



Rotary District _____

Applicant Name _____

Rotary Youth Exchange - Long-Term Exchange Program**Section B: Letters and Photos****Student's Letter**

Write a letter introducing yourself to your future host club and host families. Keep in mind that this will be their first impression of you. Incorporate your answers to the following questions in your letter, providing as much detail as possible (if you need help generating details, also consider the italicized questions in parentheses).

Specifications: Type your letter on a separate sheet (or sheets) of paper, and include your name on each. Attach your letter to this page. Maximum length: 3 pages.

1. What do you do when you have free time?

I enjoy using the internet to read many different websites, and I also like to play sports such as basketball, badminton, table tennis, pool ball and so on. I also read the newspaper as my daily routine in the morning, and I like listening music and watch films to relax. I like to read books as well, and I will always bring a novel to school or on a journey, and read it when I have time.

2. What you do at your school? (*How many subjects do you take? What are they? How long are the classes? What is your daily schedule during the school year? Start with when you wake-up and discuss only one typical day's schedule.*) Are you able to choose courses at your school? If so, which courses did you choose, and why?

I am studying in high school right now, so on a daily basis in Taiwan, I have to study for 8 hours a day, Monday to Friday. We take subjects such as Math, English, Physics, History, Geography, Social Study, Chemistry, Chinese, and Physical education. We also have optional courses in our school, and I pick Programming since I love it and I am lucky enough that my school has a bunch of resources about technology. I have joined a lot of school clubs and representative teams after school, and I practice and meet up with my partners almost every day after school; sometimes, we will even go to school, discussing and try to get our works done on weekend. We have three big exams in one semester, so we have to study hard every day. My study hours are about 2.5 hours per weekday and about 4 hours when the exam is right in the corner.

3. What are your school interests and activities? What leadership positions have you held?

I have joined the basketball team and basketball club right after I entered my high school. I spend a lot of time training with my teammates because we all love this sport a lot, and we all have a dream to be the champion in the games. I am now the vice-captain of both the team and the club after a hard-working year. I am also a member of the student association. I join the student association because I want to meet more people whether they are from other schools, and I also want to do something to improve school life for the students. Last but not least, I am one of the founders FRC (First Robotic Competition) team in my school. My partners and I decided to found the team because we all like the purpose and the environment which is cooperation (to cooperate and to compete). We learn not only skills of designing, making, programming, but we also meet a lot of people from the globe during the competition. Moreover, we help out each other and have left us a lot of unforgettable memories. In conclusion, I have gained a lot of experiences, new friends and skills through my freshman year, and I am so thankful to have the chances to do what I want.

4. How would you describe your home? (*Do you have your own room, or do you share your room with others? Where in your house do you study? How far is your home from your school? Do you drive, ride a bus, or walk to school?*)

It is a 3660 square feet house where I live with my parents. I have my room but I usually get my works done in the study, and sleep in my room because I would like to be fully focused on the task that I am working on. But now I am living in the dormitory. I share a 180 square-feet-big dorm room with three roommates; We study together, we eat our instant noodles together, and we share our school life and feelings with one another. I decided to move into the dorm when I was in 10th grade. I had then found out that I love the dorm life so much because I could save time on transportation and I enjoyed my time with all the students living in the dorm. Though my school is just 25 minutes away from my house, I still love to live in the dorm. I have to take the bus to places in many occasions, but if I am lucky enough, my parents would take me to places if they are free.

5. What are the occupations of your mother and father? (*What product or service does each make or perform? What is her/his position or title?*)

My dad runs his own business, and my mom helps the company as her job. The business my dad runs is mainly about trading Electronic Components, especially about the components of the Demisting coil of the car glasses. He has to make sure that his products keep up with the tech trends, and also make sure that the products are produced in a good quality. Sometimes, my dad would have to go abroad to visit the corporations who are willing to or already buy our products, and also, he has to go to the manufacturers and tell them what to make. It is not an easy job but I am surprised that my parents can handle it so well.

6. How would you describe your community? (*Is it in or near a major city? What is the population? industry? economy?*)

I live in _____ Taiwan, and of which that has _____ Taiwan. The community where I live is about 15 minutes away from the city center, near the _____ and the district also contains two universities and some huge hospitals including most department stores of central Taiwan. The population of the district where I live has been constantly increasing because more jobs are provided by the Science park and the business district. As a whole, the place where I live is just so convenient but not too constrict as the Taipei city.

