

## 1. What did you expect before the exchange? How did that compare to your actual experience?

### 35 responses

It was way better than I expected, the people were amazing and very sociable, Ljubljana is a beautiful city and I wish I could stay there for another week. :-)

I think nothing. It was real surprise for me and I really love it.

I didn't really have many expectations. I was just hoping to make new friends from other countries and to polish my english a bit. This week was great, I meet a lot of great people. I feel like my english improved a lot, thanks to this exchange.

It was just as I had expected it to be

My expectations pretty much matched the reality.

I was incredibly excited for it. I had no direct contact with debates in such form before, but somehow I was convinced that the structure would be easier; which is why their complexity took me by surprise. Furthermore, I must admit that hosting a foreign student was exactly how I have imagined it, except that I thought, I would have more free time.

I expected to have a great time, hang out with the people I already know, meet new people and practice German. Everything came true, the only thing I had not expected was that it would be so cold.

I did not expect it to be this exhausting, i wanted a simple week off not a constant babysitter duty

I was nervous if we are going to get along, but it was amazing at the end. It has reached my expectations.

Before the exchange I expected to meet a lot of new people, gain new experience and learn how to debate and learn about diplomacy. My actual experience exceeded my expectation because while doing these things we had a lot of fun.

I expected that i was going to meet a lot of new people, see some of my friends again and learn something about debating. The experience was pretty much that although i wish there was some more actual debating for everyone.

I expected a bit more of activities relevant to our cultural differences but in reality everything was focused on debating.

I expected to meet new people, learn some new things and have fun, which is exactly what happened on the exchange.

My expectations about the trips around Slovenia etc. compare quite closely to the experience. However, I enjoyed some of the workshops on debate much less than I would have expected before the start of the exchange.

I expected nothing but fun and this exchange proved that good people live all around the globe. I am really happy to be a part of this exchange because I learnt so much things.

I expected it to be very stressful, but it was actually pleasant.

I expected a nice week, filled with new experiences and meeting new people. Comparing to my expectations: it was a nice week, I learned a lot about others and especially about myself. Before the exchange I didn't know in which setting I could be involved. I had never been in Slovenia and I didn't know my new host. I was a bit worried about living in a place where I had to speak a different language than my own as I felt I didn't have a remarkable command of the English language. Actually, this experience has proved to be really useful as an experience of life I'll never forget. Furthermore, I have noticed some improvements in speaking English.

I expected more public speaking, which we did but main topic were debates

I expected that we will learn many things about debating and also many new friendly people. I thing you learn more like this because you have a programm and everything is well structured.

I expected it to be educational, exciting and an unforgettable experience and it really was! I made a lot of new friendships and i personally have the feeling that i improved my english skills.

I expected to learn how to debate, to be introduced to different debate styles and to participate in workshops focussing this topic. My expectations were fulfilled and additionally, we enjoyed a lot of sightseeing.

I didn't know much about Slovenia to be honest. I expected it zo be very cold there, and that definately was the case.

I expected to improve my english speaking level and to encourage myself to make new friends. I achieved what I wanted.

I was actually pretty surprised in a good way, it was a lot better than I expected.

Before the exchange I was very excited and also a bit anxious because finally it was time for me to leave for Slovenia and to meet again the guys who had been in Gagnano for the second mobility. Once again one of my goals was to improve my pronunciation and my spelling. And then to acquire more and more confidence and self-assurance since I had to speak in public and be part of another family for a week. It was a beautiful week. I had a great time thanks to the family, the girl who hosted me, the teachers and all the guys who took part in this mobility. Even the 2-minute speaking activity helped me a lot because I would never have done that a few years ago.

Before the exchange I expected that it would be an interesting experience and indeed it was. Firstly I thought that we had completely different habits from the Slovenians, but afterwards I discovered that we are similar and it was unexpected. For instance we have the same breakfast with milk and something else, the same time for dinner and also the same dishes. I expected a good relationship with my host as it was in Italy. Fortunately for me we had a good friendship during the exchange. As I expected, Ljubljana is beautiful and all the sightseeing trips were interesting.

