

**Only a few weeks of exposure to Japan research and culture at Okayama University and already got a bunch of puzzling and amazing emotional feelings.**

**3 students from Grenoble University report (Rapport d'étonnement) - June-2022**



Clémentine



Angéline



Louis

All 3 arrived at Okayama University by Mid-May-2022 for 3 months research internships

Angéline joined Professor T. Teranishi's group (Materials for Energy), Louis and Clémentine have Pr. H. Ishino's and S. Stever as supervisors (High Energy physics and Cosmology)

**A single, basic but deep question:**

**What are your strongest emotional feelings, after a few weeks only in Japan/ Okayama University ???**



All 3 report - [Read more](#)

**Louis:**

High level of helpfulness and kindness awareness - 1: for instance we had heavy rain when we arrived by bus at Okayama from the local airport. The bus driver offered an umbrella to each of us (3).

Ecology awareness - In Japan garbage sorting is very strict and extremely detailed - the separation job frequently comes to an end in tens of different lots. Over time it has turned into a quite important job in Japanese lives and people are much focused on it.

In addition we may observe that wrapping is quite huge and even excessive - Each cookie is individually wrapped !!!

**Clémentine**

High level of helpfulness and kindness awareness - 2: Japanese people can provide kind support at any time: in Haneda airport, because of the necessary transfer between International and Domestic terminals and short delay to do it, we missed the flight to Okayama. But the airline company staff very kindly helped us to recover our luggage and board them on the flight to Okayama. Then we could peacefully board the flight as well.

Pr. H. Ishino - Because of their short stay at the University, Clémentine and her "Intern"-mates are not planning to buy bicycles - So far they could not find an alternative. As a bicycle is a "*sine qua non*" vehicle in Japan, Pr. Ishino is thinking to buy 2 or 3 and loan them to his International students. This will be greatly appreciated initiative.

Respect of rules: red light / green lights at the cross-roads

Excellent healthy food: ramen, okonomiyaki, vegetables... And now visits of the numerous Cafeterias with lots of delicious cakes, cookies and other sweets

**Angéline**

Japanese students and professors arrive late in the morning at the office/lab - This is likely because they stay late at night: frequently returning home/ student restaurant for dinner and coming back later at the office/lab. Pr. Teranishi arrives early in the morning and returns home quite late.

**Safety**

Osaka at night : Street of Namba ward, no fear, streets are so safe.

Bicycles are most frequently not locked. Locking is mandatory in France

**All 3:**

Vending machines (beverages and cigarettes for instance) are quite numerous and scattered around. They are always working properly, full of the articles they have to provide. Whatever their locations, urban or rural.

Substantial respect of the public space: public furniture is never stolen or even simply damaged. For instance: beautiful quite big or conversely small bronze statues are commonly observed in many areas downtown Okayama city

Public toilets: so many of them for a quite pleasant comfort - always clean with toilet paper that never "vanishes" like usually observed in France. No hesitation to use them when necessary.

Onsen, the hot bath in a huge range of versions : an experience to come