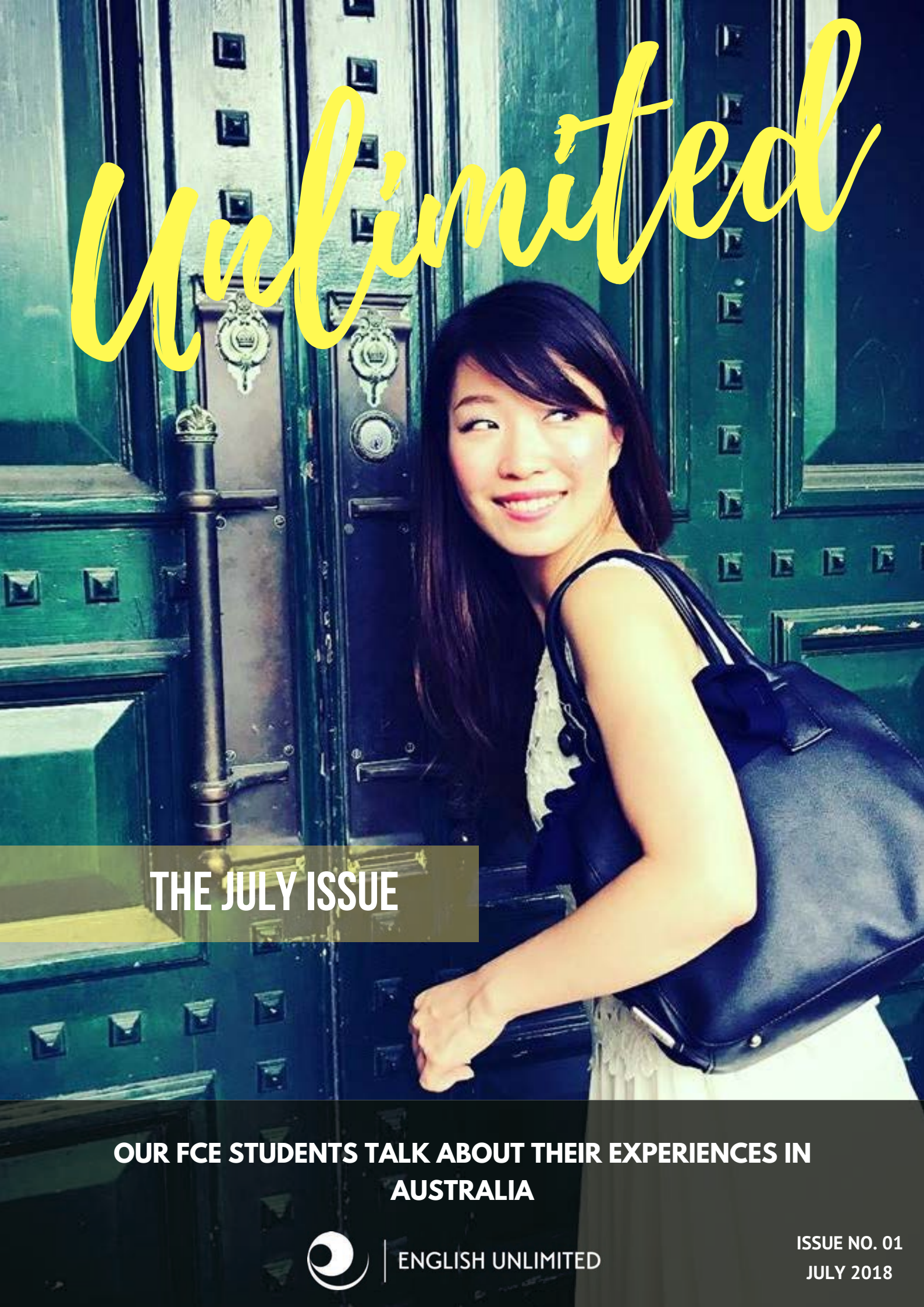


Unlimited



THE JULY ISSUE

OUR FCE STUDENTS TALK ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCES IN
AUSTRALIA