7. What are your interests and accomplishments? (*Are you interested in art, literature, music, sports, other activities? How did you become interested in the activity? How long have you been interested? How much time do you devote to the activity?*)

I have got a lot of hobbies and interests. For those about music, I love listening music whenever I can, and I love music from classical to modern, and from orchestra to hip-hop. I have learned to play guitar for about a year. Many people had asked me if I am learning the guitar for attracting the girls. Well, no. I decided to learn to play guitar because I think it is the perfect instrument that can be carried around easily and can be played with my singings. Also, through playing guitar, I can meet a lot of people who share the same interest. As for sport, I like to play mostly every kind of sport. But the sport I am most confidential is basketball. I play basketball not only for the school team but also the moment when I am depressed. I think playing sports can truly release my sorrow, so I play some sports especially basketball every day. I like to read the news every morning especially when it is about sports and technology. I would do many pieces of research on what I found interested in recently when I finish my work

every day. I really enjoy reading through those websites. And I am also interested in building up the robot and do the coding to make it alive. I just found out that I am interested in editing videos as well as making slides. I just found it so much fun while I am doing it. I feel so proud every time I finish my project, so I will mainly take the job to edit videos or present by slides on stage for those organizations and class that I belong to.

8. What trips have you taken outside your country? Why did you take these trips, with whom, for how long?

I am an experienced voyager. I have been to many different places such as America, the United Kingdom, Germany, Australia, France, Canada, Singapore, and so much more. I had been living in Canada for 2 years with my parents when I was 5 years old, studying in the local public school. Most of my trips are with my parents, and we usually stay for about 13 or 14 days for those in Europe, and about a month for those in America. Just in the summer before I graduated from junior high school, I went to America with my friends to study abroad for about one month. That is totally different from the experiences that I have traveled with my parents. I have to be so independent and be alert at every moment. I have grown a lot through that trip, and also made a lot of friends from all over the world. I have met one of my best friends from Georgia, and we contact so often even it is two years later from the trip. As a whole, I have been to many different countries, from north to south, and from east to west. I would like to explore more different places and experience cultures as making more friends.

9. What things do you dislike?(Do you dislike certain foods, animals, treatment by other people, etc.?)

There are not much things that I dislike or I am afraid of. I like to eat and, generally, I can eat mostly everything except of insects, which means that I can survive in any place on the earth. I can play almost every sport, except volleyball; I would like to try if there is someone who can teach me the skills. By the way, I am not a very good dancer, I could be very clumsy when dancing, but I enjoy myself pretty much when I dance or shake with the music; I like the song YMCA the most because it is easy, and it is fun when dancing with others. Basically, I would pray every day before I go to sleep, but I also go to the temple with my parents or the elderlies, which means that I am fine with all kind of religions. The funny part is, though there are such less things that I am afraid of, but I could not pluck up my courage to go to watch a horror movie even by now!

10. What do you feel are your strong, and weak, characteristics?

I am outgoing, which make me an active person, so I would try to answer most of the questions and grab every opportunity to make friends, which is an advantage in one way; but it can be my weakness in the other way. I speak out a lot and can be the leader or the most activated person in a group, but sometimes it would seem to be a little annoying. I am also a student who is very initiative among other 10th and 11th graders. I know what I want as well as what I am doing, so I can get hold or strike a balance between what I am doing, which is my advantage. Another thing is that, though I usually finish my works before I go to do some entertaining things, I will certainly just do something that is not on my plan, and actually delayed the plans forward, which means that I do not actually have the ability to manage my time properly. These are simply the advantages and the weaknesses of myself. I am now improving my time managing skills, and it has been much better by now. And at last, to describe my characteristics, I would say that I am very outgoing and considerate, knowing-what-to-do person. I am active of everything, and I would not give up whatever I am working on.

11. What are your plans and ambitions for your education and career? Why?

I would like to study abroad on either computer science or mechanical for the university, and business management for master. I am planning to start up my own business if I could, because I want to make some changes to the society, and to accomplish my sense of achievement. That way, I think it is better to study abroad for more opportunities of internships. I can gain skills and experience through the internship which you would not know if you have not yourself. And to achieve these goals, I need to improve English, and the subjects which is mostly about math and science. Not only by that, I have tried to learn skills about mechanical designing and programming through the FRC team, so I can be prepared to face university and the work.

