Featuring work by some of our students:

Student: Patrycja Marczyk  Tutor: Anna Tran

I arrived to US 11 months ago. The decision about moving was very difficult to me, my husband and children. We had to leave our whole family and close friends who are very important for us. Three months before the arrival, my son Tomasz was born. My daughter Iga had to leave her kindergarten. She was very sad because she liked to spend time with there. During my first months in the US I was not very happy. Each day looked the same. I was missing my family a lot. I didn’t feel comfortable because I had a big problem with conversation with other people, so I could not find new friendship.

One day, I told myself: “You should stop!!! You should start thinking positive. You can do everything if you want!”. So I started to look for someone who can help me, who can teach me English. I had enormous determination because one of my biggest dreams is to speak English correctly. I found your website and I went to the first meeting. I met a very smart and very friendly teacher who believes in me there. When I had worse days because I didn’t see any progress, she knew what to say to me. She never let me give up. She is the best teacher and she is also a good soul. My teacher always has time for me. I love to spend time with her. My best memories are when Anna took me for brunch and she showed me many interesting places in New Haven. Maybe, when I come back to Poland, I will find better job, because thanks to you I improved my English a lot.

Thank you Anna and thank you all in Bridges ESL because You helped me to open for new challenges. Good job, guys! And thank you so much for all.

Student: Sojin Kim  Tutor: Anna Tran

I’m not interested in luxury bags, clothes, or shoes, etc., but I’m crazy about school supplies. Especially now, at the end of year, I have spent a lot of time trying to find new planners for next year. For next year, I chose the ‘Hobonichi Techo Cousin’. The paper of this planner is Tomoe River paper, which is really thin like the paper used in bibles. However, there is no ghosting or bleeding even if you write with fountain pens. The biggest strength of this planner is that it contains weekly spreads with a timetable. It makes it easy to track tasks during the whole week.

Despite all of these good qualities, there is one reason that I am hesitant to buy this planner – PRICEYNESS! The cost for a planner itself is $60 and $30 for a cover. If I buy fountain pens, $40-60 is added to final price. One good thing is that my brother will bring my fountain pens from South Korea when he visits the US at the end of October. At least I will save $40-60. Moreover, my husband decided to give me the planner for my birthday gift. It was very sweet because I don’t think he could understand spending almost $100 for a diary. He said buying it made him happy though because he didn’t need to grapple with selecting my birthday gifts. My birthday is in November and the planner starts in January. It is hard to wait until next year, but I can happily wait.
Student: Eunchong Kang Tutor: Kara Weiss

While passing by the magazine section to find a carrel in the library, I was attracted to a magazine titled ‘Restaurant Business’ and its cover story: “50 Ideas That Don’t Suck”. After I studied for a while, I looked through the magazine for a moment to take a break. As expected, the cover story explained the way of making a successful business. There was an impressive idea which people may be interested in even if they don’t currently run a business.

The idea is “approachable guest education”. The author said that teaching customers about foods and ingredients is an effective way to increase sales because providing teaching tools about food eases ordering. From my own experience, when I first went to the Korean restaurant, Bonchon Chicken, I found explanations of Korean foods served in the restaurant on the menu. I didn’t know why, but I thought it was out of style. However, thinking it again after reading this article, I now understand how it would be helpful for people who are unfamiliar with ordering Korean food. From my memory, I also found that whenever I went to a Japanese restaurant, especially to eat sushi and sashimi, I always wanted to know what the fish listed on the menu look like. Although I don’t know if that would increase my appetite, or make me lose it, it is quite clear that pictures and descriptions help me choose what to eat and make me think the restaurant is intriguing and likable.

From my experience, the idea seems reasonable, particularly for exotic international cuisine. Satisfying people’s curiosity seems like the one of the best marketing strategies for restaurant as well as for companies.

The Bus Stop
Student: Yuka Kamino Tutor: Anna Hwang

One day, I had to go to the Japanese embassy in Boston to retrieve an important document. I searched for a round ticket on the website and bought the cheapest one at 27 dollars. The next day, I arrived at Union station in New Haven 20 minutes before the departure time. I bought a doughnut from Dunkin’ Doughnut and walked to the bus stop, a familiar spot where I previously had waited for the bus to Boston. Some people had already been waiting for the bus there, and I felt relaxed. Everything seemed to be perfect. I like to travel alone but I haven’t done so for many years. So I was excited about it even though it was a short trip.

