the big table with a delicious meal. I wish I could do that in Japan with my own families, because we live far away from my grandparents, aunts, uncles and my cousins to gather up in one place for just a day. My host father told me that Thanksgiving and Christmas are an event where all the families gather up in one place and spend the whole day in the house. On contrast, New years day is a friend's event where we all go crazy and have a party. I felt a strong cultural and religious difference here, because in Japan, Japanese people tend to spend Christmas with their lovers or with friends and spend New Year's Day with families, watching TV, eating New year's soba, and go for a first visit of the year to the shrine. I am so excited to experience all the upcoming events here!

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