ENGLISH UNLIMITED

ISSUE NO. 01
JULY 2018

CONTENTS



On the cover **02**



We announce the winner
of the best article for our
inaugural issue **04**

Discovering Aus **05**



3 tips to improve your
English **06**

Comparing Australia with
Brazil **07**

Teacher Profile **08**



VIVID photo competition **09**

My first metropolis
experience **13**

Words of wisdom **15**



ENGLISH UNLIMITED

NATIONAL MANAGER'S WELCOME MESSAGE

I am so excited to announce that the academic team at *English Unlimited* have decided to unveil our monthly student magazine open to students from our campuses in Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney.

We believe that this student magazine will be an outlet and a showcase for our student's creativity and ideas. Our students and our teachers have put in a lot of effort to ensure that our inaugural issue is a success. I would like to thank every single person that contributed to this magazine and I hope that we can continue to help our students follow their dreams.

Dr. Ivan Kumar

Every month we will invite prominent members of Australian society to adjudicate the best article of the month. This month's judge is Stephanie Burns, a social worker working at St. Vincent De Paul Society.

OUR GUEST JUDGE: STEPHANIE BURNS

Thank you *English Unlimited* for asking me to be the judge for this month's articles from the FCE students. The essays were fantastic and I am so happy to announce that Misato from Melbourne is the winner for Best article of the month.

I am currently a Social Worker at the St. Vincent De Paul Society and work with families and women experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Working with people who are disadvantaged is a great way to give back to the community and engage in meaningful work that makes a difference in peoples lives and is rewarding.



