

天主教輔仁大學英國語文學系學士班畢業成果  
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**Let Foreigners Tell You What You Don't Know About  
Taiwan: Video Project and Reflection**

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## Let Foreigners Tell You What You Don't Know About Taiwan

### **Motivation**

During the course of Chinese Culture in Foreign Language, our group understood that the goal of this course is to be able to share our own culture to foreign people using English. This made our group started to think about what our culture is like in those foreign people's point of view. We got the idea and believed that it would be fun to know their perspectives because there might be something that even Taiwanese do not know about our own culture. What is more, we could take it as a chance to know what the foreigners would be interesting about Taiwanese culture; therefore, next time when we introduce and our culture to foreigners, we would know what to talk about. Moreover, we want to know what pros and cons we have in our own country and to see if there is any difference between the interviewees' hometowns and Taiwan. Lastly, we also would like to see which ways of living between their hometown and Taiwan that they like the most.

Since there are various ways to present our learning outcomes, our group has

decided to do the street interviews of foreign people in Taipei. We believed that the idea of filming the videos is the most vivid and effective way to make the interview. And though the videos, people would know that those perspectives are really coming through the interviewees' mouths rather than something that we made up. For the reason to choose Taipei as the city to do the interview is that it is the capital of Taiwan, and we believe it is the city that most foreigners would step in first than other cities. The way we choose to present our videos is setting up a YouTube channel and upload our videos on it as a collection of reports.

## **Introduction**

Curious if there are some shocking facts from foreigners' perspective that we do not know about Taiwan, we did the street interviews of foreign people in Taipei and also set up a channel on YouTube to upload those street interviews that we have done. We cut the videos and then created the playlists to place different parts in the category of favorite things in Taiwan, differences between hometown and Taiwan, dislike things in Taiwan, and brief introductions of our interviewees. We have six interviewees in total, which are Shanewas and Asha from India, Mark from the

Netherlands, Frankie from Hong Kong, Wayne from South Africa, Andy from England, and lastly Eric from Australia. We selected people all from different countries as best as we can in order to get full-scale of our perspective collection. Through the videos of interviews, we hope people could understand and love our hometown more since many people do not know that it is grateful to live in Taiwan. What is more, they do not know that many foreigners actually envy us that we can live in such a great island. So this would be the time to flip people's views and do some brainstorming.

Link of our channel:

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8m1jGdRtmUKFGxE2ykOw8Q/videos?sort=dd&view=0&shelf\\_id=0](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8m1jGdRtmUKFGxE2ykOw8Q/videos?sort=dd&view=0&shelf_id=0)

### **Reflection**

At the beginning we thought that it would be easy to do the street interviews with foreigners since foreigners are very open-minded in our perspective; however it is

actually not the case. First of all, even though we could see many foreigners on the streets, when we asked if they would like to share their thoughts with us, unfortunately, not so many people are willing to, especially Japanese people. They seemed to be guarded. So one of our difficulties that we faced was that we tended to find people in different countries. Japanese people did not want to be interviewees through the cameras though we did meet many Japanese on the way of our interview trip. However, we still tried to find as many countries of people as possible. And the situation was getting better. One interesting finding that we have is that I had thought the people that we meet most might be Americans at first, but actually we met none of them. It is very surprising me. And I think we are lucky that all of our interviewees are very familiar with Taiwan, so they can talk more deeply about what they think about our own countries. We were afraid to find those travelers who are new to Taiwan though.

We are very grateful to have those interviewees to help us finish this project.

With their helps, we can let the audience know more about Taiwan from the foreign interviewees' point of view and have some different ideas of the topics that we made.

We are very grateful that all of our interviewees are very kind as well. They were

willing to tell us all the ideas that they have or we asked for without any attitude.

They even provide more point of views than we asked for. Moreover, one thing that I

believed to be the most worthy to mention is that, one of our interviewees talked

about democracy. He talked very truly but not so aggressively. I really like the way he

tried to explain Taiwanese political situation. Actually, we never expected our

interviews could be so diverse than we had thought we could be up to. Thanks again

for their helps. Our group is really lucky to have those foreign people to do the

interview for us. They did a really good job even with the fact that we did not have

any rehearsal for them at all.

All in all, I still think this project as a very cool experience because we get to know other foreigners' perspectives about Taiwan. We hope that our audience would have the same feelings when they see the interviews that we made, and they would enjoy watching them. Maybe this project could at least gives a little bit different ideas of our hometown to the audience.