

# Applied Economics Intensive 2019

## University of Edinburgh, Scotland



### Impressions of Scotland

Hikari Kiyono

When you hear "Scotland", do any impressions occur to you? I think that a number of people may not be familiar with it. Actually, I didn't know so much either before going to Scotland. However, I could come into contact with a different culture during this stay. So, I would like to introduce it.

Firstly, I will mention Skye. Skye is located the north of Scotland. The population of Skye is small, but many tourists often visit there. Because Skye is blessed with rich nature. There are considerable steep mountains, Streams, and sheep. Moreover, I could enjoy the vast sea view. So, Skye is great place for the person who wants to spend relaxing time.

Secondly, I will refer to Edinburgh. Edinburgh is the capital of Scotland. The population is large. In addition, there are a lot of tourist in summer because of Edinburgh festival, so it is very busy. When I went to fringe street, I could see many kinds of shows for free, for example, juggling, violin performance, traditional dance, and so on. Also, there are great sightseeing sites in Edinburgh. I went to Edinburgh castle, Scott Monument, National Gallery of Scotland and so on. All of them were really spectacular. In generally, main transportation is a bus in Edinburgh. I was surprised that many buses share one bus stop with other buses. So firstly, I didn't know which buses I should get on, and I was confused. But I got accustomed to the system, and then I felt it was convenience to go out in holiday.

Lastly, I found many differences between Japan and Scotland during this stay. And I could understand different culture deeply, and I could gain precious experience.



#### Lessons in Economics

Moe Inage

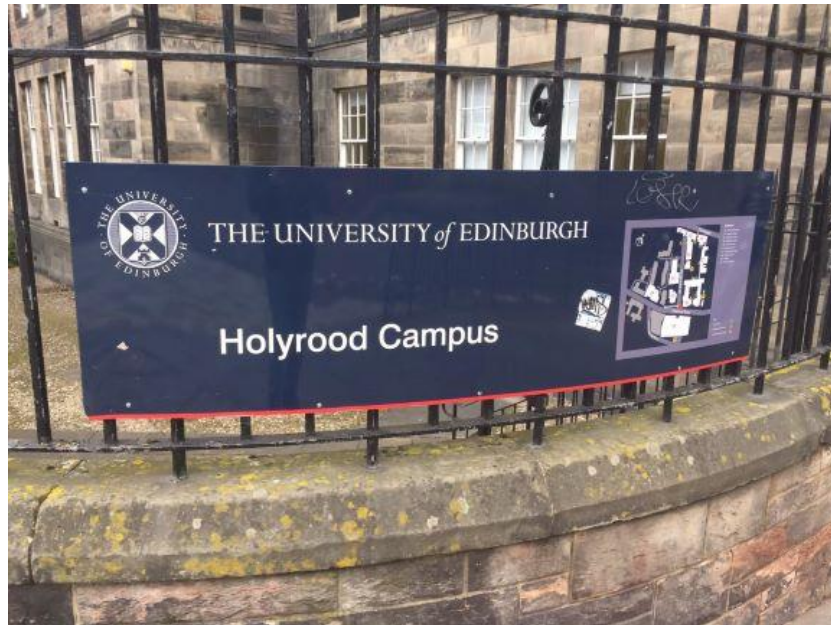
In this summer, I participated in the program of University of Edinburgh and had valuable experiences. I went around the beautiful old town, communicated with local people and studied economics at the University of Edinburgh. In this essay, I would like to talk about the economics lessons. Through this program, I learned mainly three economic knowledges which I can make use of in my future.

Firstly, I studied Scotland's economy in class. Teacher prepared games for us to know about Scotland's economy. For example, we are divided some groups and competed each other for finding data about the Scottish economy earlier. In addition, I researched the Scottish economy for poster presentation and final presentation and listened other classmates' presentations. I was surprised that tourism has huge effect on the Scottish economy and Scotland exported whisky to many countries.

Secondly, I learned academic words and phrases which can be used for writing articles and describing graphs about economics. For example, I learned "hedging", which is needed to distinguish between facts and claims and expanded my vocabularies to descript the form of graphs. As well as this, I wrote essay about Scotland's economy, corrected it and discussed about economical problems, so through these activities, I got used to write and discuss about economics.

Thirdly, I learned global economy. I hadn't ever heard the world, MINT. I knew what MINT is, which countries are included in MINT and these countries' economical situations in detail by writing essays and sharing dates with my classmates. In addition, I studied world organizations, for example fair trade and Oxfam. Especially, I heard Oxfam for the first time. I was impressed by its activity.