While the departure time was approaching, I was suddenly worried whether this was the right bus stop because I used a different bus company this time. I thought for a moment, “Should I ask someone where they’re going?” However, I hesitated to ask
because I wondered whether people would answer my question kindly, as my English
was not smooth, or whether people would think of me as goofy if this was the wrong
stop. It’s not easy for me to ask something to strangers in English because I need the
courage to speak to them even if it’s small thing. Somehow, I didn’t want to bother to
talk to anybody at this time. The more I thought about it, the more I hesitated to ask. I
tried to rationalize, so I didn’t have to go through the trouble of talking to someone. I
said to myself, “Union station is a small station, so it must only have this one bus stop.
Everybody here must be waiting for the same bus as mine. No worries.” I continued to be
silent even though the bus didn’t come on time. My anxiety was increasing.

Ultimately, a bus did arrive five minutes after the expected departure time. When
it did, everyone except for me prepared themselves to get on the bus. I realized I
definitely waited at the wrong stop and missed the bus I needed to ride because my bus
number never came at that stop and there was no one who was still waiting for another
bus like me. My mind went blank for a few seconds. This actually happened to me. I
thought, “How come I miss the bus in such a small station?” I lost my temper. Right after
that, I walked into the office and asked one of station staff members where the bus stop
was with no hesitation. I couldn’t care about what she thought of me when I asked her.
She pointed at the opposite way. I went there thinking it was too late. Of course, the bus
had gone.

I was disappointed and felt really embarrassed of myself. I was mad, “Why do
they have different bus stops? Why aren’t there any signs by which we can know where
the bus stop is? It wasn’t all my fault.” However, I regretted that I didn’t ask. I didn’t
want to tell anybody about it, not even my husband. I wanted to hide my failure. If people
hear about it, they will wonder why I didn’t ask simply. I don’t like that. Additionally, I
didn’t like the part of myself that cared too much about what other people thought of me.

Anyway, I tried to think positively to calm myself. I thought, “I have enough time
to go tomorrow instead. 27 dollars are not a big cost.” Furthermore, I tried to think
hopefully, “Maybe I will meet somebody I know by accident in Boston or maybe
something good will happen to me, which made me excited for tomorrow.”

The next day, I went to Boston and received the document there although nothing
special happened to me.

Looking back, I did ask with no hesitation after the failure even though I couldn’t
do it before the incident. It was pretty funny. However, through this experience I feel like
I have become less reluctant to talk to strangers than before. I believe failure made me
grow up. I don’t see this incident as a failure; this was something that was necessary for me to grow up as a person. Failure is the process of growing.

**Au Pair Life**

**Student: Paloma Nascimento  Tutor: Kishore Chundi**

An au pair is a girl between 18-27 years old, who is unmarried with no children. They go abroad for a temporary period of time (1 or 2 years) and live with a host family and take care of their kids. Therefore, au pairs receive pocket money and live free of change with the regular family members.

You became an au pair when you get a match with family after the application. Now you ready for moving. First there the program has a training for improving your skills with kids. After finishing the whole week of training you are ready to go meet your host family, host kids, house and everything.

An au pair works as a nanny but is living in a different country. So everything about kids is with them. They just have to work 45 hours per week and get one weekend off per month and two vacation weeks per year. But when you start to work you will discover that you are going to spend more time with kids than their parents. You are going to love them like your own.

Au pair life is not easy. Sometimes you will be like a big sister to the kids, sometimes like a mother. But you have the opportunity to live in the American culture, improve your English and explore a new country, places, foods, and meet new people. Also you have a chance to study in a new country.

**Bridges as a Bridge between America and Me**

**Student: Naoko Yoshida  Tutor: Keigo Nishio**

I came to New Haven 4 months ago. Until then, I had never lived in foreign countries. I was born and brought up in Japan.

I am a spouse. My husband is a researcher in astronomy. He is going to do research with Yale University research fellows for a year.

I have visited many countries. I also have foreign friends. However, I have to make many contracts and registrations necessary for our life such as contract with the apartment owner, opening bank account, registering lots of things, listening to explanations ... It was the first experience I had to do everything in English. It was difficult for me to listen, talk, read and write in English. It was very tough. But, New Haven is a very beautiful town and I enjoy walking here.

A month later, Bridges' lesson began. My tutor Keigo is a sophomore at Yale University. He is also Japanese, but he does not speak Japanese to me. He prepared various articles to read and discuss. They ranged from social problems, to novels, poetry, and academic text.
It was hard for me to do the assignments. However, I was able to touch lots of English. Through Bridges' classes, I got opportunities to learn about important things for Americans. America seems more familiar to me. Bridges built a bridge between America and me.