Before the exchange, I was expecting not that much as it really was. I used to think that the programs for the days were limited. In the end, the activities were enough. I've seen how the inhabitants of Slovenia live. I really lived the country , in fact, I'm planning to go there as fast as possible.

I actually expected something similar to the German Exchange and it was quite alike.

Before the exchange I expected to make new friends, discover a new culture but above all live moments that I wuold never forget. That is exactly what has happened my expectations were right, because in Slovenia I met very special people who gave me so much love.

before the exchange I expected to find cold people and not to make new friends. Staying in Slovenia I discovered that the girls and boys were very friendly and welcoming. Just like the teachers.

It was better than I expected

I wanted to meet interesting people and I did

I expected to meet interesting people

I hoped to learn about debating and that I don't need to debate in front of everybody rather in little groups. My actual experience is that I never debated in Slovenia.

## **2. What did you think of the debating workshops you attended?**

**35 responses**

They were fine

Really nice workshops. Quite tiring but I think worth it.

It was a big challenge for me, considering that public speeches are really stressful for me. No offence but Ms ##### seemed to be a bit lost, it seemed not as professional as it should have

Due to the crossover of several activities, I feel like I didn't get the opportunity to actually develop any debating skills which suits me just fine because I have terrible stage fright.

To be honest, they were somewhat confusing and I needed to do quite a bit at home in order to understand the material properly. Surprisingly, however I slowly grew to like the structure and after practice everything got better.

I have done debating before, hence, I knew everything we spoke about. However, for those who haven't experienced debating yet I believe they were useful.

The one that was leading them didn't know much, or she just didn't know how to express it, I don't know so I am not going to be the judge of it. However I sincerely enjoyed them nonetheless.

I liked the one we were in groups and were talking for 1min about a picked topic, I also loved Miha Andrič's class. However I think other debating workshops (preparations for a debate) didn't go as planned.

I think they were fine, the one with Miha Andrič was really interesting, however I think it would have been better if we all got the chance to debate.

I liked them very much but I really wished we all could experience debating.

They were very educative and interesting, but a bit tiring at times.

I liked them because they were not always the same, we got to know different, interesting people and tried debating for ourselves.

I really liked the Andrič lecture which had very many useful tips and was also a great example of good public speaking. However, I found the Oxford-debate style workshops confused with many exercises not relating to the skill of debating and with confusing explanations and too little time to prepare before the debate.

They were interesting and helpful, because you need those skills in every day situations.

They were interesting, although some parts (ie. organizing the groups) could've been done better

I was not pleased with debating workshops. I think everybody was really confused and had no idea what teachers want from them. I'd love to get really structured and professional advice on how to debate in the future.

I expected team works and those types of activities I had already attended in Gragnano, but I had no idea what the debate was. I thought it was mostly the same as the public speaking.

Moreover, I didn't expect workshops as interesting as they were. For example, the debating training was attractive for me as I like team works.

It was interesting to learn different ways and points of view

They were really well prepared and we could learn many things from there also from the couch. Sometime it was a long time without break and it was a little bit hard to concentrate.

In general I think the workshops were great to get to know debating better and learn new things about something I have never done before. Although it was an overall great experience I have to say that I wasn't comfortable when it came to the actual debate in front of everybody. I am really grateful though that I had the opportunity to participate at these workshops because they were a great lifetime experience.

I appreciated the debating workshops, especially the one by Miha Andrič. What he taught us was both new and useful to me. He made the debating strategies accessible to us in a funny

and interesting way. I also liked the other workshops, however, sometimes they could have been a little more structured.

I actually really enjoyed the workshop with Mika. It was very entertaining and helpful at the same time. Overall, the workshops were very interesting to listen to.

I loved workshop with Miha and I hope to have more opportunities to work with him, not only about building arguments but debating too.

Personally in my opinion Miha Andric's workshop was the best. He actually showed me how to create arguments for the debate and it was still really interesting to listen. But overall all the workshops were okay.

