

International internship in Vietnam

Mie University

Faculty of humanities, culture

Grade: 3

Name: Koki Takizawa

I My purpose and schedule

(1) The purpose of this internship

I took part in international internship program in Mie University. I went to Vietnam to teach Japanese from October 28 to November 9. At first, I will explain two reasons why I decided to participate in this internship program.

One is to improve a presentation skill through teaching Japanese. At the beginning of this year, I entered a Circle. The name is “Joia”. Our activities in this group are to ask what Japanese immigrant children don’t know including daily life and to teach Japanese and other subjects to them. Continuing to do these activities, I came to feel like teaching Japanese not only in Japan but also in foreign county and getting a wide field of vision through cultural exchange.

The other is to know world history through visiting places related to history in Vietnam. I entered to a Faculty of humanities because I’m interested in world history. In Southeast Asia, there were sad histories about extraction and war. I want to have opportunities to think deeply about world history.

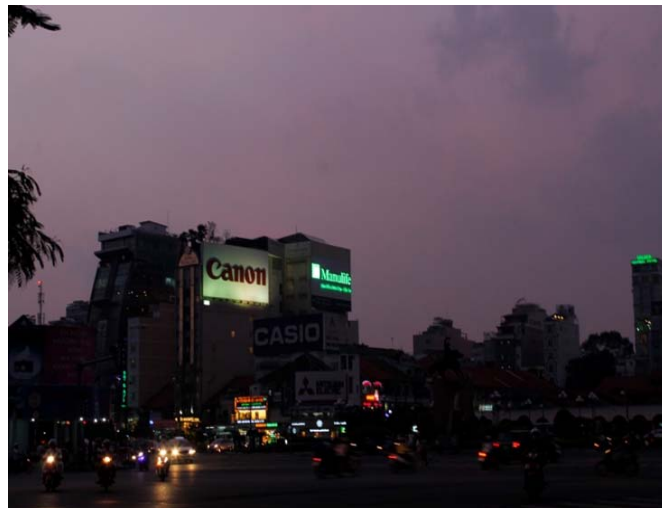
(2) Detail schedule

Date	Schedule
October 28 (Mon)	Arrival in Ho Chi Minh City
October 29 (Tue)	Orientation
From October 30 (Wed) to November 1 (Fri)	Watching Japanese Class
November 2 (Sat)	Sightseeing in Ho Chi Minh City
November 3 (Sun)	Sightseeing of <i>Aki Matsuri</i>
From November 4 (Mon) to 8 (Fri)	Watching and practical training in Japanese Class
November 9 (Sat)	Sightseeing in Cu Chi tunnels Departure from Ho Chi Minh City

II Introduction of Ho Chi Minh City and Internship’s place

(1) Introduction of Ho Chi Minh City

For this internship, I visited Ho Chi Minh City. Ho chi Minh is a part of Southern in Vietnam. Before 1976, this city was called Saigon and was a capital in South Vietnam. This city is one of the biggest cities in Vietnam and central of this country’s economy. There are many branch offices of Japanese companies, such as Canon and TOSHIBA.



Vietnam was also a colony of France so we can see European-style buildings there. In a guide book, Ho Chi Minh is called “Paris in the East.” On the other hand, there are undeveloped places there. I think we can feel both European atmosphere and the enthusiasm in Southeast Asia.



And many people ride a motorcycle so there are too many motorcycles at a road. At first I didn't know how to cross there when I crossed the street.



(2) Introduction of Internship's place

My Internship's place is Ho Chi Minh City University of Pedagogy. The university has a lot of major subjects and one of the fields of study in this university is Japanese. Many of the students hope to be teachers. However, as stated above, nowadays many Japanese companies come to Vietnam, so other students hope to be interpreters and translators. In some high schools, Japanese is taught as a subject and the number of Japanese major students increases. Most of students go to university by bus or motorcycle. The starting fare in buses is from 25 to 30 yen, so it is very cheap.



For this internship, I stayed at a dormitory of this university. At night, between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m., students studied on the first floor. Students studied very hard, I thought I must follow the example of them.



III Reports of Internship

(1) Watching Japanese Class

As stated the upper table, I watched Japanese class from October 30. The class time was about three hours. It was very long time for students, so teachers elaborated teaching plan. Next I will introduce some of class.

• Class E, the first grade

When I watched this class, students were studying the sentence structure “*~ga ... ni imasu/arimasu*”, or the structure of “there be” in English. Once they finished studying this structure, they began to play two games. They made two teams at first. The first game was a class teacher put cellphones, dolls and other small items into the bag, and the representatives of two teams counted how many small items there were in the bag and answered the number in Japanese. The second game was students put various small items around the chairs and the representatives put a bandage over their eyes and looked for them. Other students said the place where small items were in Japanese. Both games were very exciting.