Learning foreign country's economy was good experience for me and I improved my English skill through economics lessons. I hope to grow up as a student majoring economics by using the experiences through this summer school.



#### Culture and Society Lessons

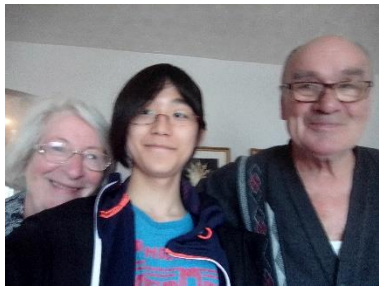
Ryoka Kuroda

I had a variety of lessons in the course of Applied Economics Intensive and I really enjoyed the culture and society lessons. Then, I will tell you about two things which I learned and my impressions about them.

Firstly, I studied a lot about the social system and current situations in UK and Scotland. It was very interesting for me to know about these things such as the basic information about UK and Scottish politics. In addition, we did some role plays which is related to culture and society. For example, I really enjoyed the Job Interview roleplay. In this roleplay, we made pair and did job interview based on the information given to us. It was difficult to answer questions in English, but I had a very good time. In addition, I was be able to know some English phrases related to jobs.

Secondly, I learned a lot about how to explain my ideas. I understood the way to say my opinions through many communication activities such as debates and discussions. The most interesting activity was Dragon's Den. It is the TV program in UK that people show executives called dragons their business plan and try to get investment. In the class, we became dragons or pitchers. Pitchers introduce their products to dragons decided how much money they invest. The class was very difficult because I had to appeal my plan to get money or listen other plans carefully and make questions to them in English, but I enjoyed these processes and I feel happy when I was be able to get a lot of money than I had expected.

I experienced many great activities in the culture and society lessons. I really had a wonderful time and my English skills improved obviously after these activities.



## Impressions of Edinburgh

Naoki Nishiyama

Through this summer school, I was fascinated by historical view of the city of Edinburgh which is registered in world heritage site. This city has the townscapes of Medieval Europe and there are lot of historical cite worth visiting such as Edinburgh Castle, Holyrood Palace, St Giles' Cathedral and so on. Most of those buildings are in "Old City" which is one of the parts of Edinburgh. The other part called "New City" which has not so long history as "Old city" but it has well organized townscapes. While I was here, I could enjoy beautiful contrast of those two cities. The view of suburb also makes an impression to me. In the outside of center of the city, the view change to countryside. There are lot of livestock, such as sheep, cow, horse. I was also fascinated by the calm atmosphere in there. I think Edinburgh has two contrasts between "Old" and "New", "City" and "Countryside".

Moreover, it was a term of festival of fringe. So, there were a lot of people and the city was full of activity. In the street, a lot of street performance such as singing, dancing, juggling was held. Those performances were great and made me happy so much. I also like such an atmosphere of the festival. In addition to those performances, there were also some big events, military tattoo and fireworks concert. The former is one of the most popular events in Edinburgh. I could enjoy wonderful performance of armies from many countries with beautiful projection mapping. The latter is also popular one. I could see a lot of colorful fireworks. The scale was far bigger than I was expected, and I was overwhelmed by such a large scale. Like this, the festival time in Edinburgh was so excited for me and I remembered it clearly.





I really enjoyed summer school in Edinburgh University and I believe that good homestay made my course more delightful. In this essay, I will introduce general information of my homestay and experiences I have got while I was in homestay.

My host family was retired couple and I had taken belief an e-mail before I arrived at Edinburgh. On first day of my stay, we went straight to our host when we arrived at Edinburgh airport. Almost all of my course members were welcomed by their host family, but in my pattern, my host mother's son welcomed me. I was nervous when I met him for the first time. However, he welcomed me calmly and talked to me kindly so I could overcome nervousness. My host house was also used as a hotel, so there were many sightseeing people in my host and my host family used to talking to foreign people. My host family treated me as a member of family so I was invited to a party that celebrates 50th anniversary of my host family's marriage. In this party, I could take conversation with their relatives. I got many opinions about international problems which are surrounding around Scotland such as Brexit. Discussion about Brexit was really stimulating.

To mention something about environment of my host, I think my host was kinder than the other host. I could take shower anytime I wanted and I could choose whether I will eat out or not only if I sent an e-mail to my host mother. Dinner was really delicious especially in my case, my host mother has allergy to wheat so there were meals that use rice instead of wheat.

To sum up with my homestay experiences, it was really satisfying and I appreciate their kindness.



