

Peter: Hi, Maria! How are you doing?

Maria: I'm ok. How are you?

Peter: Great! What are your plans after school is out?

Maria: Well, I'm going to study for a year in China. I'm a bit nervous. I've never been to China before.

Peter: Oh, why are you going to China, then?

Maria: I want to learn the language and I think it will be a fun adventure. My school has a program where I can go to China for a year and stay with a family in a homestay. I'm really excited about staying with a family, so I can learn more about the culture.

Peter: Aren't you nervous?

Maria: Yes, I'm a bit nervous that the family won't like me. I'm also a bit nervous that my room will be uncomfortable. Maybe it will be too small, or maybe I'll have to share a room. I'm not sure if I will have my own room. I like my privacy, so I hope I don't have to share a room.

Peter: Can you write your homestay family to ask about your room?

Maria: I guess I could. I don't speak any Chinese right now, so I'm also a bit nervous about the language, especially if my homestay family doesn't speak English! But I'm good at learning languages, so I'm pretty comfortable and confident that I'll be able to speak the language by the end of my stay.

Peter: Is there anything that you want to do while you're there? Other than study?

Maria: Well, I'd like to visit Hong Kong. I'm pretty comfortable travelling by myself, so I might also go up to Harbin for the Ice Festival. I also hope that I can learn to cook Chinese-style food. I am good at cooking, so I think I'll learn quickly.

Peter: When you return from China, you will have to cook dinner for me! In fact, maybe I'll come to visit you while you're in China.

Maria: I don't know if I can have house-guests, so if you visit me, you'll need to stay in a hotel.

Peter: That's ok! Then you can show me around your new town and we can visit some of the historical sites and hang out at a coffee shop. Will you be near the Great Wall?

Maria: I don't know. And I'm not sure that there will be any coffee shops. I'm a bit nervous about where I will hang out. Right now, I like to go to the coffee shop to meet up with my friends. I also am a bit nervous about making friends. What if the people in my course don't like me?

Peter: I'm sure that everyone will love you and it will be easy to make friends. I think this sounds like a fun adventure for you!

Maria: I know. I'm excited, but I'm also a bit nervous. I'm happy that you'll come to visit me, though!