

A draft for the speech about the tour to South America in April 2011
Delivered at the Basics of English class under Prof. Kawakami
On Sunday, May 15, 2011

It is my pleasure to talk to you under Prof. Kawakami about a tour to South America. I participated on the tour to South America a month before in April 2011. It was the group tour of 23 members and a lady guide. Members were from all over Japan including Hokkaido and Hokuriku with 13 ladies and 10 gentlemen. It was a hard but interesting tour. Surprisingly it took 44 hours from the time when I left home at Hakusan Bunkyo Ward, Tokyo to the time when I reached the first Hotel at Iguazu, Argentina. It was the almost opposite side of the globe. On the way to the Hotel we enjoyed to watch the Southern Cross and the Milky Way over the clear darkness sky in the neighborhood of Iguazu.

Next morning we went to the Iguazu falls, which is one of the three biggest falls in the world. The other two falls are Victoria fall in Zambia and Zimbabwe and Niagara fall in Canada and USA. We approached by truck train and walked along a promenade. At last we reached the falls. Its sound was very huge and splashes were inevitable to escape. Unbelievably a lot of sparrows were flying in and out through streams of waterfalls. A little later we watched the falls' overview by the helicopter. Around the falls woods were spreading as far as we could see. We watched the whole falls. Their width was 2.7 km and their height was over 80m. Then we approached the drop of waterfalls about ten meters close by the motorboat. It was a thrilling experience.

Next day we visited the City of Buenos Aires, and we walked the Boca district where it was said that Argentine Tango was born. On the third day we watched Geoglyphs of Nazca by the Cessna plane. There were ten or more drawings including a hummingbird and an astronaut. Then we visited the city of Lima in the afternoon. On the fourth day we visited Cuzco, the ancient capital of the Inca Empire. And the last day we at last visited Machu Picchu. Machu Picchu was ruins of the old town around 15th through 16th centuries at the top of the mountain. We watched the scenery of the whole town and walked inside the town watching closer to the ruins. The people living there were said to be about 600 populations. Probably they left there just before the Spanish conquest. It was discovered by American explorers in 1911 and they took away a lot of articles which were found there. They were delivered to the Peru from USA recently and exhibited in Lima last month.

It was a fantastic experience of ten days. If you have an opportunity, don't hesitate to try to travel to South America. I uploaded the pictures on my website. Will you please visit them?