ON THE
COVER

AYUMI,
JAPAN -
EU
STUDENT





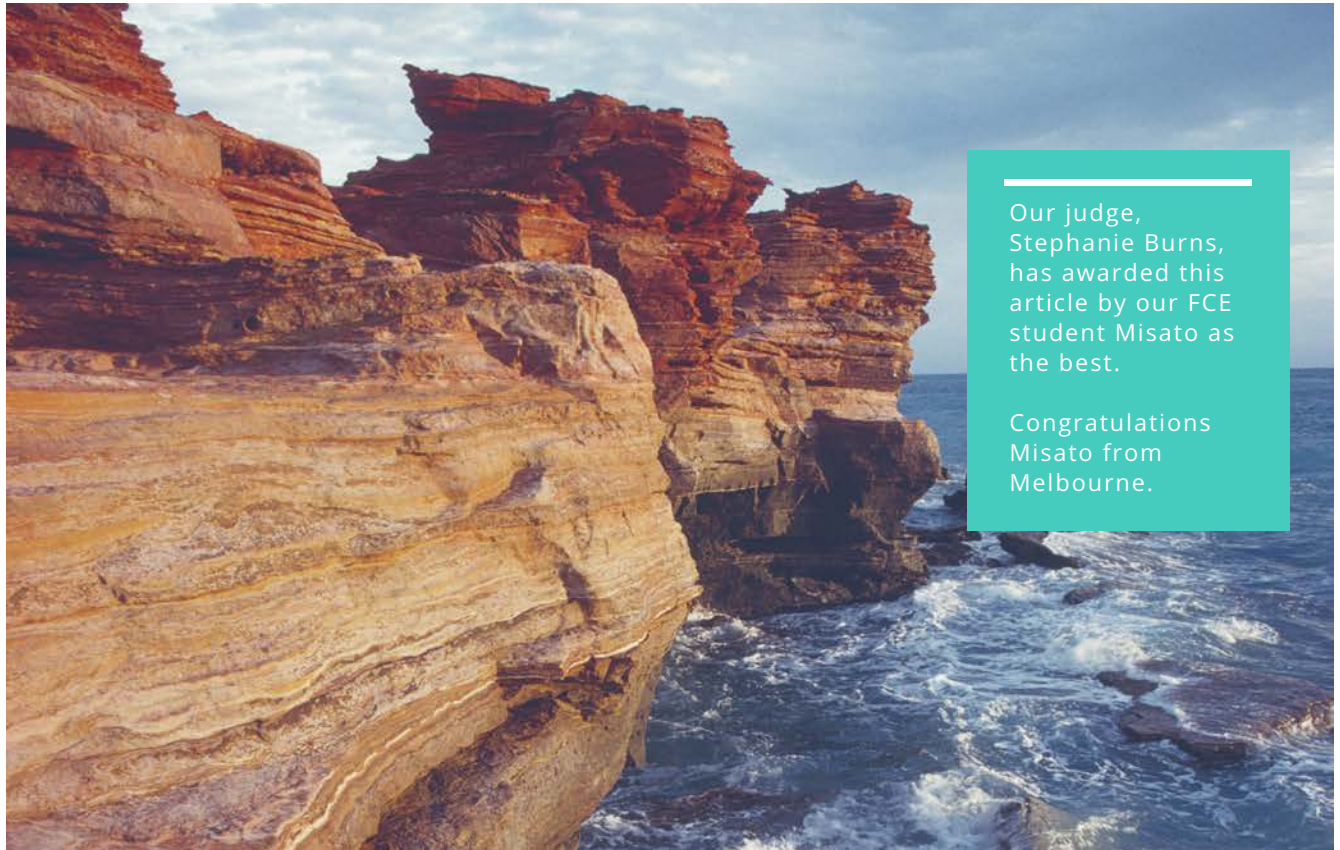
WHY I CHOSE AUSTRALIA

I chose to study here because of a tour guide I met 4 years ago who told me about Australia and her life story. From that day on, I felt like Australia was very much 'me' (everything from the people to the lifestyle to the environment). Living here has given me a much more positive outlook on life. I got here 5 months ago and started meeting people from all over the world. I have so many foreign friends now who have been so kind and helpful to me and have shown me so much love. I have learnt so much from them and this amazing experience

THE REASONS WHY I LIKE AUSTRALIA

By Misato Hamaguchi

**WINNER:
BEST
ARTICLE**



Our judge, Stephanie Burns, has awarded this article by our FCE student Misato as the best.

Congratulations Misato from Melbourne.

To be honest, I didn't like Australia much at first. That's because there are lots of differences between Australia and Japan and I was often confused. The ways of buying things at supermarkets, taking trains and even flushing the toilet are different! Moreover, it was so difficult for me to understand Australian English. They use a lot of slang, and their pronunciation and intonation are unique. It was hard to communicate with the locals. However, about three months has passed and I've come to like Australia so much.

There are two reasons why I like my life in Australia now. First, there is beautiful nature. In Melbourne, there are a lot of parks and I enjoy the peaceful views and just relaxing. When I went to the Great Ocean Road, I was really surprised at how great the view was. I can't see such a view in Japan. Also, there is a lot of wildlife in Australia. The most surprising thing that I experienced here is that I met possums in Flagstaff Garden! I saw them for the first time in my life! The garden is in the middle of the city, but they live there. I really like that Australian people live together with many unique animals and there are a lot of spaces where they can live.

The second reason is that there are many people who come from all over the world. I like to communicate with people who have different backgrounds. That's because they have different cultures and a different way of thinking. That's interesting for me. Melbourne is a multi-cultural city, and I have a lot of chances to talk with people who come from different countries. That encourages me to study English harder. The more my English becomes fluent, the more I can understand them. I enjoy studying English so much in Australia.

At first, I didn't like the life here because I couldn't get used to it. But, I realised many good points about Australia and I've come to like it so much. I will enjoy the rest of the time that I have here!!!

DISCOVERING AUSTRALIA

by Nathalia Rincon



Our Melbourne FCE student, Nathalia Rincon talks about her love of Australia and animals

Since forever I have been an animal lover. When I was a child I always watched Steve Irwin's programs on Animal Planet. Since then I have said to myself 'you are going to Australia' and then at almost 25 years old here I am.

I arrived in December 28 2017 as a tourist to visit my sister just for a vacation (I said) but, after three months, I decided to study English.