## Impressions of the city of Edinburgh

Ryo Morimoto

When I arrived at Edinburgh, I thought the buildings in Edinburgh were like historic buildings at first. Also, I thought cityscape in Edinburgh were beautiful because the buildings in Edinburgh were in order and the old buildings matched well with the city of Edinburgh. There were many old buildings in Edinburgh which were Edinburgh castle, Holyrood house palace, Scott monument, and so on. My favorite place is Calton hill. Calton hill is one of the world heritage sites. We can see beautiful night view from Calton hill. In addition to this, it takes about only fifteen minutes to walk from center of the city of Edinburgh to Calton hill.

Next, I was surprised at that there are many buses in Edinburgh. When we arrived at Edinburgh, we had to get bus pass as soon as we could because main mode of transportation in Edinburgh is the bus. Needless to say, main mode of transportation in Japan is the train. If you want to go far away like London, Glasgow, Manchester, and so on from Edinburgh, you will use the train. I could not find a bus stop to ride at first day, since there were so many buses and bus stops. I also noticed that a bin box was installed at most bus stops. I don't know the precise reason why the city of Edinburgh is more beautiful than the city of Tokyo, but I think the bin box is one of the reasons.

## The mentors

Takumi Tatebayashi

I don't know whether you'll go to Edinburgh. Though my essay may be boring, I'll be happy if this essay is one of the reasons for being interested in going to Edinburgh. In this essay, I'm going to tell you that the importance of the mentors.

If you go abroad and study in the country that you go for the first time, you may have some worries. For example, "Is my pronunciations correct?", "What is a taboo in this country?", "What food is favorite for students around the university?" and so on. When I reached Edinburgh, I kept feeling these anxious, too. But it is the mentors that solved this problem.

At first, I was confused because I must ask them some questions in English. Moreover, my vocabulary was poor. So, I couldn't tell them accurately what I wanted to say. But the mentors are very kind to us, and I was saved by them a lot. Their names are Chris and Lucia.

Chris is a gentleman. When we were worried, he often noticed and said to us "Do you understand what the teacher said?" or "Do you have any questions?" It enabled us to solve our problem easily. Then, he gave us some opportunities to communicate in English. His smile made us calm. So, we could try to speak English positively. But I regret that I couldn't make some responses to the joke he sometimes said.

Lucia is a charming lady. She often gave us some advices to improve our English skills when we were discussing in the class. In addition to this, she sometimes explained to us the meaning of the word that we couldn't understand in the textbook. I was surprised that she was a boxer. I wanted to watch her punching in boxing, but it didn't come true.

To conclude, without their helps, our program hadn't been success. I cannot thank them enough. So, I wrote this essay with all my feelings of gratitude.



The culture and society lessons

Asahi Yamada

I learned a lot of things through this program. Especially, I can study a lot about UK's culture and society. In this essay, I intend to consider what I learned.

One of the things that we learned is UK's culture. I found that there are a lot of culture's differences between UK and Japan. Therefore, I learned the politeness in Scotland and the UK. I thought what I should say in various situations. There are a lot of level of formality, so I had to think relationships, the content, mood of speaker and listener. I found we can be polite or rude depending on the language and the intonation we use. For example, if I want to be formal, I should use tentative and indirect language because very direct language is associated with informal contexts and relationships.

Also, I learned UK's society. There are a lot of things that I had not known. UK and Scotland have complex system. It was difficult to understand the system completely, but it was very interesting to study it. Especially, I was interested in the relationship of the country in the UK. I had not known the differences of the words, the UK, Great Britain, the British Isles. However, there are a lot of things that I don't know. For example, ethnic, history, size and so on, so I want to study more.

To conclude, I can understand culture and society through this program. There are a lot of things different from Japan, but it was interesting to study different culture. Therefore, I want to learn more not only grammar but also culture, politeness, society and custom in the UK.

### Culture of Scotland

Yukino Miura

I found four points about food culture in Scotland. Actually, the points are not only four but if I mention all of them, it is no limit.

First, as a difference from Japan, Scottish people don't have something hot for their breakfast. One morning, I prepared my breakfast. There was a container of soup in the fridge, and I had it. Later, when my host mother knew that, she was very surprised. She said "You have soup in the morning?" I was surprised too because I didn't know that people don't have the culture to have something hot in Scotland. In Japan, most people believe that having something hot like miso soup is good for their health and performance. It was one of my best shocking events. We have difference in what to eat in our breakfast.