My tutor Keigo, thank you very much for giving excellent lessons every week. Thank you Bridges.

Student: Miao He Tutor: Kishore Chundi

When I first came to the United States, I encountered all kinds of small difficulties. For example, I had trouble in understanding the menus in restaurants, I couldn’t understand the jokes from American friends, and I didn’t know how to refill the tires. However, with a positive attitude of being brave despite these difficulties, they have now become lovely memories. I used to tell the supermarket staff that I wanted a pound of sheep and he laughed and told me that it was a pound of lamb, not sheep. The moment of sharing some “unpleasant” food with friends in a new restaurant, and the moment that a lady taught my husband and me to refill the tires at a gas station have all become precious memories.

Looking back, the decision to participate in Bridges ESL was also one of my amazing moves to make a breakthrough. In this course, I made some new friends, and I have improved my English skills. I also have the chance to get to know my tutor, Kishore, who is a great teacher. Every week he would share an article with us. These articles help me improve my reading skills and also help me get a better understanding of related issues like bullying, elections, and immunization, which are all very interesting topics. There is no doubt that my experiences of BRIDGES ESL will become memories stored deeply in my heart.

Student: Nhu Nguyet Mai Tutor: Khai Tran

I attended 3 semesters of BRIDGES ESL in the AACC, and next year my family has a plan to come back our country, so this semester may be the last one that I can study English with Yale's enthusiastic tutors. In this semester, my classmate was a Vietnamese business man and my tutor is Vietnamese too. Comparing to the Chinese, Indian or Korean communities in New haven, the Vietnamese community is very tiny. I am a housewife who hardly meets other Vietnamese aside from my husband and my daughter, which is why going to the AACC every Saturday morning made me super happy. Last semester, my tutor is a Vietnamese American, but she was born in the US and she doesn't know much about Vietnam, so we couldn't share the habits and hobbies of Vietnamese people. However, in this semester, my Vietnamese tutor came from South Vietnam. I’m
from the central part of Vietnam, and my classmate is North Vietnamese. The three of us made a little Vietnam community in New haven. I went to college in the South Vietnam and I love the street food of the South Vietnam so much, I can share my love about street food with my tutor and feel so happy when he also likes them. And my classmate often shares his knowledge about the North Vietnam where I still haven’t visited. As a Vietnamese person learning English, my tutor helped me pronounce more clearly and exactly. And he also shared with me his experience living in the US and how he became a Yale student. More than a tutor, he becomes my good friend. Thank Bridges ESL so much for matching me with my tutor Khai Tran.

Living abroad
By: Anne Betin  Tutor: Arianna Hairston

I have had the opportunity to live in the USA for two years. When you are a foreigner in whatever country some simple things are difficult to do that you could normally do in your country. An example is to talk with someone; it can be simple if you are speaking in your language, but in another language that you aren’t fluent in, it can be hard!

And the key to success is to just never give up and continue to study hard! I am thankful for this opportunity to have classes with the Bridges School. I am sure that I improved my English, and now I can go back to my country with a great experience here in Connecticut and with the great memories I have from my time here.

Thank you, Bridges School, for this awesome project to help others learn English; I am sure it was very helpful and that all of the students will remember this opportunity with grateful hearts! Thank you, Arianna, for your help and teachings during this time! You made a difference in my life with your way of teaching: always happy, motivated and solicitous to help us to learn more and more every Saturday.

I have no words to describe this great and awesome experience, so I just want to say thank you for everything, and I promise that I will try to help others learn English in my country as you taught us here.

Appreciating My Journey in America
By: Lili Zeng  Tutor: Erica Lin

My name is Lili, and I am from China. I was born in a small town in China, and I never thought I would get to experience living in America for a period of time, just like how I never thought I would get to live in Beijing and Shanghai. But, as the saying goes,
“Life is like a box of chocolates. You never know what you’re gonna get. ” Thank you to Yale for giving my husband the opportunity to study at the School of Management, and thus for my family and me to make this precious journey to America.