Being in Australia has been one of the most important experiences in my life. It is not my first time far away from home but it has been my first experience living in a place with a different language and diverse cultures. So sometimes these differences can be shocking. One of them is everything is on your left, all people have to ride or walk on the left. In my country it is the other side, however you get used to it. Also another thing which was shocking was the Australian accent. I never thought that understanding people would be so hard and sometimes you feel lost. Their expressions, idioms and pronunciation have been a challenge for me because in my case I was adapted to American accents.

Australian nature experiences have been incredible. One month ago I went to a nature park with an Australian bird life group. I wasn't sure what was the activity but I can just say I do not regret it. I think it was one of the best experiences ever, eight hours walking just bird-watching with people who had three or more years working with birds was amazing. I practiced my English, I learnt about birds, and also it was my first time seeing kangaroos, hundreds and hundreds of kangaroos and the best part, with their babies in their mothers' bags,

In the end the Australian experience depends on your attitude, your goals, your personality and the knowledge that you want.

3 tips to improve your English

1

Talk and record yourself.

This may sound funny, but it will help you realize how you can improve by repeating the recording several times till you feel happy with the results.

2

Talk to your classmates in English when you are not in class. You can even make a group to play games, have a meal or just chat together.

3

Books in English and articles on the web. Maybe, books you have already read in your mother tongue or which have been turned into movies. Try to start with easy books, even children's books and comics: The images will help you understand even if you don't know all the words.



COMPARING AUSTRALIA WITH BRAZIL

by David Ramos Perreira

Our Sydney FCE student compares life in Australia and Brazil

The three main advantages of living in Brazil and Australia is a very personal subject and each person would have a different answer. As is well known, Brazil has a history of violence in the main cities. Therefore for me, and for many Brazilians, that is one of the main advantages of Australia. It is a very safe country with not much violence reported in the main cities. Australia also has a very good transport system. Indeed people can move inside the main cities with a good level of comfort and predictability. Some could argue about the prices of transport, but it is reasonable for the Australian average income.

Finally, and in agreement with the previous summarized advantages, Australia is a very organized country. One usually knows what to expect when in touch with a government organization or service. The transport works on time. Pedestrians and drivers usually respect the signs. Taxi drivers don't engage in conflict with uber drivers in the street.

Brazil of course, has its' own advantages. The food in that country is very good. As Brazil had immigration from many corners in the world, the mix of cultures and races had influenced Brazilian dishes. Therefore many regions in Brazil have their own different local dishes.

The weather in Brazil is very good also. It is favourable for outdoor activities. This probably has an influence on people's mood. Probably because of that Brazilians are open and welcoming people. Of course summer might be too hard for some people, but during the year the weather is good.

Finally, but not less important, Brazil has a very good and strong music production. Samba is the most well - known product. There is also MPB (Brazilian popular music) which includes a wide range of rhythms and compositions. In conclusion both are very good countries relatively open for immigrants. They both are also attractive for foreigners, although Brazil has a long way to work in it's violence problem. Australia is better positioned to receive people, but Brazil still has a lot of potential."



TEACHER PROFILE

Geoff Hyde

I love Sydney and all its various amazing people. I love travel too, and have been to many parts of Australia, but have yet to try the Whale shark swimming in Western Australia, one of my bucket list dreams. Love going to special places like the Blue Mountains (often with our students), as I never have the same trip twice.

Taronga Zoo captivates most visitors (the kangaroos look much healthier and striking than those roos and wallabies that get fed and touched unfortunately by visitors to Morisset), and I adore taking our students to see the famous bird show with that breathtaking view over Sydney Harbour and all its beauty. Going overseas is something I love to do too though, and have been all over the world except for South America.

Being in Las Vegas was one highlight for me and was blown away by the night-time casino hotel scenery there, which had the most beautiful ceilings showing the French countryside. Love returning too to Sydney (after travelling to new places overseas) which I have loved since coming here in 1974, with my family from South Africa. The Opera House had just opened, and I can never forget seeing all the happy sailing boats strutting all over the waters of this lovely hilly city of ours.