Second, there were many chain stores providing food in various foreign countries. Hamburgers, Italian food and Japanese food. Especially, the number of the hamburger stores excel. Some ones are also in Japan and the others are not seen in Japan. In addition, I was surprised that Japanese food is popular above Scottish people. There are various stores like providing ramen, sushi, yakisoba, takoyaki, and so on. We tried ramen, but it was a little expensive for students. We can eat it for less than one thousand yen in Japan, but in Scotland, it costs more than one thousand and five hundred yen and the amount is not so large. As popular food, you can find Turkish food. There are as many stores as Japanese food. The sign menu was kebab.

Third point is that salmon is popular. As a difference from Japan, they don't eat raw fish. Many menus have smoked, boiled or baked salmon. The sandwich with smoked salmon and vegetables was so nice. In addition to salmon, cod is eaten too. Cod is white fish and many fish and chips are made with it.

Finally, in our survey for the final project, we found that many Scottish families don't eat traditional food often. Some people said that they have the food like haggis about only twice a year. This point is also different from Japan. In Japan, *washoku* has established as a kind of food and many families make and eat many times a year. We discussed why. As an opinion, Scotland has been open to foreign countries much longer than Japan then the resistance to the foreign food is small.

There are many points about only culture of food in Scotland. As both of my host mother and I were surprised when we



found a difference of our culture, I found that we cannot decide which is right or not. The experiences to touch the foreign culture must be good for our breadth of insight.



The economics lessons

Ryusuke Fukuzato

In Edinburgh, I studied a lot of things about culture, history, and economics. In this essay, I'm going to talk about economics lessons.

I was so surprised by the style of class. It was beyond my expectation. These lessons were so different from that of Japan. First, of course, during the class, everyone had to speak only English. It was so tough. Second, we should have expressed our own opinion because foreign people don't like silence so we should have done some reaction. Third, we did group work so many times in the class, which means that we were required our communication skill to some extent.

In economics classes, we learned not only economics but academic reading and writing and pronunciation. It is important to write some economic essay. There were a lot of things I had to remember. For example, I studied adjective and conjunction. These are convenient to make academic report. If you want to write attractive paper, you should use variety of words. Now, I can write more efficient essay to make someone understand. I also learned collocation. I think it is important to speak with English. They use this technic without consciousness so you should learn this if you want to understand what they say and talk with them. Using collocation, these connected words seems to hear another word. I guess it is one of the interesting things about English.

In addition, in the class, I learned economy of some countries such as Scotland, the U.K, and MINT. I didn't know these countries well. In Japan, I hardly heard the name of these countries. I started having interest in other countries after visiting Edinburgh. I reckon experience of another country is pretty important to think something happened in Japan more deeply. Thanks for great opportunity.

## Social events

Keishi Tamanaha

I have enjoyed many interesting events in Edinburgh, such as Edinburgh festival fringe and Military tattoo. Although there were a lot of social events in Edinburgh, I will mention about two events, fringe and Military tattoo in this essay. Edinburgh festival is one of the most famous festival in the world, it includes fringe and Military tattoo.

Firstly, I will mention about Edinburgh festival fringe. A lot of shows are held in the fringe, some shows can be watched for free. In addition, some shows can be watched in a theater, the others can be watched at a street. That is why, Edinburgh is very lively in August. I have watched two shows, Somosomo and Free style. Surprisingly, Somosomo was played by Japanese woman, Yuriko Kotani. Her English skill was so good, it was little difficult for me to understand what she spoke because she spoke English very fast and she speak a lot of British joke. Free style is a performance that include skate board performance, bicycle performance, or dance. I was very excited by Free style, it was so thrilling.

Secondly, I will mention about Military tattoo. Army of various countries, for example, Scotland, U.K. Nigeria, Germany, China, New Zealand, France play famous music or traditional music using many kinds of musical instruments. At the end of the show, magnificent fireworks set off. I was so excited to the show because the parade and musical performance was great. Moreover, I was so interested when I heard the music I know. I think Military tattoo may help us to interact other culture, help unit the world one.

I think the experience in Edinburgh is very precious, so I won't forget it, I want to make use of this experience in my life.



## Highland tour

Yuta Naito

We had highland tour on first weekend. Highland is northern area of Scotland and gradual hills extend almost all of this area. One of the fascination of this tour is beautiful landscape. Great Britain belongs to old orogenic belt and we can see particular geographical features in highland. There are many good hills, rivers, and lakes like in tales or movies. Highland is good place to relax, however, the population of it is very smaller than other areas of Scotland. We dropped in some towns but all towns are very small even Fort William where there is train terminal. I thought highland is more deserted than Shimane prefecture in Japan. But I found the scene by which I was impressed in such a small town.