So far, I love it here in America. I appreciate the government’s wise use of taxes, as it goes to where people need and want the funds. I appreciate the public elementary school, as it is free for my daughter to study at, and to have breakfast and lunch. I appreciate how the education system puts major efforts in encouraging children to embrace creativity and teamwork. My daughter has little homework, but many series of long-term projects to do. She enjoyed interviewing her neighbors about their career and life, and changing a paper bag into a book guide. She loves it here so much. I appreciate people in our Whitehall community, as they are very considerate. They organize interesting activities every Wednesday afternoon for children. Through these activities, my daughter and I learned how to use crayons, an iron, and a hairdryer to make amazing art that is also fun to make. I appreciate Yale’s housing office for letting us use the community room to organize parties with our new friends. I organized potlucks in the community room and made lots of new friends there. I appreciate Yale’s “love delivering system”. In our community, there is a swap room. We can find nearly all things we need for the daily life, like water heaters, electric cookers, mirrors, lamps, thread, and so on. These things are left from previous Yale students, and we can find what we need. It is so warm and considerate. I think all people who get help from there will also leave what they can without hesitation, when they move onto other things in life.

Last but not least, I appreciate Yale Bridges ESL for helping me to improve my English. For me, learning English has been my highest priority job this year. After I settled down, I learned about Yale Bridges ESL at the right moment, and am very glad I signed up. I have to say, I made big progress this semester. I especially want to thank my tutor Erica Lin. She is studying at Yale and always prepares learning materials very proficiently. All the contents met my needs and exceeded my expectations. For example, she prepared a lesson on the origin of Thanksgiving and its history right before Thanksgiving Day, which taught us more about American culture. She gave feedback to my homework with high efficiency. I have severe procrastination and always delivered my homework at the last minute, but I always received her feedback after a few hours. One day, I did my homework on my notebook, then took a picture to send to Erica. She typed them on the computer and gave feedback to me on the second day. When I saw her email, I was really moved. I am deeply impressed by her attitude. I used to be curious about how high school students are admitted to Yale. Her attitude tells me everything. Thanks to Erica for everything you did for us.

I sincerely appreciate my journey with Yale Bridges ESL, in New Haven, and in America.
Some Traditions involving Marriage and Weddings in China

Student: Lei Zhang  Tutor: Johnny Gross

My name is Lei. I come from China. I have been in the United States for 8 months and have been learning English since I joined Bridges ESL in September. Thanks a lot to my tutor Johnny.

About one month ago, I heard someone say that Chinese people have arranged marriages. I thought they must have misunderstood. So I’d like to talk about some traditions involving marriages and weddings in China.

First of all, we totally have the freedom to choose our own spouses. Chinese people will typically meet someone at school, parties, or other activities. The boy will ask for the girl’s contact information and invite her to go out to dinner or go to the movies. People will date for several months, or sometimes even years; it all depends on how quickly they fall in love. In general, a boy will date only one girl at a time, not multiple all at once. If dating makes either side feel uncomfortable, the couple will end their relationship and both people will look for someone else. In addition to meeting your spouse at school or at a party, sometimes people get introduced through mutual friends, matchmakers or dating websites.

After dating for a period of time, people will invite their partner to have dinner with their family at home or at a restaurant. If people get along well with their partner’s family, they usually will start talking about getting married. Typically, a man will give a ring to his girlfriend to show that they are engaged to be married. In some areas, the girl will receive some cash from the boy’s family, which is a show of respect to her and her family. Also, it is easier for a man to get married if he has a house and a car, but marriage also depends on other factors.

Before the wedding, people have a lot of things to take care of, such as taking wedding photos, getting a marriage certificate, going on a honeymoon, booking a banquet and inviting friends and relatives to the wedding. If the man’s home is too far away from the woman’s home, they will hold a wedding in the man’s town and have another feast in the woman’s town. At the wedding, the couple will get lots of red envelopes from guests. This means that they wish the newly-weds well. Additionally, traditional Chinese wedding dresses are red, like in the picture above, which is of two famous Chinese actors. It is clear that Chinese people like red very much. They think red is representative of
festiveness and good-fortune. Especially at weddings and New Year’ Eve, all of the decorations are red.

