



CIR Mariko's

I made a personal stamp! 😊

# Global Café



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## April: My visit to the UK



Last month I took some time off to visit my family in England. As I didn't spend much of April in Kyotanabe, this month's Global Café will focus on my time back home.

My flight to England didn't go too smoothly. When I made my transfer flight, my suitcase with all my things, including gifts for family and friends went missing! Driving from the airport however, I was so happy to see New Forest ponies on the side of the road and be back home, that I soon forgot about the suitcase incident.

During my trip I also had the chance to visit London with my family and we went up the Shard, a tall skyscraper building. At the top whilst looking out at the incredible view, my parents pointed out the various office buildings where they used to work when they lived in the city.

I also had time to catch up with my friends from Leeds University. We enjoyed a BBQ and as it was Easter weekend we had an Easter egg hunt. This is a game which involves searching for chocolate eggs which are hidden around the garden. It is also normally played by children, so 12 adults running round frantically trying to find eggs must have been quite a funny sight!



My family and I at the Shard in London



The view from the top of the tower

## Everyone in the UK is talking about...

### → The General Election (8<sup>th</sup> June)

Although we weren't due another election until 2020, last month Prime Minister Theresa May decided to dissolve parliament and called for a snap election.

Many people on social networking sites are sharing links to online tools to help people with their voting decision. These include quizzes that help determine which party you should vote for and websites that fact-check statements made by politicians during TV interviews and debates.

It will be very interesting to see how this plays out!



- Quiz answers:
1. Nickname for former England footballer, David Beckham
  2. A natural ability to succeed at anything endeavored
  1. The years following one's retirement

## "Golden" Phrases

How was your Golden Week? Although "Golden Week" is written in katakana, and sounds like English, it does not exist in the English language and is an example of *wasei-eigo*.

"Golden" can be used in front of other words however to make other phrases. Can you guess what the phrases below mean? (The answers are at the bottom left of the page).



1. Golden Balls
2. Golden Touch
3. Golden Years