Person to Person in Australia

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Throughout my time in Australia I have had the opportunity to meet wonderful people full of passion and all with very interesting stories. The person I chose to interview for this assignment is my closest friend here, Allana, originally from Geelong, Australia. She is a business and accounting major and not so different from my friends at home. We spent a good hour of the interview process trying to find differences and couldn’t help but laugh because with every idea there was a similarity to some extent. Through the whole process we decided that regardless of how hard we looked for differences, the similarities far outweigh the differences on a variety of levels.

Many aspects of the Australian culture and Allana’s upbringing are very similar. We share the same values, preferences, and outlook on the world. This may be attributed to us being friends, but one of the most interesting differences is our food choices. This is something that I have found very characteristic to a lot of Australians, which is that they like very bland food and hate spicy cuisine. It was humorous to me to talk about Mexican food with Allana. She said she doesn’t like spicy food, which for me is characteristic of Mexican food. Food is something that I miss about the United States and it was interesting to hear that very few places in Australia have the same cuisine as in the states. It was interesting to talk to Allana and see how she had never tasted some of the things that I have.

I think that the most interesting thing about the time I have spent in Australia so far is how similar the people I have met are to people in the states. It is amazing to think that, other than the occasional slang word, there are so many similarities in the Australians I know and the Americans. I went into this experience thinking that I would experience a lot of culture shock and everything that I saw and did would be different; however, I have learned that there are far more similarities than differences.

Allana Grey

Student/ Friend/ Peer

Interview Date: 10/14/14