On the Saturday, we stayed in a hostel in Kyleakin, which is on the side of Skye island of the bridge between the island and Great Britain. The town is so small that I can finish walk around the town only about a half hour. At night, it had a festival. A tent was built on the central square and many people got together and drank alcohol in the tent. There may be more people than the population of this town and they look very happy. I guessed some people who grew up in the town and went out to Great Britain came back the day to participate the festival and talk with old friends. The light of telegraph poles, country sound listened from the tent and appearance of people are very beautiful and this scene makes me moved. I think if I hadn't been the program, I wouldn't meet such an experience even in future.

On the other hand, I couldn't participate the festival because I don't have confidence to talk with drinking people. I wish I had participated the party. I have never felt the necessary of English skill.

#### The research project lessons

Kei Nagato

I learned at Edinburgh University for a month, so I'm going to introduce the research project lessons. In the end of the research project lessons we did a presentation about what we research. In first two weeks we did a research for poster presentation. In poster presentation, we researched the given topics we were interested in. We used the website mentors gave us and the others, and deeply understood the contents about the topics, to do poster presentation spontaneously. In this project I think I can improve my skill to speak spontaneously and confidently. In next two weeks, we did research for final presentation. In final presentation, we research about what we interested in and related to economics.

In research step we researched outside the university and ask some questions to people in the street. It needs a lot of brave and talking skill. Firstly, I hesitated to talk with people in the street, but after talking with first people, I understood most people are kind enough to ask question. From this I feel taking actions first may be useful to understand the fact. Also, I got the importance of that.

For final presentation, the mentors told us the ways to make the contents easy to understand for audience. I think this made our presentation fluently. And there is no script for the presentation, so we can use only cards. It supported me to talk spontaneously. In presentation step we did presentations and gave feedback each other. I think the feedback may makes our next presentation better. In addition to these I think these skills I got in this research lessons may be useful not only in English but also in Japanese. I think we can use these skill

#### Highland tour

Akashi Yoshida

In August 2019, I joined Applied Economics Intensive and stayed at Edinburgh in Scotland. In this program, student from YNU participated in a Highland tour. Highland is located in the north of Scotland, and there are many sites to see. For example, we went village of Luss. Luss was a very beautiful tourist friendly village with lots of nice cottages. Also, we visited Eilean Donan Castle, which is the most photographed castle in Scotland. It is popular attraction in the Highlands

and surrounded by truly majestic scenery. In addition, we went to the main town, Portree. Although it is a very small town and only about two thousand people live in that town, it was lively and has colorful buildings. In Highland tour, especially we saw the very big nature. There are beautiful mountain, lake, and water fall. Every nature in Highland was magnificent and beyond description. In Highland tour, we made a trip by bus. Not only students in YNU but also those who came from other countries joined this tour, so there were some opportunities to talk with foreign people, and actually I talked with a girl who came from Arabia. Also, our bus guide was very frank and friendly lady and she told us a lot of things about Scotland. In the bus, we listened to a lot of music such as popular song in the U.K. and local music in Scotland that she recommended. At last, everyone in the bus sang the very popular song in Scotland, and we had a nice time. Highland tour took place at first weekend, so we didn't know each other so much until that. However, we could talk with each other during that trip, furthermore, we did a room party and got on intimate terms. It was one of the best memories in Edinburgh.

#### Impression of Scotland

Tomohiro Hotta

I have felt that Scotland is so good country for sightseeing. I went to Edinburgh and Highland. At first, I don't know sightseeing spots of Scotland. Edinburgh is the capital city of Scotland and famous sightseeing spot. Firstly, Highland has very beautiful scenery of nature. For example, a river and railway famous for movies and glorious mountains. Those scenery made me impressed. Also, at the town we stay overnight, there is impressive party. I felt encouraged and be noisy but I did not drunk. Secondly, Edinburgh city has many famous sightseeing spots. Particularly, I like Edinburgh Castle, Edinburgh Old Town and Edinburgh Zoo. Edinburgh Castle is a fortress on the Castle Rock in ancient times and the symbol of Edinburgh. When you enter this castle, you can view Edinburgh city overall. Moreover, the parade which is called *Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo* is held in this castle at night in August. I did not go to see this event but my friends show me videos of this event. I felt that this event was the most wonderful public military event. If I come Edinburgh again, I will go to see this event. Edinburgh Zoo is the largest zoo in Scotland and 1000 kind of animals live in this zoo. For example, giant panda, lion, snake, and penguin. I was surprised at the scale of penguin corner and penguin parade. There is the area which is called "Penguins Rock" in this zoo. The main pool for penguins is Europe's largest outdoor penguin pool. you can see the birds have fun with a beautiful stone waterfall feature, a water shoot in the shallow end of the pool, and a diving board made out of carved rock. Also, you can enjoy the famous penguin parade. Penguins walking like human child is very cute.