In this mobility, even if we didn't have much time, we managed to do a good job thanks to the different workshops organized by the teachers. The central theme was the debate so the workshops were focused on it, as the activities that helped us discuss on various topics. They proved to be useful because they made our speeches much more flowing and natural.

We attended a debating workshop during our experience in Slovenia and I found it very interesting and useful. It will help us in the future to deal with our job interviews or some public speeches but especially in everyday life it will help us to be more convincing. During these workshops, sometimes we had to be a team and work as well as possible with people that we didn't know. I can say that it was quite difficult but at the end we got it.

The debating workshops have fully satisfied me. I got something new in my knowledge now. I really hope that I'll be debating soon in the future

They were pretty good.

In slovenia it was the first time I had participated in a debate, it is true that the time was not much to prepare us, but from my experiences I overcame my fear of speaking to a very large audience. But most of all, the debate helped me develop critical thinking that I did not have before.

I liked all the workshops a lot, as they gave me the opportunity to improve my speaking skills. I also had a lot of fun.

The best was Miha Andrič, I love him

The ones with Miha were great

They were interesting to listen to but didn't encourage me to take up debating

Sometimes it was really confusing because we had the feeling that the teacher who presented the Oxford Debate changed her mind about how to debate all the time. So in the end we were confused because we didn't know what's right and what's wrong. In the end it was better structured. It was very interesting to hear everything about debating.

**3. If you are going to participate in the Musketeers of Words competition in Poland in March 2019, do you feel sufficiently prepared for it? If not, what areas do you need to improve? Do you have any recommendations for the teachers?**

**35 responses**

No I'm not prepared, im very stressed and never know what to say

I think that I'm prepared. It could be more real shows to look and think about mistakes and good sides of people who debate.

I'm not going to participate in it. I think like I'm too insecure, when it comes to public speeches.

Vocabulary

No, and any amount of preparations won't help my anxiety.

No, I do not. I want to learn how to make proper arguments (something similar to one of the workshops we have already had, but perhaps the stress should be on how to think of the arguments (actual examples)). Also, organization of speech is still quite an obstacle for me. I am not going to participate in it.

A few more practices where we would actually debate not just sit and listen would be glorious.

I do not feel prepared in any way. I'm afraid I wouldn't be able to speak constantly for 3/4min or to say something that makes sense. The advice is that perhaps we could speak individually for 2min (in front of audience) about any topic (but not in debating style) just to get more comfortable talking.

I'm not going to Poland.

I'm not going to participate

I need to improve my public speaking as in voice control and nervousness.

I'm not going to participate, but to have a real debate I would need more practice.

No, I don't feel sufficiently prepared. There should've been more practice debates (at least one for each team - preferably in separate classrooms).

I think that I am not fully prepared because I didn't debate in this model of the debate. I think that I should debate more, but I know something or how to debate from Primary School.

I will not participate

No, I do not feel prepared for debating competitions. I think that we should work on all of the areas, from argumentation to the actual speeches. I'm also confident that EVERYBODY should try to debate (and more than once). My recommendations: 1.) Let's talk about just ONE debating format and let's stick to it. I know there are millions of debating formats (and each and every one of them has something good to offer), but since debating is a really difficult skill to learn, let's not make it any harder for students. 2.) Please give us clear instructions. Tell us exactly what you expect us to do and how do roles of speakers look like. (for example: <https://studylib.net/doc/7538406/oxford-style-debate-format> page two.) 3.) give us (or them) a real chance to debate. If you want to learn how to debate, you have to actually debate. 4.) Be coherent. If you tell us a rule or idea, please don't change your mind and then tell us the exact opposite thing. It makes us even more confused. 5.) Please, no bomb timers. The 'clockboy' (I don't remember the phrase) is okay. But if we really need the timer, there are other amazing timers on google that don't frighten the hell out of speakers. (<https://www.online-stopwatch.com/countdown-timer/>). 6.) Believe in yourself and please don't take student's questions as personal attacks. They are not. We are just trying to understand and learn, that's all. I know some of us might seem like we are doubting your authority, but don't worry: if you do your job correctly and are a good leader everybody respects you.

