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Sponsored by: D3470- Yong Kang RC

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大家好：

我是2009-2010年永康扶輪社派遣的台灣交換學生黃雅筠。今天我很榮幸被邀請來分享我的交換過程和心得。

我想我真正認定自己是一個交換學生是在選定國家的那一刻。還記得那一天，我是第一個上去選國家的。剛好那天我爸媽都沒有陪我去，所以我就一個人很孤單的走上去，看著那一個貼滿便條紙的白板，心想：「我完了！」之後經過了大概兩分鐘的考慮，因為再也經不起下面五十幾雙眼睛盯著我看，我想我應該要給大家一個交代了。這時候，我就從白板上私下了上面寫著「墨西哥」的便條紙。所有在場的人都嚇傻了，但是我有看到哪些驚訝的表情上帶有一絲微笑。主委跑來問我：「你確定嗎？不用跟爸媽討論嗎？」我就擠出一個很尷尬的笑容說：「不用。」回到家後，我跟爸爸、媽媽說：「我選墨西哥。」爸爸的下巴整個掉到地上。我於是說：「爸爸，請你把下巴撿起來，讓我好好解釋！」我說：「“我”才是要去交換的人，“我”才是即將體會各式各樣挫折、打擊、喜、怒、哀、樂的人。讓“我”自己承擔這個責任，我不想要到時候在怪罪到別人身上。」爸爸聽完我的想法，非常開心的接受了我的決定。

再來，讓我們把畫面帶到去年永康扶輪社接待的德國交換學生，黃俐恩，抵達的那一天。我記得，我們全家出動去接他，包括扶輪社的叔叔、阿姨也都一起去接場歡迎他。從那一天開始我也幻想著我到墨西哥時候會有十幾個人來接我。結果……我到的時候……「奇怪！怎麼沒有人呼喊著我的名字？沒有人等著跟我拍照？」最後，只有兩個人走向我，他們分別是我第一個家庭的哥哥和妹妹。到了第一個家之後，轟爸和轟媽出來迎接我，歡迎我到他們家。才剛到他們就開始跟我講一大堆的西班牙文，我完全聽不懂，所以不管他們說什麼我都說：「Si！」

跟陌生人住在一起，多少會有不適應，而能容忍的我會盡量的容忍。但是小紛爭還是在所難免，不過不管我有多生氣，我都會先道歉。因為身為一個交換學生，我有義務去接受不一樣的生活方式。第一個家庭對交換學生們來說很重要，因為他們是我們一個陌生國度的第一群人。讓我印象很深刻的是我跟他們說中秋節的故事，還有我們通常會在這一天烤肉，他們就在那次的中秋節幫我辦了一個中秋烤肉派對，邀請了很多交換學生，還幫我練習用西班牙語介紹中秋節的由來。第一個家庭讓我很難忘，因為他們陪我度過了前面的五個月，轟爸、轟媽常常聽我講心事，有時候還教我騎馬。我一直到現在還有跟他們繼續的在聯絡。

到了第二個家庭，我從公立學校轉學到私立學校，因為爸爸是這間學校的校長兼負責人。你們一定不知道爸爸是學校的老闆是一件多麼酷的事。我跟他說：「爸爸，我不想要寫功課。」他馬上說：「好！不用寫功課。」；我又說，「爸爸，我想要有西班牙語課！」，他有毫不猶豫的說：「好！明天開始叫一個老師教你！」。聽完我就說：「真的嗎??!!那我還要電腦課、烹飪課、跳舞課還有吉他課!!」這次，他就馬上走掉。跟這個家庭只住了兩個月，但是跟他們相處的也很不錯。第三個家庭是我最喜歡的家庭。這個家庭的爸爸、媽媽非常的疼我，我們每天都會坐著聊兩個小時以上。我和這個家庭的哥哥、妹妹也常常三個人出去玩。這個轟爸有時候會叫我計畫一個周末，然後全家人都照著我的計畫去玩。所以有一次，我就提議去看歌舞劇。母親節的時候，我跟轟爸說我想要去買花給我轟媽。於是他就帶我翹課去買花。他們就像我真正的家人一樣，甚至到我要回台灣的時候，我第三個家庭的轟哥還有轟妹還跟我一起回台灣，到台灣來觀光。轟爸、轟媽還說他們非常願意用他們的兩個小孩跟我爸媽換我一個。然後轟妹，在來過台灣之後，非常喜歡台灣，已經確定今年會到台灣當交換學生。

已經回到台灣一年了，我想要提醒各位即將出去的交換學生，請你們做好準備！你們會遇到很多不如意的事情，像是學習語言。這只是一個過程。你們還會遇到一些你們從來沒有過的打擊，如果真的碰到了，你們應該要覺得幸運，因為你們體驗的比別人多，學到的自然也會比別人多。遇到挫折的當下，你們或許會覺得很痛苦，但是像我現在回想起來，那些其實是我交換生涯中的精華片段。順便，我身為我爸爸、媽媽的孩子，想要跟各位叔叔、阿姨們說，放心的放手，我們會飛得更高！這個交換之所以是我們生命中最寶貴的經驗，因為這是我們第一次真正為自己的行為負責。

最後，我想要謝謝國際扶輪給我這次的機會，我相信每個交換學生都很想大聲的跟你們說聲：「謝謝！」。

Speech by Rebound Student

Hello everyone,

I am the Taiwanese exchange student who represented the rotary club of Yong-Kong during the year of 2009 and 2010. And Mexico was my host country.