New country, New Language and New Experiences

Student: Krishnaveni Veerlapati  Tutor: Neeha Kothapalli

Hello Everyone,

I’m Krishnaveni and I’m from India. I moved to New Haven in June of 2018 with my husband who joined as a Postdoctoral Associate at Yale. I completed schooling in my mother tongue Telugu. Though my college education was in English, my speaking skills were not good as everyone spoke in Telugu and exams were the only ones I took in English. Then, I began working as an engineer in India. Once my husband was offered a position at Yale, I was nervous about my English. I took a break from my work and moved to New Haven. It’s been 5 months, and I have enjoyed every bit of it—walking near East Rock park and the Yale campus, eating pizza and new varieties of food, meeting people from different countries and learning about their cultures and countries. It was difficult for me to understand native English speakers and also to exchange my thoughts in English. As I don’t have a work permit and have ample time, I was looking to improve my English. Initially, I was listening to YouTube videos to improve my English. Then, I came across English classes offered by Bridges, New Haven Adult Education Center, English conversation groups at OISS and classes at literacy volunteers. The uniqueness about Bridges is that my classes at Bridges involved a one on one conversation and learning with my tutor, Neeha. She taught me basics of constructing sentences, grammar, etc. I loved the way she taught which involved card games such as taboo to improve my speaking skills. She was very patient with me. Thanks Neeha! My classes at the New Haven Adult Center were also of great help. These classes helped me to improve my English and also to learn about American culture. Thanks you Bridges for
helping me to improve my skills. I always wanted to speak like a native English speaker and I’m happy that I took the first step towards it. I look forward to the next semester.

**My English Journey with Bridges ESL**

**Student: Hunki Kwon  Tutor: Peter Tran**

Hi. I’m Hunki Kwon from South Korea. It’s been about a year since I came to New Haven to work at Yale. This is my first semester studying in Bridges ESL, and I feel it’s really excellent and fantastic program for someone who wants to speak English very well.

Last year, I attended an English class, but it was hard to get chances to practice and speak English because there were many students in the class. This year, some friends said that Bridge ESL is the best option to study English, and I can have a lot of chances to practice with a tutor. So I did. It was really good.

Especially, Peter Tran is the best tutor in my life. He always prepared a lot of things for the class such as new vocabulary, roots, and articles for us. He’s a passionate teacher who always answered kindly whenever I gave him questions about English. My classmate Minhee and I could learn English happily all through the class with Peter.

I’m really grateful to Bridges ESL and Peter! I hope we will keep studying together next semester, and I can speak English very well like native speakers.

**My Experience in Bridges ESL**

**Student: Johanna Uribe  Tutor: Abby Steckel**

My name is Johanna I am from Colombia. When I arrived to New Haven it was 1 year ago. I started looking for places where I could improve my communication in English, there were many places that teach it. All are good but six months later I saw in internet Bridges ESL and I found the right place for me, because I do not know many English speakers in this town with whom I could practice it. Then, I registered this semester and I met Abby, she is my English tutor, I loved her classes because she is organized, she has structured her class, she is fluent, and we talk every Saturday about interesting topics. In the beginning of the classes I was nervous, anxious even my voice trembled but with practice these symptoms have decreased now, I can talk and write about it with a smile in my face. I never thought I could start reading a book in other language it is a great experience for me because I understand and in my mind is open to new vocabulary words. I am so glad to meet this wonderful learning place and grateful to Abby who has taught me to have more confidence in myself and encouraging me to learn
this fantastic language. I hope to continue in this program because my goals for the next year are to have a job, get my driving license and start a new career.

**My Experience in Bridges ESL**

**Student: Rui Liu  Tutor: Thalia Baeza Milan**

Hi! My name is Rui Liu. I came from China two years ago. I have studied English since middle school. This means I have studied English for more than ten years. I can read English books and watch English TV with subtitles. However, I don't dare to speak English. Before I came to America with my family, I thought my English would improve a lot because I would have to use it everyday. In fact, NO! I have been in New Haven for two years and I still don't dare to talk with others in English. This did not change until I joined the Bridge ESL program and met my tutor, Thalia. My spoken English is getting better and I began to learn more about the culture of America. Thanks to Thalia. I am grateful for her and I had a great experience in Bridges ESL. Hope to see you soon in the new semester.

