

**Souvenirs**  
**(Group Research Project Preliminary Report)**

The title page includes

1. title
2. "(Group ...)"
3. Student names
4. Class name
5. "Dr. Elwood"
6. Date

Student Name & Student Name

English 1D

Dr. Elwood

November 26, 2014

## Group members

Our group members are [student name] and [student name].

## Topic and Rationale

We have decided to do our research project about various souvenirs around the world and more especially, about kinds of souvenirs. We chose this topic because we had no idea what to buy as souvenirs of our trip when we went to abroad. In addition, we wanted to learn about the history of souvenirs in America, Europe, and Japan (Tokyo and our hometowns, where are Kanagawa and Miyagi).

Note that the first stage is already finished.

## Methodology

We are planning to do our research in third stages. First, we carefully searched for background information about souvenirs using the university library and the Internet. We also read Tourism magazine; these results are reported in the next section. In the second stage we visited the Asakusa area and investigated what visitors buy there. We recorded the interviews with a video camera and will edit them into a video for our final presentation. We were able to interview 14 people, of whom six were from France, three from Canada, and five from the US.

Note that the second stage is also already finished.

In the third stage we are planning to go shopping at two import shops, Import Pier in Shibuya and Straight Off The Ship in Yokohama. Both of these stores carry many products from around the world.

## Results

The first phase of our research about world souvenirs consisted of collecting information from two primary sources, the Internet and the library. We conducted an extensive search of world souvenir materials on the Internet and found that there is too many information to search so we decided to examine the kinds and history of souvenirs in North America and Europe and Japan.

We listed up souvenirs of our hometown, Kanagawa and Miyagi.

### 1. Kanagawa

#### (i) Hatosabure

This is a cookie pigeon.



#### (ii) Geppei

This is a kind of Chinese cake.



### 2. Miyagi

- (i) Sasakamaboko (bamboo-grass kamaboko)

This is boiled fish paste and the shape is like bamboo.



- (ii) Kokeshi

They are Japanese dolls, originally from northern Japan and handmade from wood, which have a simple trunk and an enlarged head with a few thin, painted lines to define the face.

- (iii) Beef tongue

- (iv) Zunda

That is paste of boiled soybeans and dressed with sugar. We often eat it with rice cakes.

We also visited the university library and searched for souvenirs of travel. We found three books that dealt with travel. These books were written about souvenirs of Florida and southern USA, California and the Coast, Rocky Mountain and the West, New York and the East, Great Lakes and Midwest, United Kingdom, France, Belgium, Netherlands, Germany and Italy.

1. Souvenirs in America

- ( i ) Florida and southland

The food culture is different from those in other areas, because there are many spicy foods in the southland. So you can buy recipe books and instant foods as souvenirs. Also you can find original goods in Orlando in Florida.

- ( ii ) California and west coast

Chocolates including See's Candies are famous as souvenirs in California. In Seattle and Portland, goods on sale in chain cafes would be good. Also, playing cards used in casinos are sold in Las Vegas.



- (iii) The Rocky Mountains and the West

There are various souvenirs in each town. You should buy items for cowboys in Fort Worth, and foods prepared for astronauts in the Space Center in Houston.

- ( iv ) New York and the East

Needless to say, you should keep it in mind to buy items about the Statue of Liberty in New York.

( v ) Great Lakes and the Midwest

There are souvenirs based on specialties and industrials in each town. In Chicago, you can buy good chocolates. Chicago is the cradle of Frango, which is a peppermint chocolate [1].



2. Souvenirs in Europe

( i ) United Kingdom

Simple and convenient souvenirs such as tea and tea sets are popular. Paddington Bears and goods decorated with union Jack are so pretty.

( ii ) France

In Provins, Marseille soaps and clothes which are Provins-print are famous. In Cote d'Azur, perfumes made in Grasse or potpourri, Limogesware and Quimperware, and glass tableware made of Cristals in Baccarat.

( iii ) Belgium

Chocolates made in Belgium are so famous on a global scale. GODIVA and neuhaus are familiar in Japan. Also Belgium is famous for diamond but it is so expensive. So why don't you buy lace which is Bruges' product.



( iv ) Netherlands

There are many pretty dolls in ethnic costumes. A snugglebunny Miffy is from Netherlands.

( v ) Germany

Dolls made of woods are typical of Germany. Also, original teddy bears are made here by Steiff. They are beloved around the world because they are so pretty.



( vi ) Italy

The picture frames and accessories made of Venetian classes are accessible and easy to carry around. Also you should find leathers and jewelry in Firenze.

The second phase of our research includes interviews with people who are traveling at Asakusa. We went to Asakusa and interviewed 14 foreign citizens and asked people what they bought there. They had bought figures of Mount Fuji, things which are of classic Japanese design, dried laver seaweed, and postcards of Japanese graphics.

## Internet Report

We have created an account of twitter to present our project results. Our twitter account name is “\*\*\*\*\*”, which is located at [https://twitter.com/\\*\\*\\*\\*\\*](https://twitter.com/*****). We have not tweeted so much yet so we are going to tweet more.

Include the Internet portion (or plan) of your final report.



## References

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