If I had to participate in the Musketeers of Words competition in Poland, I would feel sufficiently prepared for it, but I know I would need to improve even better my spoken English. Regarding the contents, I'd be able to argue and to make a good speech according to the Oxford debate rules.

I need to practice my public speaking skills

I feel prepared but not that much because not everybody took part in an debate. So you actually don't feel also very prepared when you have to do it.

I have to say that I don't feel a 100% prepared for the debate. I mean we have learned a lot of things but it is difficult to make such a serious debate with only 2-3 days of practice. What I think I have to improve is to make better arguments but most importantly trying to make Points or asking questions. Added to that I have to try to fill in the whole 4 minutes of speaking and I can also improve defending my own arguments. The only thing I could recommend are some

more workshops about defending your own arguments but mostly how to prepare them better to a point where you can be comfortable and confident about your speech.

/(I'm not going to participate.)

I would not participate. Though i think the students who will should repeat everything we and the previous participants (that were in Italy) did and do a few practise debates.

I don't feel well prepared, but the problem is in my head, because I have a stage fright. Maybe we should have more exercises about public speaking.

I feel quite prepared but I think all of us should strictly practice debating not only listen to others doing it because it is the only way to really learn it.

This mobility has been focused on the debate because it can be useful in the future as it increases our social skills . Even if we have practiced little because the time has not been enough, however, we have learned the rules of a typical debate and its various features. I can not say I'd be ready to face the competition if I had to join the Polish Olympics but I would do my best to understand more and more how a debate works. So I would advise the teachers to plan different exercises for their students' training and to focus their lessons on the debate in order to make their students more confident while debating.

If I had to go to Poland I would not be prepared because this was the first time for me and we didn't practice so much because of the necessary explanations to be prepared. I think that I should learn how to analyse the quotes given during the debate because it is difficult to understand what are the essential points. If I were the teacher I would give a lot of time to practice, and explain all the mistakes made. I think that practice makes perfect, and especially in the debate we need a lot of practice, particularly for the ones who approach this kind of debate for the first time.

Unfortunately, it's probable that I won't be participating

I will not go to Poland.

Honestly I would not feel ready, because in our school this subject is not practiced and all teachers didn't help children to have a critical thinking. And this is why my fear of making a mistake is not completely finished

I do not think I'm ready for the Musketeers of the Word in Poland 2019. Personally speaking I would like to improve my public speaking. No recommendation for the teachers, everything perfect.

I wish that there was more time to preparation

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Yes, I think so

No, but after repeating everything in school, it was better. In general I don't like presenting something in front of many people in another language that's why I also just feel like I wouldn't have been well prepared for the competition. The biggest problem in Slovenia was that it wasn't that well structured sometimes. For example, everybody needed to debate and we were in our groups to prepare us, but we couldn't because some people wrote exams, another girls phone was broken so she went away to a store to get her phone mended and some others needed to go to the rehearsal.

#### **4. Did you enjoy how time was divided between debating workshops and Cultural Heritage activities (sightseeing trips in Slovenia)?**

**35 responses**

Yes I did

I really love it. It was amazing. I think it couldn't be better and I feel big satisfaction.

In my opinion there should be more time for other activities than debating.

It was phenomenally organised

Yes, that was great!

Yes, I did.

Yes.

As someone who has seen all of the heritage locations i am unable to properly judge, but i know my guest liked it. Honestly i wouldnt mind debating all day

I absolutely loved trips, but i didn't dislike workshops either. I think time was divided just fine.

I think it was good divided. Maybe we could go sightseeing more and not have so much time preparing for debates that we didn't participate in.

Yes, i really liked that we got to see a lot of Slovenias most known places.

The activities were very well organised.

Yes, i would not change anything.

It was quite well divided and the organization was good.

No, I think that we should have had more free time, because I wasn't even able to hang out with my friends from all countries. The schedule was very packed.

