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Tips For Next Interns

Dear Future Intern,

Going through another country to do an internship is nerve wracking as it is, but navigating through a new culture and environment can be challenging for not just you but for everyone as well. If you are doing an internship, let's say Vietnam, I have some tips and tricks for you hoping to get you over the huddle of facing many obstacles that you may or may not face within the abroad internship itself.

One tip I can give you is that it is okay to ask for help when you are here. Knowing in Asia, many people might have the expectation that you know how to do everything and expect to know what to do when it comes to regarding of a project. This is not true, people don't make assumption like that at work and if you are stuck on something, feel free to reach out to them for help. They are gladly to help you when you needed, and don't be afraid to ask for help.

Another tip I can give you is for culturally here; people will cross the street normally as they going down the road. So, they won't stop or give way to you, so you are expected to be confidence when it comes to crossing the street here and continue moving. They already calculate how to dodge you as you moving across traffic and just move, and you will be fine. Do not walk backward or stop for so long, that could confuse the driver, and you could end up getting hit. The safe best bet is to raise your arm out to say I'm crossing here and raise and object up to signal you are crossing as well and the driver can pay attention to.

Next insight is about the living expensive here, you might think that eating, shopping, and personal care is cheap here compared to the US, but it is so easy for you to overspend on items and stuff that you don't even know that you are doing it. So, a suggestion that don't eat a lot of restaurants but try to include for vendor food for cheap meal and limit how much you will spend a day/month and go from there to keeping you from overspend.

Next tip for the surprising culture that I discover here is that people won't be nice to you to hold the door for you and won't say much like thank you or smile at you as you walk down the street. This is something a lot of Asian country does as you see not a lot of people will smile or being friendly much to stranger. This is common in Vietnam too and it is not a suggestion of rude or anything. That is just how people are here is like and if you connect with them the people here are genuinely wanting to know you and want to connect with you.

Finally, an insight I can give you is that people will offer to pay for you or for the whole meal. Sometimes with the younger generation, you pay your own meal with the meal you eat. But here

sometimes, the workplace or colleague will pay on your behalf to cover your bill, and you will do the same back to them for next time as a treatment. This is common in Vietnam, and you see lots of people will fight over the bill to see who will pay.

Wrapping this insights and tips for going for Vietnam but hope your future trip is fun and don't think that you won't enjoy the trip as much, but you will have a fun time. With this navigation, I hope it will alleviate some of the stress or obstacle you might think you might face while you are abroad.