I think it was from the moment when I chose Mexico as my host country that I started to see myself as an exchange student. I still remember that my parents weren't with me when it was time for us to choose where we were going. And I happened to be the first one who got called. As a result, I went up there alone, staring at the whiteboard which was full of little pieces of paper. All I could think of was "I'm so dead!". And after about two minutes considering, I just couldn't stand those eyes down there staring at me and anxious about what I was about to choose. *That* was the moment when I pulled the piece of paper that said "Mexico" from the board. Everyone there that day was so shocked. But still, on their shocking faces, I saw smiles. The chairman came to me and asked "Are you sure? Don't you have to discuss this with your parents" I, also shocked by what I've done, said with my trembling voice "no."

When I got home, I told my parent that I had chosen Mexico. My dad was so surprised that he dropped his jaw to the floor. I, then, said "Dad, please pick up your jaw and let me explain." I continued, "I am the one who is going on this exchange; I am the one who is going to face all the troubles and frustration when they hit me; I am the one who will experience all the happiness and sadness. So please, let 'me' be the one who would be responsible for whatever should come to me." After hearing me out, my parents accepted my idea happily.

Now, let me bring you back to the first day when the German exchange student we received last year arrived here in Taiwan. Everyone in my family, and most people from the rotary club of Yong-Kong went to the airport to welcome him to our country. From that day on, I started to imagine how my arrival would be like.

And that day had finally come. I arrived in the airport of Toluca and waited for someone to scream out my name and to take pictures of me. However, my host brother and sister were the only people there to pick me up. But, it was good enough! When I got to my first home in Mexico, my first host parents gave me huge hugs to welcome me to the family. And then, they started to talk to me in Spanish, it was so overwhelming. And since I didn't know Spanish, I answered everything with "SI!".

Living with strangers is very difficult, but I made sure that I tried my very best to tolerant the difference. And, of course, there were some arguments, but no matter how angry I was, I made myself apologize first. Because I know that, as an exchange student, my duty was to accept the way how they live in Mexico. The first host family is very important. They are the first people we would meet in the foreign country. They are the first who we would talk in the foreign language. One of the touching things that my first host family did to me was that, when I told them the history about "Moon Festival", and that we usually have a barbecue party that day, they offered to throw me one. That day, they invited a lot of exchange students and they helped me practice telling the story of "Moon Festival" in Spanish. My first parents listened to me a lot and they taught me a lot about Mexico, they even taught me how to ride a horse. I stayed with them for the first five months of my exchange, which makes them super important to me.

When I was in my second host family, I transferred from a public school to a private school, because my second host dad was the principal and owner of that school. And I bet most of you don't know how cool it is to have a dad who is the boss of them school. When I told him "Dad, I don't want to do the homework." He said, "ok! No homework for you." And then I said "Dad, I want to have Spanish classes at school." He said, without having a second thought, "sure! I'll have one the teachers teach you from tomorrow on." And I said "really?!?!?! Then Dad, I also want computer courses, cooking classes, dancing classes, and also I want to learn how to play the guitar!!" Well, he walked away this time. I'd only stayed with my second host family for two months, but I got along with them pretty well.

My third host family was my favorite family. My third host parents took very good care of me. We would sit and talk for more than two hours every day. And I spent a lot of time with my third host brother and sister as well. Sometimes, my third host dad would have me plan one of the weekends, and we would do what I would like to do. So, there was this one time, I suggested that we should go see an opera. They were like real family to me. My host parents even said that they were willing to give their own children up and have me as their kid. And at the end of the year, my host brother and host sister from the third family came back with me to Taiwan, and loved it! And now, it is certain that my host sister will go on an exchange here to Taiwan.

I have been back here for almost one year. And I would like to remind the exchange students who are about to leave the country to be prepared. You are going to experience a lot of things that you don't expect, and you won't like most of them. And also, learning a new language can be really hard. But, you will just have to deal with them. And if they really happened, you shall think yourself as a very lucky person. Because, the more you encounter, the more you learn. It may be very painful when you are frustrated by some trouble. But, I can tell you, since I've been there myself, that those moments are the most precious moments of this exchange.

And I would also like to ask all the parents, for once, to let them be. Because, for all I know, this exchange is one of the best things that could ever happen to us. And let us take the responsibility of our decisions and behaviors for the first time.

Finally, I would like to thank Rotary International for giving me this wonderful opportunity. And I believe that all of us, the exchange students would like to say one thing to you, that is "Thank you !"