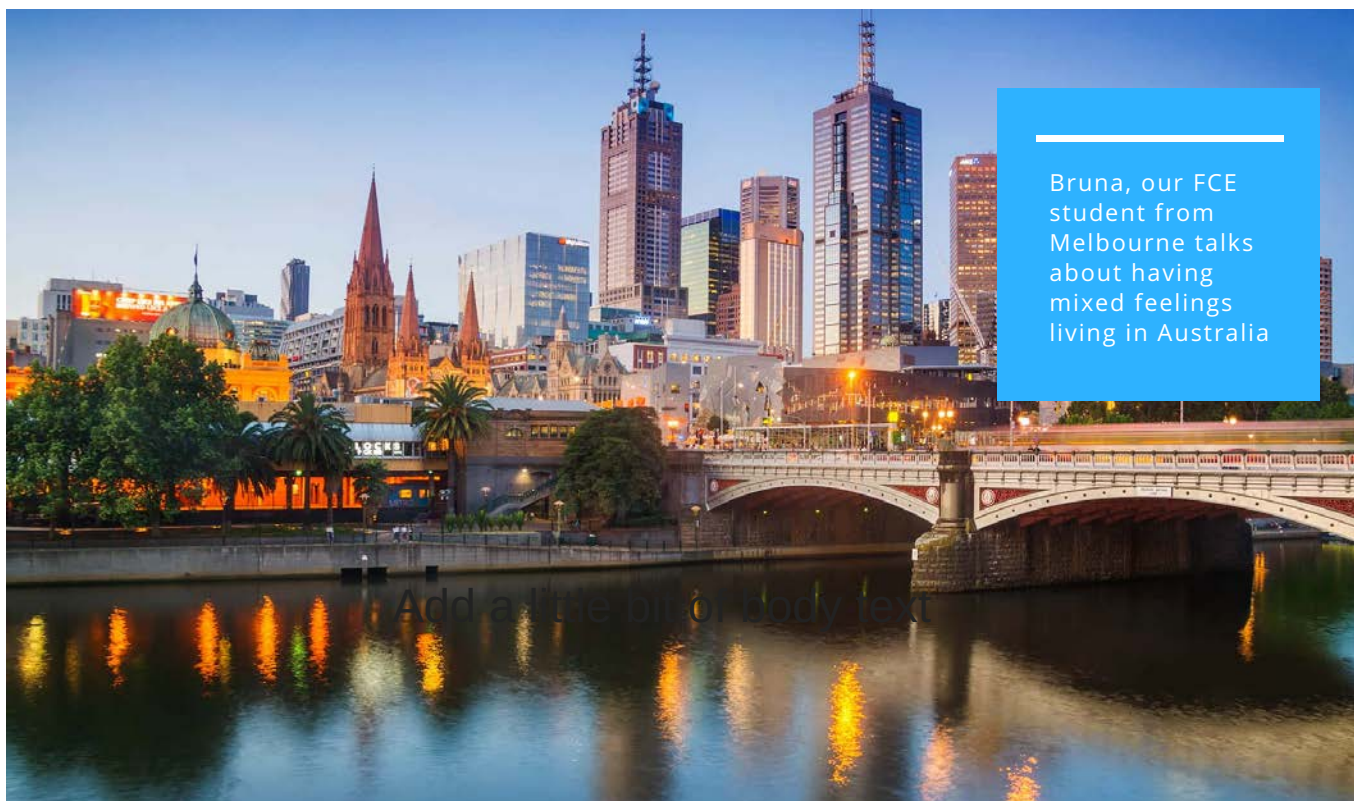


VIVID PHOTO COMPETITION

Congratulations to our winners:
1st Andrequieli Helena Gelbhar
2nd Sirikan Kansiri
3rd Sebas Grisales

MY AUSTRALIAN EXPERIENCE

by Bruna Marques
Cadima



Bruna, our FCE student from Melbourne talks about having mixed feelings living in Australia



My experience in Australia as a student has been different than all the other things that I've done in my whole life. It is like a mix of feelings, sometimes bad ones but most of the time good.