Everything seemed a bit rushed, but otherwise it was good

Yes! :)

Yes, I enjoyed how time was divided between debating workshops and Cultural Heritage activities. I really liked sightseeing trips in Slovenia because they were very interesting starting from Planica: I had never been on mountains before and I had never heard of ski flying and ski jumping. Moreover I really enjoyed the trip to Postojna Cave, its natural underground landscape enchanted me and the cave train was fun. I also liked my free time that I spent visiting the city of Ljubljana.

Yes, it was something different from sitting in class and listening to debates

I really liked it, but sometimes there were many activities in one day. But instead of this it was very well done.

What i really liked was that we've had a lot of time for the cultural heritage activities. We got to see a lot of beautiful cities and also had freetime to go and see any parts that we wanted. I think that we didn't had enough time for the workshops. When we got home pretty late from the trips we were tired and it was really stressful to prepare the debate at home after these exhausting trips.

In my opinion, it was great that both debating workshops and sightseeing trips were included. Nevertheless, I think that too much time was planned in total so that some free time to spend with one's exchange partner was missing; but how time was divided between workshops and sightseeing was fine.

Yes, though since there was a lot to see in Slovenia our whole schedule was very packed.

I did.

It was divided perfectly.

In this week in Slovenia we did many activities regarding the debate but there were also pleasure moments such as the day at Planica or the one at the Postojna Cave or the afternoon spent in the street of Ljubljana : we have reconciled duties and pleasure to perfection.

During this experience the cultural Heritage activities were well planned, but there wasn't enough time for the debating training.. On the other hand I can understand that Oxford debate needs a lot of time as it isn't easy and requires a lot of practice, so in a one-week exchange it is very difficult to plan the time required.

Of course, we had the time to discover the capital at its full. The workshops didn't take all the time, so I didn't get bored

In my opinion it was actually good, but too much. Both activities lasted very long.

Yes, because the organizers of the exchange were good at organizing everything so they made sure that we guys could get bored. My favorite part was the treasure hunt, it allowed us to discover the beautiful city of SLOVENIA.

I liked the division of time between workshops, debating and cultural heritage activities but I think the tie at school was too much

I think workshops were too long

Yes

Yes, I liked it

I think it was really good because it was varied and each day we did something else.

## **5. Have your views on other cultures changed in any way?**

### **35 responses**

No.

Not really.

Yes

I haven't any view on this so after whole project I can tell that this is great

Italians were a lot better english-speakers than I expected!

Not at all

Not really because we were mainly presenting Slovenian culture, which I am a part of.

Indeed. I have always perceived Italians as a bit louder, and Poles a bit more tense (not so laid-back).

No, not at all

Not really, because i didn't have a strong opinion of their cultures before anyways.

I only got to know different cultures more and learn some new words in their language.

Not really because i've already been in contact with this cultures in my exchange last year.

Not really, because there wasn't a lot of cultural discussion.

Yeah, it has changed.

Not significantly

During the week I was lucky to discover the Slovenian culture, their food and their lifestyle. It is different from the Italian one. For example, the Slovenian people eat fewer times a day and their food is so different. I have also noticed differences about other cultures like the German one and I have come to realise that there are a lot of separate cultures and ways of life in countries so close to Italy and to each other. So, I can tell that my views on other cultures have changed a lot.

No

A little bit.

I got to know them better. The language, food, traditions and historical aspects were really interesting. I am glad that i got the chance to learn more about different cultures!

No, I wouldn't say that my views on other cultures have changed but my knowledge of Slovenian culture has grown which I'm really grateful for.

Since i honestly haven't had any particular view on Slovenia and their culture, i'd say yes. The views on both polish and italian culture didn't change much though, since i didn't learn anything about their countries.

I was surprised by Slovenians hospitality but my views didn't really change because I never assume anything about someone's culture before I can properly get to know it.

The most important part of the exchange was to meet people with different cultures from ours and to spend a week with them. Surely we have different ways of living, food and school but I was welcomed in the best way.

