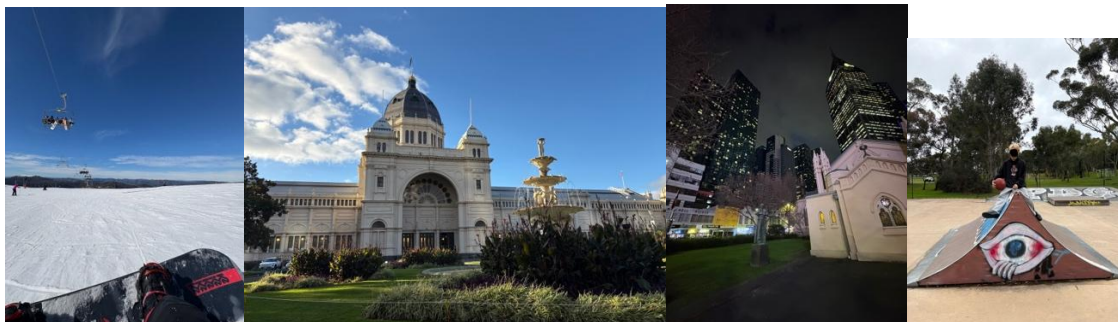


Hello everyone, how's it going, mate!! I think it is summer in Japan, but it is the middle of winter here, so it is cold. July was one long winter break from start to finish. I'm going to write about what I experienced during that time.

I wonder if everyone in Japan is studying hard. Isn't it? To be honest, I haven't really studied much since I got here. When I go back to Hakuo high school, it'll be winter of my sophomore year, so I'll have to study hard for the uni entrance exams. That's why I spent most of the first week of my break studying. I set a goal to study 50 hours in a week. I also boosted my motivation by posting daily study score on Instagram. Since I hadn't studied at all, it was tough at first. But I studied for 13 hours in the middle of the week and worked hard to reach 50 hours of study time for the week. I studied math, physics, English, and chemistry.

However, there was a reason I studied during the first week. That's because I'm going on a trip to Melbourne next week.

During the second week, my family and our friends' family went to Melbourne. It took me 8 hours one way by car to get to Melbourne. So, on the way to Melbourne, I visited a variety of places. I went to large lakes where I could experience Australia's natural beauty, as well as historic cafes where I could get a sense of Australian culture. After arriving in Melbourne, we first walked around the city and had dinner together. It's much bigger city than Adelaide, where I live, and I was really impressed by all the historic buildings. I love traveling, and I get really excited when I see a new city. The next day, we all went to a snowy mountain in the northern part of Melbourne. As a Japanese, it's hard for me to believe that there's snow in July. I was snowboarding in the mountains. Since it was Australia, the mountain was very wide, and because the mountains weren't that high, I could see the scenery in the distance. Starting the next day, I was in the city. There was more things to have fun there than in Adelaide, so it was more fun. I dyed my hair blonde while I was there. There were so many first-time experiences, and I had a great time. If I get the chance, I'd like to go back.



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