The students also learned a lot of Kanji.



• Class B, the third grade

I watched Japanese-reading of this class. The quality in sentence was very high, but students did their best. They also studied Japanese-writing. Although there were many difficult expressions, they wrote Japanese exactly.



(2) Practical training Japanese Class

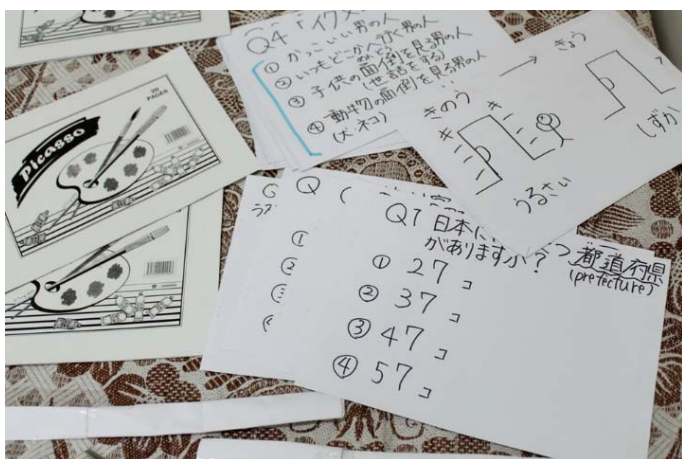
From November 4 to 8, I taught Japanese to this university's students. Next I will write the details.

• Class B, the third grade

In this class, I taught words in fashion in Japan. I collected them and made questions which had four choices. This class had about 20 people so I gave directions to make four groups and think what words mean in team's members.

This class was the first practical training so I got tense. However I gradually relaxed because students looked happy to know the Japanese words which weren't in textbook.

The best impressive thing in this class was to introduce the word "*ikumen*". This word means the men who willingly take care of children and nowadays the number of this tends to increase. However through this class, I knew both men and women look after their children in Vietnam. I caught a glimpse of cultural differences between Japan and Vietnam.



• Class A, the first grade

I taught applied expression of adjective, for instance “*nagakatta*” and “*mijkakunarimashita*” in this class. I prepared a tube made of paper and cut it to show change. Students in this class were beginners of Japanese, so they didn’t know many Japanese words. When standing the podium, I continually thought what words I should use to talk simply.

I found there are many things to improve. Other teachers used gesture but I didn’t so much. To do a lucid explanation, I felt I should use not only implements but gesture more.



IV Holidays

(1) Places about the Vietnam War

In weekend I went to places about the Vietnam War. Going to historical places was one of my purposes in this internship.

On November 2, I visited WAR REMNANTS MUSEUM. There were many pictures there. Some were the spots about this war and others were those who have difficulties because of defoliant. I felt this war was very disastrous and at the same time defoliants had great influence on human bodies. Look at the picture below. A boy had also a difficulty because of defoliant. However I felt he practices the musical instrument very hard. This picture gave me courage.



On November 9, I visited Cu Chi tunnels. These were made by Viet Cong during the Vietnam War. Around the tunnels, there were various traps and the tunnels were very narrow so that Americans couldn't enter there.



(2) Aki Matsuri

On November 3, I went to the festival called *Aki Matsuri*. I met many people in Japanese character costume. Although I was in Vietnam, I felt I was in Japan. In Vietnam, Japanese subculture is popular. Many students like cartoon, such as *Doraemon*, *Conan*, and some of women like *ARASHI*. People often say Vietnam is pro-Japanese and I really felt so.



V Living and foods

(1) Living

I stayed only two weeks so in the first week I had trouble being accustomed to Vietnam's life. The traffic laws, climate, foods were different from Japan. However I found a convenience store, *MINI STOP* and bought goods made in Japan. I was really relieved to see them because I was very nervous.



Although it was dry season in Vietnam during my stay, it rained almost every day. A Typhoon also came and the heavy rain caused the road to overflow.



(2) Foods

During I was in Vietnam, I ate many kinds of foods. Everything was very delicious.

The food in the picture is called “*Pho*” in Vietnam. This is famous for Vietnamese food. The color of noodles can be changed because of changing food coloring. Look at the picture below. The noodles were red cabbages.



The food is called “*bainnmi*”. In many cases, this food was made in a street stall. The price is about 50 yen so it’s very reasonable. I ate it as breakfast because there was a stall near the dormitory.



VI Conclusion

In this Internship, I met many people and felt their kindness.

In terms of teaching, I found good points and bad points of my teaching. Through this experience, I through my teaching skills was sophisticated.

I hoped to go to Southeast Asia so I had a special experience to go there and see many things. If I have free time, I will go there again.

The last day of my stay, members who stay in the dormitory held my farewell party. Many students also gave me presents. These are my treasure. I am deeply grateful to everyone. Thank you so much.