When I first got here the hardest part was getting used to the weather. Melbourne is a cold city but also beautiful in the winter. I like the architecture here, the culture and especially the food. There are so many kinds of restaurants from different countries and you can try all the flavours of the world in one city.

The second thing, for me the worst, is missing my family. I had no idea that I would feel this way. Living here I have realised that sometimes we take the small things for granted like our friends, house, parents or even a meal that you can enjoy with your family.

I'll be here in Australia for the next five months. Until now things haven't been easy but I'm grateful for everything I have learned, the friendships I have made, the places I have been to and this new life experience that I have been living.





Brisbane
PHOTOS OF THE MONTH

MY FIRST METROPOLIS EXPERIENCE

by Alejandro Giovanni



Hi, I'm Alejandro from Colombia. I'm 25 years old and one year ago I decided that I wanted to gain new experiences in my life. So two months later, in September 2017 I got my student visa and in November I left my country to start my new Australian life.

In Colombia I used to live in a small town in the countryside. So Melbourne has been my first experience in a metropolis. Here I've found great multicultural diversity, people from many different countries around the world, bars and restaurants with the craziest variety of food and events throughout the year. Regarding the transport, for me

it's almost perfect, as you can visit many places just using the tram, train or bus. And what about the free tram in the CBD? But I have to recognise that during my first month it was quite difficult learning how to move in a big city like Melbourne. I lost my way many times, I took the wrong bus and walked in circles sometimes looking for the right way. But now, I use my bike to go everywhere which is amazing in Melbourne and very cheap. Just get you helmet and your headlights and ride your bike!

But everything is not perfect and some things are difficult, especially if you are on the other side of the world without any siblings or friends.

Melbourne is a very expensive city. Even if you've come for study purposes, you need to work unless you are rich. In my case, I've had to work since I arrived in Australia. My Australian life has give me a lot of new responsibilities like paying the rent, the bills, my mobile plan, my Mykie or buying my gadgets. If you want to hang out and enjoy Melbourne, you should save your money and be prepared because it's so fun but it's quite expensive.

My Australian life has been the most important experience in my life. It has made me grow as a person. Even if I have experienced some difficult situations. Now I give value to the real important things in my life and of course I've improved my English, which now is much better than my first day in Australia.

PHOTOS OF THE MONTH

Melbourne



An aerial photograph of Sydney, Australia, featuring the Sydney Harbour Bridge in the upper half and the Sydney Opera House in the lower half. The bridge is a large steel arch spanning the water. The Opera House has its iconic white, sail-like roof. The water is a deep blue, and the city skyline is visible in the background.

**WINNER:
BEST
GROUP
ARTICLE**

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM EXPERIENCED INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS!

OUR FCE PREPARATION MORNING CLASS SHARES THEIR TOP ADVICE, TIPS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NEW STUDENTS COMING TO LIVE IN SYDNEY

"Sydney is an exotic and amazing destination. It's a salubrious, easy-to-live place that is both relaxed and energetic. Well-known for iconic landmarks like the famous Opera House, it is also really attractive for its diversity. In fact, you will discover gorgeous natural landscapes, many beautiful beaches and people from all around the world.

Today we'll give you the most important advice about living in Sydney and hopefully it will help you to enjoy each moment and have a special experience here".

Have fun!

FCE Preparation A (Ahmet, Dana, Elin, Jennifer, Julio, Marilia, Marjan, Sebastian, Solene)

SPECIAL PLACES

Sydney has beaches for everyone. Beaches for surfing, beaches to have a good BBQ with friends, beaches to enjoy a beautiful sunset with your partner. Bondi, Coogee, Palm Beach, Tamarama, Maroubra and Bronte are just some of them. Join some bushwalking groups on Facebook. Walk in Sydney's national parks with new friends, have a barbeque together and visit waterfalls and lakes. Did you know the Opera House actually has over 40 shows a week, for kids and adults? Entire buildings are sightseeing locations - check out the Strand Arcade, the Queen Victoria Building, The Mitchell wing of the State Library and many more! You must attend the Vivid festival around Circular Quay and Darling Harbour. That renewed site becomes a dazzling harbour - literally. .