I hadn't some strong stereotypes before I went to Ljubljana, and I was aware of the fact that I had to make my own ideas about other countries. Firstly I thought that they were so far from my culture, but I learnt that there aren't as many differences as everyone think. For example every country has its own language but everyone, to express emotions, uses the same hand gestures.

Yes, honestly I used to have no eyes on slovenian culture. As the days passed , I learned something about its food, traditions and music.

No, but I learned more about Slovenia.

5. honestly, before arriving in Slovenia I was very afraid of living in a culture different from mine. I was afraid not to adapt, but it was not like that . So I understood that new cultures help humans to grow mentally and physically.

My point of view on other cultures have not changed because I have always thought positive, they have improved much

I loved slovenians but now I love them more

A little

I find them less distant

No, they didn't because I don't have any stereotypes.

## **6. Have you established a good relationship with you host/guest? If not, what difficulties did you have?**

### **35 responses**

Yes we did, we still have contact

My host was really helpful and care about me so I'm satisfied.

Yes, it became very good. I felt almost like she was my soulmate and her parents were also very nice.

I have established many relationships

Yes, my guest was wonderful!

I have for sure.

Yes.

He annoyed me to the extent where i couldnt stand him anymore, but before that id say yes.

Yes, we have an amazing relationship and we had lots of fun together.

I have a very good relationship with my guest, she's amazing and we had a wonderful time together. I wouldn't want anybody else to host.

Yes she was great, but i think i conected with guests of other students just as much if not even more.

We already had a great relationship from the previous exchange in Kiel.

Yes, we actually met before, in Italy, but this exchange made our friendship even stronger.

My relationship with the guest was quite good and we didn't experience any significant problems. If our interests or obligations about going somewhere differed, we were successfully able to divvy up with different friend groups.

Yeah, we actually established a good bond between us.

Yes, we got along pretty well

Yes, I love(d) my guest.

I can tell that I have established a good enough relationship with my host girl. Unfortunately, she could not be always with me as she also hosted a German girl besides me. So, we didn't spend all the time together, but we were together when we went out with her family. My host family well received me and I felt part of it. Furthermore, I was lucky also because I have established a good relationship with the German girl who was hosted together with me.

Only some language problems at the beginning but there was no other problems and we had great time

Yes, I did. My host was very kind and friendly and also the other italian guest was very friendly. I also have a good relationship to my guest in 2017.

I couldn't have had a better exchange partner!! She made me feel like home and her family was really heartwarming. It was like we had a ten years old friendship :) The only difficult thing was the communication with the parents. They didn't know english so my host had to translate everytime we wanted to communicate with each other. Other than that I have to say that I was sooo lucky to have such an amazing host family!! I thank her and her family for everything they did for me!

Yes, I have. My host, her family and me got along with each other very well. We had great fun and also learnt from each other.

I haven't had any difficulties. I enjoyed my time with my host a lot even though we were pretty busy.

Yes, my guest and her sister are friends of mine and their parents are like uncle and aunt. I really love them and we had no difficulties

I have an amazing relationship with my host and we got along pretty well. We shared same opinions and communicating with her was really easy because our english level was quite the same.

I already knew the girl who hosted me because she was in Gragnano in March when they went to Italy. I had established a good relationship with her as she was very nice and helpful. In Ljubljana she was very kind to me especially when I was in trouble. I can affirm that we have done a strong relationship from the beginning of this Erasmus project and after these exchanges our friendship has proved to be stronger

As we did in Italy me and my host Matej had a good relationship also in Ljubljana and we are good friends. We shared a lot of happy moments and we exchanged our numbers to be always in contact. I'm really glad I met a person like him. I hope that we'll meet soon again.

I've already known my host since last march. But now, I can tell that our relationship has increased. He and his family were so kind.

Yes, I have.

. Laura and the host family were fantastic, they made me feel at home. For me now they are my second family, they are good people and they did not make me uncomfortable even once. I hope to see them again soon.

I established a wonderful relationship with my host, she was very friendly and welcoming to me. She made me spend the best ten days ever.

Of course I love my host

She's great

Yes, we became friends

Yes, it was a great time with her, she always took care of me and asked me what I want to do as well.

