



Writing Sample: LING 3A

Due to the huge population in China, there's more big cities than U.S..For example, my city is considered as small city in China, but it's almost as large as Los Angeles. Additionally, the population of Shanghai, which is just 2 hours' drive away from my city, is the half size of the whole California which is 20,000,000, but it's only about 2.5 times bigger than Los Angeles. It's a universal phenomenon that people who live in big cities are more distant and indifferent. Since most of Chinese people are live in big cities, most of Chinese people's life pattern is big cities' style.

Another difference is that I've heard from a lot of my American friends said they attended kindergarten, elementary school, middle school and high school in the same town and with the same group of people, so that their best friends are together since kindergarten. I once was invited to an evening talk in my resident hall about our social life. Most of the present students said they have social problems, since it's the first time leave hometown so far and surrounded by new people from different place. Instead of making friends everywhere, they just hang out with roommates or people in the same floor. So, if their roommates or people in the same floor are not willing to be friends with them, some people end in no friends. However, I have six different groups of classmates, which are around 35-50 people in each group, since elementary school. I was put in a new environment every several years, so that I think I'm more experienced in adjusting a new environment. I'm not the only one who have this kind of experience. All my Chinese friends here have the same experience with me. Because we are all from big cities, we were used to be put in a new environment and to socialize with new people. I know it's hard to make true friends in a party in Isia Vista or in a 100-people lecture hall, but I think this situation can be improved by learning social skills or trying to do it.