**Drive Through Seattle, Vancover, Olympia, and Snoqualmie Pass**

**Student: Marton Hovanyi  Tutor: Chelsea Ilarde**

On a late Wednesday evening, two days after my wife had returned to Hungary to take one of her final exams as a PhD-candidate, I was just sitting on the La-Z-Boy in our cozy den in New Haven, Connecticut, and trying to figure out what I should pack into my luggage for my very first West Coast trip. A large and important literary studies conference was going to take place in Bellingham, Washington, from Friday to Sunday. Probably if I could see myself from the outside, I would find myself at that moment as a grass widower who is not only lonely but careworn also. So, I was trying to do my best, stood up and started to iron my shirts and trousers to mitigate my anxieties. To tell you the truth, in my home country, I had some driving experience but nothing in the States yet. I knew it would begin on Friday in Washington inasmuch as my host family lives in Bothel, which isn't quite far from Seattle, but rather it is quite far from Western Washington University, where the conference was held. However, one month earlier I had rented the car online for that week on the West Coast, but I had never driven a car with an automatic transmission system. Certainly, driving seemed a larger challenge to me than reading a new paper at the conference. So, during the ironing I watched numerous Youtube videos on driving, filling up the fuel tank, keeping the speed limits on a highway and whatever else could be useful for a new driver in the US, and in addition, I learned the whole car terminology like an eager beaver.
The next day, after that engaged preparation, I went to JFK by public transport because on one hand I really like that Airtrain, which is run from Jamaica station to the Airport, which has such an exquisite city view, and on the other hand, I hadn't any cheaper travel option on my own. Actually, I arrived at the gate before more than two hours early and my flight was delayed, of course, so I had a lot of time to call my family. While we were chatting, suddenly, my phone signed a call from Bothell, and I was absolutely convinced that it was my host family. But later when I heard the precisely forty-second-long voice message, I realized it was a call from Enterprise Company. Frankly, at first, this was the only single comprehended word what I could catch as an ESL student. Fortunately, we had a seemingly endless flight to Seattle, consequently, I had a chance to rehear the message countless times. I wish I could tell Chelsea at Bridges or Irina at home what a magnificent listening practice I have - I thought, trying to decode the brisk message. The minute included details on the contact person (full name and phone number), my default renting conditions and one option to upgrade them, the exact dates and addresses of the renting, payment options (credit and debit cards), necessary driving license and a hundred-dollar deposit, and after all that she gave me a short description on how could I find the entrance of the Enterprise office in the building the next day at Bothell. All in all, beneath forty seconds that was so impressive, I suppose!

Anyway, my host family warmly welcomed me to their superb home. This is a typical American stand-alone house. My favorite part of that house was the guest bath on the ground floor and in particular the heated tile floor that was amazing when I got ready in the morning or for bed without any slippers. That's a must-have. I'd really appreciated all their helpful advice and the awesome dinner because I literally starved for both of them after the long flight. Finally, it was on Friday when I met my car after I was hanging around a little bit in Bothell. It was a white Nissan Sentra, and I loved it so much. I knew I would be cautious on the roads, but everything went smoothly. The road trips in Washington State were beautiful and completely enjoyable all the time. The driving brought back so many fond memories with my Grandfather who used to drive a lot when I was a child. As a theologian, it's a priceless feeling hearing Madonna's “Like a Virgin” song and driving full throttle down an American road. Overall I drove approximately a thousand miles because one of my Hungarian friends lives in Vancouver, BC for a year and I visited her after the conference and had a road trip to the State Capitol in Olympia as well. By the way, the conference was also useful and valuable, and I could read my paper for an engaged and inquisitive professional audience, which was also an important experience. Leastwise, they politely didn't hiss me off the stage.

Furthermore, my second day at Bellingham was enriched by a visit of my cousin and her partner who had never met me before. They came from East-Washington only for
me, and we had a wonderful conversation about our family ties, weird stories about what happened to us when we had been children and so on. It was also a catchy moment when I saw the Pacific Ocean on my way to Canada or visiting the sublime Snoqualmie Falls and driving through the monumental hills around the Snoqualmie Pass. One of my American friends in Hungary had lived for a month in Seattle several years ago, and she drew my attention lot of famous places in the city; thus, I visited not only the Space needle but more than a dozen local places also. When I came back to New Haven and told enthusiastically my family and community all these experiences, I realized that I've been enriched with a treasure of memories.

**Look Back**

**Student: Wei Wu  Tutor: Thalia Baeza Milan**

Look back on the past, Start on
January first, Time flies too fast,
Everything seems to have
happened yesterday.

I love New Haven’s
seasons, There are a
lot of reasons,
Spring cold,
Summer cool,
Autumn colorful,
Winter snowy.

I love the people living here,
There are so many ESL
volunteers, They teach us
how to apply English, They
are making our life easier
and better.

I love the campus of Yale,
There are multiple old
architectures, They just
stand there, Telling their
histories and story silently.
I love the daily life here. There are various feelings. Life is simple and quiet. Every day is busy and meaningful.

When the year ends, look back and review. This will be my most precious memories. Thanks for having you and your support. Lovely teachers, friends, even strangers.