

Here's what NSLI-Y participants have said about their overseas intensive language program.

I met so many truly warm-hearted people who were so eager to share their homes, their food, their views, their culture, and their hospitality with me. –2008 NSLI-Y Participant, Morocco

I actually started thinking simple thoughts in Chinese!
—2008 NSLI-Y Participant, China

This program completely dissipated any inherent prejudices against the Middle East by exposing me to the culture of the Arab world.
—2008 NSLI-Y Participant, Jordan

I found myself dubbed an honorary Egyptian while simultaneously being the bridge between these two cultures. I felt like a true ambassador. – 2008 NSLI-Y Participant, Egypt

I had no idea what was in store, but now that I've had this experience, I can't imagine my life without it.
—2008 NSLI-Y Participant, Jordan

The friends I made are my greatest accomplishment of this program... We can work together to improve each other's language. –2008 NSLI-Y Participant, China

My understanding of the Chinese language and culture is an accomplishment, but the knowledge I gained about myself is just as great. –2008 NSLI-Y Participant, China

It was a program about learning and experiencing with your own eyes. –2008 NSLI-Y Participant, China

I entered the program stuttering and trying to find my way around the language and left speaking far more fluidly. –2008 NSLI-Y Participant, Morocco

I believe I represented the U.S. abroad in the sense that by me simply being Muslim and American, Jordanians learned how diverse American society is. –2008 NSLI-Y Participant, Jordan

Because of this program, I'm now sure that I want to find a university that offers a good Arabic program. –2008 NSLI-Y Participant, Egypt

The type of experience I had in Egypt cannot be duplicated anywhere else. –2008 NSLI-Y Participant, Egypt

The above quotations have been excerpted from NSLI-Y E-GOALS reports provided by the Office of Policy Evaluation, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State.