## **7. Have you encountered any other problems?**

### **35 responses**

No

No.

It was a bit cold

Sometimes it was difficult to connect with others.

I found it a bit unnerving the lack of organisation skills on the teachers' part when we had to form groups in several workshops in the morning because we had to do it on our own, the numbers of people in the group were constantly told different and it would've been easier if we had just been assigned to groups.

Yes, I was tired because days were packed with activities (however, the fault is not due to organisation but rather on us (hosts) showing around the city on most of the afternoons). What also got to me is school. It is one week after the exchange and I still did not manage to catch up with everything.

Being late for every freaking bus.

Not any that i can remember right now.

The only problem we had was that our health was not that good during the week.

Problems with time management and how to actually show my guest things outside the school activities.

Not any significant ones, aside from a general feeling of tiredness because of the many activities - all the days in the 2nd part of the exchange were packed to the brim with activities with little time to recharge one's batteries.

:)

In general, I had a good time and at the same time I learned lots of things from the workshops and the trips. The only bad thing was to walk too much. I was really tired when I came back home. It would have been better to take more buses.

Communication with my school mates

No I haven't.

No! :)

When we needed to use an app for the treasure hunt and no one told us we should bring our phones that day. Some students don't have internet outside and some didn't charge their phones. Our phone died so we couldn't continue the hunt with our group which was very unfortunate.

no.

The only problem I can find is that we walked a lot even if it can be seen as a positive thing: we kept fit.

Luckily I didn't have any problems because my hosting family was good, they welcomed me. I met new people whom I'm still in contact with, and the teachers were well organised and every debating workshop and Cultural Heritage activity went quite well. It was a wonderful experience.

No problems at all

No, not really.

. Honestly this week I have not encountered any problems, maybe just one yes: the trip was too short! I would have preferred to stay there and not come back home.

No I haven't everything was ok

No, everything was fine

## **8. What were your top three highlights of your stay in Slovenia? Why?**

### **35 responses**

People, places, climate,

Plenica. Pistojna Jama. Piran.

1. Trip to Postojna Cave. 2. Sight-seeing Ljubljana. 3. Great people.

Party on Thursday Family day Treasure hunt

Well, of the exchange, my absolute ultimate favourite was workshop with Miha Andrič, then excursion to Gorenjska and lastly, the round table about diplomacy.

Farewell event (it was my first debate!, nerve-wrecking but priceless); visit of Bled (there is just something about eating kremšnite on the lakes shore with a good company); hosting (my student from Poland was just amazing, we get along outstandingly well).

I was the host. However, I really liked going to Lectar, to Piran and the Talent Show.

1. The 1st debate workshop 2. The caste visit we did 3. Lectar hearts(ive never done it before) Making hearts in Lectar, because i've never done that before and it was so much fun being creative. Going ice skating in free time and we also taught our guests how to do it. Miha Andrič's class, it was incredibly interesting and the speech/he really caught my attention. I enjoyed every second of it, I really enjoyed the trip to Postojna, the trip to Lectar and spending a lot of time with new friends.

I really liked when we went to other parts of Slovenia (Planica, Bled and Piran) because i live in Ljubljana and I see it evert day so it was really nice to go somewhere else where i don't visit that often.

The excursion to Postojna cave and Piran, the public speaking lecture from Miha Andrič and the talent show.

I'm from Slovenia, but my top three highlights from exchange were both excursions and a farewell event.

The Andrič lecture, the diplomatic round table, (the drive around Koper : ) )

Trips, workshops and hanging out with other guests.

The two excursions take 1st and 2nd place and the 3rd is the debate workshop with Miha Andric

I was hosting.

My top three highlights of my stay in Slovenia were the trip to Bled, the exploration of Postojna Cave and the visit to the Istituto Italiano di Cultura. I enjoyed Bled because we had a relaxing walk on the shores of the lake and the panoramic view was awesome. I love the simple things! Moreover, Postojna Cave was a discover for me because I could never imagine to find such a big cave as I had already been before to another cave that was much smaller than that one. Lastly, the meeting with the Italian Ambassador was really interesting. I didn't know what was the Ambassador's real role, his diplomacy and his work. I realised there are Italian cultural institutes not only in Slovenia, but also in the whole world. They promote cultural events to spread Italian culture and help Italian students who live abroad.