#### Research project lessons

Naoto Nozu

We had a presentation at the end of this course. This presentation was performed by two members. We were told to follow this following process to make a good presentation. Firstly, team which consist of two students who are interested in the similar thing talked each other and then decided their topic. Secondly, it may have been most important part of this process, we made ten questions which is relevant to our topic and then asked local people to answer these questions, in

the park or on the street, and so on. And then we got needful information on the internet. Finally, we made presentation on the basis of these pieces of information.

You may feel it was tough task. It's true! We become very nervous while doing this task. Especially to speak to local people was very hard for us because we had no idea about how to speak to just another person who is walking fast or talking with their friends. However our teacher taught us how to start our interview or how to give responses to make the conversation go smoothly. So, this problem was solved. However there were another problem, that is, we hesitated to speak to local people and couldn't work up the courage to do so. To overcome this difficulty, we must have been brave. It was our own problem. Our teacher couldn't help us to be brave. Therefore it was very tough for us.

Eventually we all were able to ask local people and finish our tasks for presentation. Of course this task improved our English skills, but more than that, our positiveness was improved and we became able to act spontaneously. In my opinion positiveness and spontaneity may be as important as language skills when we communicate with foreign people.

I think what is the most important we attain through this task may be positiveness and spontaneity. I will challenge myself to new things with positiveness and spontaneity.



#### Homestay Experience

Rikako Minamide

During stay of Edinburgh, I stayed with Mr. and Ms. Le Sueur, and their daughter, Ellie. That experiences were very new, wonderful and precious ones for me. I have some memories with them; eating traditional Scottish food, talking about some problems, and showing my final presentation. There are so many great experiences, so I cannot write everything.

The experience that I was surprised first was the differences of the culture between Japan and Scotland. For example, they treated me as an adult, they were surprised at something small and usual for me. Now I am 19 years old and student, so people around me in Japan do not usually treat me as an adult, but children who cannot drink alcohol and have probably the same responsibility as usual adult. However, my host family thought of me as an adult, so I had conscious of responsibility more and felt the differences of culture.



The second experience that I cannot forget is the host mother's food and food time. She offered many kind of food, not only Scottish meal but also Spanish meal. The most impressive food was haggis. During the stay, I ate haggis several times at some restaurant, but her haggis was the best. Moreover, while eating, we talked some kind of topic, the problem of Japan and Scotland like life pension and health, and I listened to their experiences in other countries and felt the history. It was a very good lesson for me.

The third and the most impressive memory was the practice of my presentation. I had to give a presentation on the day before last day. I did not have a confidence but my host mother offered a suggestion that I gave a presentation, and I did. After it, each of my host family gave me advices which helped me. I used some of the vocabulary that they used and after the performance, teacher praised for my vocabulary.

They taught me more things than what I describe, and I was happy for living with them for one month. I hope we will meet again.



Social program

Urara Yasuda

There are five social programs during the summer school in Edinburgh University. Those are City bus tour, Highlands and Isle of Skye Weekend Tour, Ceilidh, Edinburgh Fringe Festival, and Farewell party. The most memorable programs was City bus tour. It was the first day of our program, so everything which we could see from the bus window were new. I was fascinated by the beautiful town Edinburgh at that time. Compared to Japan, Edinburgh has a lot of historical building. Because of the number of earthquake disasters there are a few number of historical building in Japan, on the other hands, the UK doesn't have such a disaster so most of building are made by stone and seems to be old. We took a lot of photo there, and when I looked them on the end of the course I could identify the place where I took the photo

without any knowledge.

Another fantastic social program is Ceilidh. It is pronounced Kay-lee, and the traditional Scottish dance. The place where Ceilidh was held was high school, and we could enjoy not only dancing but also Scottish folk music, too. That was for the first time for me to try the Scottish traditional dancing, so I was a little nervous but no problem at all. The teacher named David told us how to dance them with funny jokes. As far as I can see, there were a lot of foreigners at the high school and all of them enjoyed the dancing.

At the last day of my course the course director held a farewell party. Before the party we prepared some presents for our teachers and mentors. On the end of the party we could give it to them. Since they seemed to be really happy with the presents, I was really glad.

#### The economics lessons

Masaya Hori

In this essay, I'd like to talk about the economics lessons at the University of Edinburgh. Firstly, we were divided into 2 groups, so each class had around 12 students. That's why, we had many opportunities to speak our own opinions in the class and we were taken deep advices from our teachers.