12. What do you specifically hope to accomplish as an exchange student, both during your exchange and when you return?

I make the decision to apply for the RYE program on my own. I want to go abroad by the RYE program because I want to be more independent through the program. It is hard for students in Taiwan to be independent because Taiwan is really small country and you can basically travel to all places in one day, so I would like to go to a country far from my home country and deal with the problems by myself. I want to study abroad, so I need to learn to solve the problems and survive. Another way is that, I want to make more friends through the year I live in a totally different place. I am very outgoing person and I think I can make more friends and share the culture of Taiwan with them, and make my vision even wider. Also, I would like to experience cultures from different places. It is really fun to experience different cultures. You get to eat foods from all over the world, and I can learn to greet in different cultural ways. And when I return to my country after the program, I am expecting to have a different view and think critically on every issue when I am preparing to apply for the university; and hopefully, it can give me the knowledge and the experiences that I need when I study abroad. I am looking forward to share my experience of exchanging to more and more students.

Parent's Letter

Write a letter to your child's host club and families, incorporating your answers to the following questions in your letter. Specifications: Type your letter on a separate sheet (or sheets) of paper, and include your child's name on each. Attach your letter to this page. Maximum length: 2 pages.

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1. How would you describe your child's relationship with you and your family? with his/her friends?

_____ is the only child of our family. We spend a lot of time together, and talk a lot almost every day. We enjoy family time very much, such as reading, gossip, travelling, exercise and watch movie. We are very closed in emotion. _____ can discuss with us his opinion when he has some question about his future. He likes to make friends in school, and also likes to help them. He always shares his school life with us.

2. How does your child react to disagreement, discipline, and frustration?

When we have different opinion, _____ will try to persuade us to accept his opinion. But we will analyze the points with patience, based on our experience, and negate his opinion. He can understand and accept it after all. When he is disciplined, he will say sorry, and try to not make the mistake again. When he frustrates, he will disappointed and sometimes try to talk to us, sometimes not. But we can feel his anger or disappointment from his face. He can recover from it very soon, mostly in the second day.

3. How does your child handle challenging or difficult situations?

_____ likes to try new objects. He attends school basketball team, FRC (First Robotic Competition) and MUN (Model United Nations) in school. He learns a lot from these activities, such as team works, the sufficient previous preparation to avoid mistakes, and how to solve the problem in a very short time. These experiences also help him not afraid of the challenges or even failure. He can cooperate with others well, and try to look for any possible useful resource, then find the best solution when he handles the difficult situations. We always encourage him – try your

upmost and enjoy the process, the result is not the most important.

4. What amount of independence do you give to your child? What is your child's level of maturity?

We talk a lot with [REDACTED] every day. We do not restrict his learning, we always encourage him to develop his own life. We give him some suggestions in making decisions. Therefore, he knows what to do, and what not to do. He is very good to interact with people, and new environment. We think he is matured about the same level of his age.

5. What makes you proud of your child?

[REDACTED] is a good boy who knows thankful for others, and likes to help others. He has a soft heart. He sets goals for himself, and works hard for the team, such as school basketball team, FRC...etc. Although sometimes they did not get good score, but he never give up.

6. Why do you want your child to be an exchange student?

The dad of [REDACTED] - [REDACTED] is a member of Rotary, he was the Chairman of the Club Youth Exchange Committee in year of 2018-2019. We had the opportunity to contact with some Youth Exchange students from the world. [REDACTED] also spent some time to accompany with them. Therefore, we know the Youth Exchange system of Rotary is very strong. When [REDACTED] desired to apply for the exchange student, we fully supported him. Nowadays, it is the concept of global village. Taiwan is a very friendly small Island. We expect [REDACTED] can contact the different people, culture, countries through the project of exchange student. Furthermore, to promote his international vision, to care about the world. On the other hand, he also can share the wonderful things of Taiwan to the people come from the world. It would be an excellent experience in his life.

7. Are there any other comments you would like to share with the host families?

We understand that there is different culture in different country. We hope the host families can share their culture and experience with [REDACTED], no matter where he is going. We look forward to seeing [REDACTED] to be more mature during the exchanging year. And thanks for the accompanying of all the host family members in advance.