SHORT TRIPS

Sydney has a lot of places that you can visit and enjoy, but there are also beautiful opportunities to do some short trips...

It's good to see kangaroos and wallabies in their natural habitat - go to Morisset Park, where you can get really close to them (but it is not recommended to give them food). It's a 2 hour train ride, so it's advisable that you go early. If you love wine, you can go to Hunter Valley and do a winery tour and try delicious wines and share good moments with friends or family.

If you enjoy train trips and you want to know more about Australian life, you can take a train at Central station and go to Wollongong, Kiama or even Newcastle. These are smaller cities and towns where you can see amazing landscapes, be more relaxed and maybe even get to know some Aussies.

If you like more extreme locations, go to the Figure 8 pools - you really will enjoy it!! It's a group of natural pools close to the sea and the view is astonishing, but please be careful because it's very slippery. If you want to go on a longer trip there is no better experience than going to Uluru.

ACCOMMODATION & RENTING

Sydney has really cool houses, but there are some things to be aware of ...

If you rent a room or a house, most of the time the owner or landlord is going to ask for a bond. This can be equivalent to two or three weeks of rent and you will get it back when you leave the house. But please be careful - it's a good idea if you take a photo before moving in and after leaving to avoid problems with your bond.

It is quite important to do a home inspection in Sydney. A lot of flatshares are generally not as clean you expect and owners sometimes use misleading photos for the ads.

A lot of students have to share flats and share rooms, but this can be good. We can make friends in a flatshare, practise English and watch movies together.



An aerial photograph of a beach scene. In the foreground, a swimming pool with lane lines is visible, with a person swimming. The pool is bordered by a concrete wall. Beyond the pool is a sandy beach with many people. The ocean waves are breaking onto the shore. The sky is blue with some clouds.

HEALTH, SAFETY AND INSURANCE

The Sydney coast is dangerously beautiful, and beautifully dangerous! Swim between the red and yellow flags and watch out for rips, jellyfish and sharks!

Wear sunscreen every day in summer and make sure you have a good hat and sunglasses. The Australian sun is really dangerous and the rate of skin cancer is growing every year. Insurance is an important topic that international students need to know about. If you need medical assistance, in some places you have to pay for the medical consultation, but there are some places where you don't have to pay anything. There is a Medical Center on Castlereagh Street near Museum train station where you don't have to pay anything for your medical consultation.

Don't crash! You must stay on the left everywhere - on the roads, on the footpaths and even when you are shopping in the supermarket!

TRANSPORT

Transportation works almost flawlessly; it's not necessary to buy a car for transportation in this city. It can, however, be so expensive...

Plan trips for Sundays. Explore all of the travel tips in this article using Sydney's efficient transport network of buses, train, light rail and ferries. Using your Opal card, you can tap on and off as much as you want for only \$2.60 for the whole day! That includes far-away places such as the Blue Mountains, the Northern Beaches, Newcastle, Morisset and Wollongong. Take a ferry from Circular Quay, and feel like a Sydneysider and a tourist simultaneously.



FOOD

Vegemite is NOT chocolate!! Be careful - it has a unique, savoury flavour, so spread just a tiny layer on your toast with margarine or butter. If you want to save some money on food, OzHarvest is the best option. You can get food for just a small donation. It doesn't matter how much money you give them. The rule is "just take what you really need". OzHarvest is a company which recovers quality excess food from supermarkets for charity, and your contribution helps people in need.

Check out the promotional sales of the week at Woolies and Coles. They usually offer discounts up to half price and products are on sale regularly. If you need to buy good fruit and vegetables in Sydney, the best places are Paddy's Markets in Flemington and Chinatown. You can find good quality and prices for food, and also souvenirs for parents and friends.

AND SOME FINAL WORDS OF WISDOM

"In my opinion, the most important thing about living in Sydney is having a mind to enjoy life."