

# Cross Talk

October CROSSROADS Language Studio's Newsletter 2005

## TRAVELLING ABOARD

Home-staying and studying abroad are excellent ways to gain knowledge and get a **firsthand** feeling of a foreign country and its culture. The trend nowadays seems to be that students who are studying English are enrolling with a college for a short visit (e.g., 4 weeks)



to Australia, England, Canada or America and **participating** in an intensive classroom environment. Modern courses **tend** to combine English lessons with other activities. This is especially so in Australia and England where you can enrol in courses **as diverse as** “English and surfing” (Australia), or, “English and Crafts” (England). There are also English and Painting classes, English and Hairdressing, Golf, Photography, Horse Riding, Rugby and many more. Students usually live with a host family for the **duration** of their stay and get to personally experience the day-to-day **routine** of an overseas family in foreign surroundings.

Here are three points that may help you decide whether or not you would like to try one of these overseas study plans together with a home-stay program:

1. Being part of a family creates “inner



Learning”. We learn by doing, not by simply observing. Doing everyday things makes language come alive, **energizes** our minds to think and **respond**. Living the language will not only push you to learn the language, it will also help you to value it more.

2. People-to-people connections really count in the long run. They are what stay with us long after sights and activities fade. They are what make us aware that we are connected to “others” in this large world and that we can get along with anyone.
3. We all need to understand our **interconnected** world. Travel in general, especially Home-stay travel, is an excellent way to help us come to this understanding. It’s true that our future depends on people-to-people interchange, and

on developing our understanding of what the shrinking of our globe really means. By travelling and living with other people in their home environments, we gain a better sense of ourselves in this world and how to succeed in the future.

## Glossary

(These words are in **color** in the story)

**first hand** 直接の体験によって得た

**participating** 出席している

**tend** 傾向がある

**as diverse as** . . . のような多様性のあ

**duration** 期間

**routine** 日常作業

**energizes** 活発にする

**respond** 反応する

**interconnected** 相互に連結された

# A Word From Us



**Joshua Says:** Only last month we had to say “goodbye” to one of our favorite teachers, Natacha, who went home to Canada after a long stay in Matsuyama. Again, we must wish another teacher a safe journey home to Canada. Adam will be returning to Canada to be with his family and friends after more than a year here with us. The Crossroads staff, all of his students here and I wish him all the best for the future.

**Junko Says:** Various types of planetariums have become very popular and the news on TV from Tokyo recently featured some new and unique ones. If you visit them you can experience the history of space. In one of these planetariums, you can experience the explosion of a star, feel the sudden gust of wind on your face, feel the vibration from the explosion, and the heat. People are queuing up to get inside! The newscaster asked the Japanese astronaut, Mr. Mamoru Mouri, what he thought about this movement. Instead of giving a direct answer, Mr. Mouri proposed a question, “Do you know why people are so attracted to the stars?” And he went on to say, “we human beings are made up of atoms and elemental particles all of which originally came from space”.



**Adam Says:** Well, after about 6 months in Okinawa and just over a year in Matsuyama, the time has come for me to go back home to Canada. I have had a great time in Matsuyama and I will miss all of my students very much. I hope you all continue your studies in earnest. I wish Crossroads teachers, staff and students the best of good luck... I will miss you all!

**Greg Says:** What do you do to improve your English? Some students listen to English radio programs or watch English TV programs between their weekly lessons at Crossroads and have shown a marked improvement. Others who have improved their ability write a daily diary or simply chat to their Japanese friends in English. One student I know has improved by shadowing (mimicking) the speakers on TV. Try it next time you watch a movie. Repeat every word you hear as soon as you hear it spoken. It is difficult at first, but it is another way to improve your English ability.



**Steven Says:** As the cover article this month is traveling abroad, I want to tell you about 3 of our Crossroads students who spent 4 weeks studying English in Australia and Canada while living with a foreign host family. I was very surprised at the level of improvement in their speaking ability and their new confidence after only one month of intense study. They told me that all of the study they had been doing at Crossroads “kicked in” automatically once they got there.

**Magnolia Says:** As the cooler weather approaches, it is a time to consider our routines and habits. We can avoid the “winter blues” and remain strong and healthy. Try to eat warm foods and beverages. Now is the time to continue doing a little daily exercise and avoid the cold winds. Make some small adjustments and your body will thank you!



**Yuka Says:** As we all know, a lot of people suffer from allergies nowadays, and animals are no exception. According to a magazine article I read the other day, about 50% of Japanese dogs have some sort of allergic disease. My dog is one of them. The causes of these allergies vary from food to stress. I feel even more sorry for these animals because they can't complain about their discomfort. I hope, in the mean time, someone will find a miraculous cure for allergies.

# A Word From You

**Yukiko says from Australia:** Time flies! I have already been here in Perth for one month. I am always busy taking photos of wild flowers. There are a lot of wild flowers booming now. I go to King's Park and the bushes near my apartment house everyday. I am having a very happy time here. Here are some photos of Perth and flowers in King's Garden. "Hello" to Adam and my friends.



## Notice Board

Some scenes from  
last month's  
"Good-Bye to Summer" B-B-Q party



**Hiroki Says:** Last week I visited Kyoko and made my way north to Amanohashidate. It's a beautiful tourist attraction. If you ever go there, try putting your head between your legs and look at the view upside down. You'll find it very interesting!!!



## Net News

### NET LESSONS:

Are you too busy to come to CROSSROADS to study? Try our *lessons on the internet* --- It's CROSSROADS in your home or office! You get CROSSROADS' great teachers, teaching programs, even classmates, *all on-line!* Call for details.

### NET SITE OF THE MONTH:

Here's a site with various tips on living abroad:  
<http://www.liveabroad.com/articles/index.html>

**NET NOTEBOOK:** Don't forget to take a look at the Internet Activity Notebook in our Open-house lounge. You'll find great games, news and English study sites.

### Courses you can take at CROSSROADS

#### GENERAL COURSES:

2 x's 60mins / week  
1 x's 90mins / week  
Private 1 x / week  
Semi-Private 1 x /week

MOTHER & CHILD, group or private  
KIDS, group or private

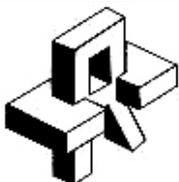
#### COSMOPOLITAN COURSES:

"Singing in English" with Steve  
Yoga with Magnolia  
Guitar with Steve  
"Cooking in English" with Steve & Magnolia  
"Magic in English" with Iain  
Piano with Adrienne  
Aromatherapy with Steve

GERMAN with Marita  
SPANISH with Leo  
RUSSIAN with Natas ha  
FRENCH with Bam & Natacha  
CHINESE with Noriko  
KOREAN with Kim



**NETLESSONS:**  
group or private



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