Bled, because of some free time and socialising with people, debating workshops in groups (Friday), going to embassies

I liked the sightseeings because we experienced all diverseties in just one country and also the workshops were well prepared so we could learn many things.

1. The talent show 2. Piran 3. Planica

To me, the top three highlights were our trip to Piran and Postojna cave, the debate workshop with Miha Andrič and last but not least the Talent Show. Piran is a beautiful place and it was nice that we had the chance to watch the sunset. The workshop is on my top three highlights list because it was a great enrichment to me and I think the points he taught us are really useful. The Talent Show on Thursday in the evening was a nice event to end the day. I liked the performances and the relaxed atmosphere during the moderation and the entire show.

I liked seeing Planica and listening to the history of skiing in Slovenia. I also enjoyed visiting Postojna - a huge cave. It's honestly beautiful there and i would recommend everyone to go there at least ones. Bled was also very pretty. Just the view itself is mesmerizing and the "Kremsnita" was very tasty!

1 friends, because I made many 2 making dreams come true, because I came to Planica and stand on the top of Letalnica (skijumping hill) which were my dreams for many years 3 new cuisine, because I tasted many traditional meals and desserts and I was taught how to bake a Potica

I think the most important thing for me there was how easily we got along with slovenian students and it made the whole exchange really pleasurable. Also i really enjoyed the trips as I am a big fan of travelling and I love exploring new places.

One of the highlights is the day at Planica on the snow. We stayed in a ski centre to admire different activities that took place there such as the launch of skiers who then landed on the snow field or went up with the chairlift at the highest point of the centre or still when we went to the biscuits factory and we learnt how to decorate them according to our imagination and creativity. Another highlight is when I went ice skating with my two Italian friends and our host mates. It was the first time for us: it was a fantastic experience. Another unforgettable moment is when we spent the evening at home all together. We cooked an Italian dish that everyone liked and then we enjoyed dancing Italian and Slovenian Songs.

Firstly, when I came for the first time at Matej's house, they were so happy and especially his mother told me how she had felt and how much she had been happy that his son was in a family like mine in Italy. I was so surprised and excited. Secondly, I really enjoyed when we went to Postojnska Cava because it is wonderful, I had never been underground in a cave, when we first entered in I was left speechless. Also the Human fish were a strange thing they remind me of some baby dragons that I had seen in a movie. Finally, when we went for the first time to Ljubljana with all the Slovenians, we visited this beautiful city, also the castle on the hill. We were very tired but I enjoyed that moment most of all because we were all together and we wanted to know each other, and we got along very well. So I have to say thank you to them if I have wonderful memories.

One of the best moments was certainly after the meeting with the mayor, we walked around the city to find a nice restaurant, it was hilarious because we couldn't decide where to eat. I have to talk about even about Planica. The view was breathtaking and I also have to mention the final debate that we had at school. The anxiety was easy to be felt in the air.

I liked the Cremschnitta(or something like that), the gingerbread Workshop and the Postojna Cave. The Cake was very tasty. As an artsy Person, creating my own gingerbread heart was something quite new. And as someone who never went to a cave before, the first experience was really amazing. And it boosted my Inspiration as an artist.

The three main reasons why I would like to stay in Slovenia are: for people, for the beautiful city and for my Slovenian family. That is why I want to say thanks to Laura, Jan, Ana, Eva and Matej who have helped to give me unique and unforgettable moments.

My top three highlights of my stay in Slovenia were Slovenian boys and girls, the city and the school

Food people architecture

Trips, family day and the lecture with Miha

Going to planica, visiting the caves, exploring ljubljana

1. Living in the host family because they were very kind. 2. The trips because I never visited these places. 3. Meeting all the others and doing something with them. I really enjoyed the time in Slovenia.