Of course, the economics lessons part focused on economics. We read some articles and told classmates some information about it. We also discussed it. For example, we thought differences between the Japanese economy and the Scottish economy. We also thought about MINT countries, and Fair trade. Since all my classmates had varieties of own opinions about problems, I enjoyed discussing with my colleague.

We also wrote 2 our own essay in the economics lessons. Especially, we took care of using academic vocabularies and using heading words and linkers. Our essay came to be academic through these skills. We handed in both 2 essays and our teachers checked our essay. They checked it detail and they answered our questions very kindly.

Of course, there were a lot of homework to do. However, we were able to have plenty of time to complete them and there are many places to do them in the University of Edinburgh. There is also a great café near the university.

As a final project of our summer school, we had to make presentations about Scottish economy. We worked in 2 or 3 people group and cooperated in each team. We interviewed local or visitor people in Edinburgh and analyzed results and did presentation. Through these works, we improved our skill to communicate with people who speak English, and our teamwork skill were raised.

In this program, I learned a lot of unforgettable things. I was very happy to participate in this program.



Social events

Taisei Ogawa

During my summer school at Edinburgh, I could experience a lot of things. If I talk about only social events, there are many contents. One of that is cèilidh. It is a dance party in which we can learn Scottish traditional music and dance. I am not so good at dance and party but ceilidhs has very good atmosphere so I could enjoy and could talk people who come from not only Scotland but also various countries such as France, Italy and so on.

Another event is Fringe. It is a very famous and one of the largest art festival in the world. In the fringe, numerous number of people perform their program, such as musical, concert, play, circus and more. Fringe is held during August and in that period, some road streets become pavements and a lot of street performers are there so we can enjoy that in free and I also enjoyed it. In the Fringe, I found a Japanese street violin player. She played nice BGM on the street and got a lot of attract and clapping. Finally, I will tell about the biggest social event in Scotland, Military Tattoo. It is a music festival which has long history but it is not just a simple music concert. In this concert, every playing are done by band of military who comes from around the world. It is held in front of Edinburgh castle and 2019 Tattoo was done by over 14 nations military bands with great performances and a lot of fireworks. Each of their performance is very beautiful and especially the final program which has done by every countries band had great power.

Every events gave me rich experiences and chance to touch different culture so those are special memories for me and I never forget them.

## Homestay experience

Kohei Shimokawa

My topic is about homestay experience, so I am going to write about my invaluable homestay experience at Susan's house in Scotland.

First, I want to let you know about my homestay family. Her name is Susan. Ms. Susan said she was over 60 years old. She was so kind for me. For example, when I planned to travel to Islay, which is the island in Scotland, I found I needed something like suitcase to carry my baggage. At first, I tried to use my suitcase, but it was too big to take that one. So, I asked her to lend me something useful to carry my luggage. She said "Yes. I lend you small suitcase." Unfortunately, that suitcase was in the attic storage. It seemed she could not take out that one because of her age. However, she called her friend, who was muscular, and he took out the suitcase from attic storage. She could solve my problem. Whether the problems were easy or hard to solve, whenever I need help, she tried to help me. So, I cannot thank her enough for her help.

Next, I also want to mention about my neighbors; Paburo and Warner from Spain to study abroad. Paburo was 21 years old. What I was surprised at was Warner was approximately over 40 or 50 years old. We sometimes went to pub and talked a lot of topic about Spain, Japan, the UK, favorite, study and so on. I had very good time with them. I could learn something new from their talk, way of thinking, nationality and religious. I felt I could broaden my perspective, which was one of my goal. It means I was able to achieve my goal.

Finally, although I felt nerves about my homestay before I experienced it, now I strongly felt my homestay experiment turned out to be a great success.



## Highland tour

Yuka Yamamoto

August 10th, we got on the bus at 8 o'clock and set out for the Isle of Skye. Some hours after we went through Glasgow, we were able to see beautiful scenery of mountains from the bus. Our bus stopped several times so that we were able to take some pictures. I took a lot of pictures of the scenery and my friends took some pictures of me with the mountains. Weather was fine, so we enjoyed a lot. We drove on the road of Glencoe, where "Skyfall" and "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban" were filmed.

After we arrived at Isle of Skye, I went to an old castle, named Maon castle with some of my friends. This castle was on the hill and looked ruined and haunted. We had to climb steep road of the hill right next to the sea, so it was dangerous. I was very anxious about it, but after we reached at the top of the hill, we were able to enjoy the scenery of the Isle of Skye. We also enjoyed the local food and fish and chips.

