

22/05/2020 Risa Asada

I moved from Japan to the Netherlands in the summer of 2008 and I was a student at ISG until 2010, from MYP3 to MYP5.

Although I could not write and speak English at all, I learned a lot with students from all over the world. It was a great opportunity for me to know how English can connect people with each other who had grown up at totally environment and speak different languages.

After moving back to Japan, I kept studied English at high school and university, and now I work for Japanese manufacturer which sell medical equipment around the world.

Now I live alone and work in Tokyo where people infected with the COVID-19 are the most. Since Prime Minister declared a state of emergency for Tokyo in the beginning of April, my company decided to allow workers to stay home and work. It was a big decision for my company since work-from-home-system is not popular in Japan compared to foreign countries, especially for historical companies as main which have a great regard of traditional culture. Since then I stay home and work by myself and contact colleagues though web meeting system. Additionally, thanks to my company's business area, products I am in charge of have a great demand by epidemic of COVID-19. They are X-ray equipment which gives a diagnosis of pneumonia. Although I am deeply hurt by worldwide news of people suffering by infection, I am pleased to be involved in contribution for preservation of medical environment for healthcare workers and patients at this time.

Other than work, I just stay home and go out when I need to get some food. It is hard situation of struggling with loneliness, not being able to see my family and friends, while keep working hard at home. Nowadays infected people are decreasing day by day in Japan, and hopefully the government can declare ending of a state of emergency for Tokyo in the beginning of June. I believe it will take time to bring back everything as former like, but I anticipate it will be very soon for all people.

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