



BACK IN THE UNITED STATES

Yan Yanping

Yan Yanping has returned to the United States during the inaugural year of the Teachers of Critical Languages Program of the U.S. Department of State. Administered by American Councils, ten Chinese and two Jordanian teachers are spending the year in the United States teaching Chinese and Arabic, respectively. Yan Yanping wrote to us recently about her experiences thus far in Brownsburg, Indiana, a suburb of Indianapolis.

I work in Brownsburg, Indiana, which is about half an hour's drive west of the capital city, Indianapolis. I have been here for almost 3 months. I am teaching Chinese and Chinese culture in Brownsburg East & West Middle School. I have 3 classes in Brownsburg East Middle School in the morning and 2 classes in Brownsburg West Middle School in the afternoon. I also have classes in the School community, helping out with the social studies programs in different elementary schools.

Life here is different than that in Boston, but I still find more interests. I live with my host family, whose hostess is also a teacher in the Brownsburg school system.

Because there is no public transportation here, she and I travel to work together every day. On the weekends, my friends and host family participate in different activities. I am teaching in the middle school and trying every way to experience real American life. This time I have a deeper understanding of what American middle school is like. I feel proud to bring our language and culture here again.



Yan Yanping travels to the Grand Canyon during her second stay in the U.S.