

## Can you tell the difference?

1. It was fun to see such a different world than I am used to being around. I have never really experienced the culture so fully as when I was there although I have visited China towns and studied much culture after studying Chinese since 8th grade. I have really enjoyed having those experiences of being more aware of what the culture I have been studying is really like. I got to see how some stereotypes were true and how others were so wrong and I had fun doing it too.
2. I took a side trip into Malaysia with two other participants on the trip. I realized how easy it was to go explore other countries on my own even when I don't speak the language. This experience set the stage for me to continue to travel internationally for my own purposes in the future.
3. I learned that there isn't just one right way to live your life, and that there are good people all around the world.
4. I witnessed people living reasonable, happy, and successful everyday lives but in a manner different from my way. I saw new ways to think and feel and realized that much of my preferences and characteristics were dictated by my culture and society.
5. I realized that as different as cultures can be, deep down people are all the same. We all care about spending time with our families and providing the best life we can for them. Study abroad made me realize that I would be interested in living and working abroad and gave me the confidence to believe that if an opportunity comes up, I know I can succeed and enjoy the challenge.
6. It was a huge learning experience, my opinions about how business works were changed--I discovered there's a lot of value in the work financial companies do for helping the world run smoothly.
7. I had thought public transportation was inefficient and overrated. Riding around the underground in London made me wish we had a better public transportation in the US.
8. After seeing all of the awful consequences the Japanese people suffered as a result of America's decisions, I didn't understand how of all places on earth, they could treat us so well there. I remember asking a Japanese member of our group and he spoke to me about how able they as a people are to forgive. It caused me to reevaluate my attitudes and behaviors.
9. I saw that many of the cultural differences were intriguing and one was not necessarily better than another. I discovered more fully that the world is filled with rich diversity that is to be understood and appreciated.
10. I became more aware of the world around me.

11. Because we visited five countries (and multiple cities within some of those countries) I feel like I came away with a greater appreciation for the diversity within Asia. Looking back on my experience, I feel like it is short-sighted to label a way of life as "Asian" or try to design a product or service for the "Asian" market.

12. Listening to other ex-patriots talk about their lives overseas I was able to realize just how large of a part of my life that culture is for me--gave me a renewed sense of identity.

13. The importance of work / life balance and the establishment of an economy based around national culture.

14. My perspective of how business works in the world was expanded. I am now much more aware of the world around me and the different cultures in Europe.

15. I found out there are kind and caring people all over the world.