At first, I lived in Brussels, Belgium from 9th grade to graduation of high school due to my father’s job. I had experience of homestay. I was a member of baseball team in my high school and when it has games in different places, we stayed other team member’s house. But it was four days at most. Therefore it was first time to homestay such a long time and to live in another country without person who speaks Japanese in my house. It was very good experience for me.

My hostfamily was very good. She had two son and four hosts including me. At my hostfamily’s house, we were free that we could have food in the kitchin without asking. At dinner, she prepare dinner almost everyday. It usually had Asian tasted food and rise in big bowls or plates and we share it because my host family was an Asian American. It was very good because I like Asian food and I could eat very easily until I got full.

On weekday lunch we had to buy lunch ourselves. Usually we had American food such as humber or pizza and taccos because they are cheapest. But still it was expensive compared to you have lunch in Japan. They are very unhealthy and fatty, thererfore you have to take care about body weight.
In school, we had two classes which are American Culture and Speaking/Listening class. In American Culture class, I learned American culture such as body language, small talks, tipping, education etc. It was very good class because it is very difficult to learn different culture without visiting that places. In Speaking/Listening class, I practiced speaking and listening using a text. It was also good. The classes finished about 12, so after that classes, there were some activities. Site Visit had Nuclear Reactor tour and RapidTech 3D Lab tour. It was very hard to understand, but I thought these tours were very good opportunity because it is hard to see these machines even though, you are UCI student and you don’t study these things. Also we had CP meeting. CP means conversation partner and we had three or four Japanese students and one CP in a group. The group does some activities such as going around campus, playing sports and going bowling. And also, they baked cake and celebrated my birthday. It was so nice.

On weekends, I had some activities such as going to Universal studio, Angle Stadium and Disneyland. I had no free time even weekends. These activities were very enjoyable. Actually, these activities were the biggest reason that why I chose to go to California for my study abroad. I had so much fun in these places. Of course, to attend these activities, you need to pay, so if you want to go to California, you have to keep money.
After all, I was very happy to attend this program. It was very good experience for me and I enjoyed a lot. It is only three days from I came back to Japan, but I already miss Irvine, my hostfamily and life in UCI. I was very sad to leave there. Time in Irvine flew so fast, but I have a lot of memories there. Bad thing in this program is only first day of the program which is delay due to typhoon and staying for a night at the airport. That's all. Other things were perfect. But including this experience, this program is so fun that I feel like homesick even though I am writing this report in my apartment.

Last, but not least, my advise for you guys who are thinking about study abroad, don’t be afraid to go to oversea. I am very sure that this experience is NOT everyone can experience. If you have chance, you should try. It will change your life better. Even if you don’t have confidence of your English, it is fine. I’m sure that your hostfamily, school and friends will help you. And I’m 99.9% sure that you don’t have to stay at the airport like us. You don’t have to worry about anything. It is enjoyable and fun!