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Summary of NTUST summer program

1. What was your most impressive event (lecture, factory visit and cultural program etc.) in this summer program?

The most impressive event was the lecture of GRABIO. GRABIO is a manufacturer which makes the bioplastic. Bioplastic is the plastic which can be biodegradable. Now, how to deal with plastic waste is a serious environmental problem in the world. Bioplastic is one of the solutions for this problem. In the past, plastic waste was brought into China. These plastic waste had been recycled as pellets in China for a long time. But the environmental regulation in China has been more restrictive than before, therefore, most of developed countries bring their plastic waste into other countries such as India, Thailand and Vietnam. In the future, there will be no place to bring it.

I thought that recycling plastic is good for environment and I did not know how the recycle is done. In this lecture, I could know the present situation. GRABIO's solution for this problem is to make bioplastic, but I assume that there are a lot of solutions. In Japan, there is little resources, however, we can develop technologies to solve this problem, and make money. In other words, this situation is a chance for Japan. I thought like this as a mechanical engineer.

2. What did you learn from this summer program? If possible, please describe how to make use of the experience you gained from this summer program in the future.

I learnt 2 things from this program.

First, I found that to talk with foreigners is not difficult. We Japanese are tend to avoid the communication with foreigners because we are not good at English. I was also that kind of Japanese before this program. In this program, I talked with many Taiwanese in English. I made lots of mistakes and they could not understand what I said at that time, but I managed to communicate with them by using body language. Through this program, I could become more aggressive to communicate with foreigners. However it is a fact that higher level of English skill will make deeper communication with foreigners, so I feel I have to brush up my English.

Second, I could learn Taiwan culture a little. I will work at a manufacturer as an engineer from next year. In the future I will make products with foreigners, so to learn another culture is important for me. I feel learning another culture is exciting for me. However, I was worried if I do some rude things for Taiwanese because I could not understand Taiwan culture completely. After the program, I think I would like to learn another culture with respecting the people there.

I would like to make use of these when I communicate with foreigners in the future.

3. Your frank impression (opinion) of this summer program.

I joined this program because I would like to know what kind of classes are done and what are manufacturers like in another country. I am satisfied with these points because I could take various classes and go to Taiwan manufacture offices.

As for Taiwanese students, they were much kinder than I expected. Japanese are thought to be kind by foreigners, but I think Taiwanese are kinder than us. They took us a lot of places and taught us a lot of things about Taiwan. I guess that we couldn't have such a wonderful experience without them. Like Taiwanese, I should be more friendly to foreigners visited Japan and I hope they become to like Japan more.

Below, I will write the bad points in this program.

First, the detail of the last presentation was unclear, so we had difficulty in the preparation for that. And more, on that day, all Taiwanese students in my group were absent. We also had difficulty in that point. I reflect on not asking the details, but there should be any announcement of the presentation.

Another bad point was that the bed in the dorm was so hard and we couldn't take a good sleep every day.

In conclusion, I had a wonderful experience with the help of Taiwanese students, but there were some points that should be improved. If this program will be held next summer, I hope that participants can have a good experience with no difficulties.