

Learning English through Workplace Communication

Have you ever thought of working overseas to gain special experience? I had. I am glad that I had a chance to work on a sheep farm in New Zealand.

Last year, my sister, Annie, and I took a gap year went to New Zealand to work on a large-scale sheep farm. This was the first time to work overseas. Annie and I both had mixed feelings. Since we wanted to gain overseas experience and widen our horizon, so we were willing to leave our family and friends to travel to a foreign country. Also, we hope for experiencing foreign life and simple life. We live in a hustling and bustling city, but we never enjoy our life delightedly. We studied around the clock and created huge pressure because of our academic achievement. Therefore, we decided to release ourselves and relax through this working experience. However, we did not have many chances to travel overseas or worked in a completely strange city and we believed that we would become mature after the trip.

Actually, worked on a sheep farm was not an easy job. At the beginning, we thought we only needed to feed the sheep and take care of their daily life. However, we underestimated the duties we had to do and we did not adapt to the life in New Zealand. As a sheep farmer, except the daily care, we were also responsible for shearing wool and giving medication orally or via injection. What's more, we had to monitor farm buildings and fences, maintained farm equipment and managed waste including sheep's and shepherd dogs' fences. These were not effortless things. I trusted that nobody wanted to manage waste especially the citizens as people always think this is a soiled and stained job. Although the jobs were complicated, we finally overcame it after a period of time and adapted to this pleasant simple life even making me unwilling to come back to Hong Kong.

The period we worked in New Zealand was very enjoyable and pleasing. It is my unforgettable memory and I have considered to taking another chance to work aboard again. I have learnt many things including their local culture, how to manage a farm, communication skills, etc. these all make me become more mature. Also, I learnt more about agriculture without learning in school. It changed my thought of living in a village. Before I went aboard, I always thought that city dwellers were at higher level than villagers. But this is wrong, living in the village is not bad for me and all the villagers are very kind and humble.

If you have a chance to go aboard, please grab it immediately. Chance is give to

people who are ready to get it.