The next day, we climbed a mountain to see The Old Man of Storr, which is Skye's most famous landscape. It is a 50m high pinnacle on the mountain. We had to climb the steep road in the rain. We were exhausted when we reached the top but we were able to see a lot of mountains and the sea. After that, we went to a town Portree, which is the capital of Skye, to have lunch. I ate fish and chips made from fish caught the sea near the town. It was delicious.

I really enjoyed this tour. If I have time, I want to go there again.



## Impressions of Scotland

Rintaro Watanabe

After this program in Edinburgh, my impression of Scotland changed after all. Actually I did not expect this program was such amazing. I have visited some countries such as America, Canada and Australia. But I like Scotland the best of all those countries. Of course it depends on my taste which country I like the best. However, it is certain that Scotland is such an attractive country. Then I will write about the change of the impression of Scotland.

Before I go to Scotland, I did not know Scotland well. What I had known was that Scotland is a part of



United Kingdom and football is popular there. Also, I did not recognize clearly the difference between Scotland and England.

However, having joined this program, I came to know and like Scotland very much. Edinburgh is the most beautiful city I have ever visited. The streets and houses of Edinburgh were so elegant. Edinburgh retains the atmosphere of an ancient city. Also, Scottish people are so kind to us. I love my host family and the teachers of University of Edinburgh.

And I realized the difference between Scotland and England. I went to London in three days weekend. But there was different atmosphere in those countries. I prefer Scotland to England. Of course London is so big a city which has a lot of places to see. But London is a noisy city. Sometimes, there is trash along the street. I think Scotland is good for the tastes of Japanese people. In addition, political opinions are also different. The United Kingdom is going to leave EU. But most Scottish people oppose to the UK leaving EU. It is because political situation is different from England to Scotland. Actually I saw the movement asking for the independence of Scotland from the UK. Thus, I realized how great a country Scotland is and I became fond of this country. I want to visit there again someday.

#### Impressions of the city of Edinburgh

Keiichiro Takagi

When I went down to the city of Edinburgh firstly, I felt that that Edinburgh is old and beautiful like the townscape of Medieval Europe, but I also felt the impression of coolness. After I took the taxi and met my host family, I also felt there was something like a wall between the city of Edinburgh or Edinburgh people and I, and felt alienation. However, as I got used to the life in Edinburgh, such negative feeling had disappeared, and I gradually realized that such feeling came from that I built the wall in my heart without noticing and merely tried not to understand them.

After that, the impression of the city of Edinburgh completely changed. Most Edinburgh people were always kind for me, and when I got confused, they came to talk to me and tried to help me. The townscape of Edinburgh also came to comfortable for me. For example, I'd thought the stone-paved path as the obstacles for bus driving until then, but I changed my assumption and I understood that this stone-paved path was necessary to keep the historical landscape, to put it other word, the harmony of the city of Edinburgh don't without this road.

Moreover, Edinburgh was always surrounded by lively music partly because Edinburgh has Fringe festival in August. This situation made the town lively and enjoyable. In Japan, if the music is playing on the town, some people complain about it because they think that as noise. In Edinburgh, however, the bagpipe always singing, and all people accept it as routine, so no people grumble about it.

Therefore, of course, the city of Edinburgh is completely differ from Japanese city, so the Japanese people who visit Edinburgh for the first time almost be embarrassed and feel inconvenience. However, if only you stay at Edinburgh some days, Edinburgh should become your second (or third) home!

In the University of Edinburgh, we all took a four-week course to study English and economic. We have learned about how to write an academic style paper and to use professional vocabularies or idioms appropriately. In addition, this course has included two presentations. Poster presentation was held in the end of second week, and Final presentation was given in the end of our course.

In the Poster presentation, we made each presentation by two or three students, and next, gave the presentation by one, then finally, talk with audience about the topic. I made up it with two friends. We researched on each topic about Scottish textile and collected into one presentation. I felt it's a little difficult to understand completely about other topics and explain them clearly. In addition, I thought this presentation style may be effective to let audience understand topics because audience can question freely. I also explained their question carefully or questioned other presenters actively. From this experience, I got used to speak formal English in a presentation.

In the end of our course, we gave the Final presentations in pairs. In order to make up the presentation, we had to research some information about each topic. More than that, however, the presentation aimed at interviewing other people to think up creative content. We all had to interview some people, about 10 people, on streets. This process could improve my confidence to speak and converse in English with somebody. Now I believe I'm able to communicate with foreign people without hesitation or tension. In addition, I was able to include linker words and hedging words which I learned from the course to my presentation to make it clear. I strongly believe I got a confidence to use English and understood how to speak or write English through that course.



