



My Travel Journal

September 13

1 Hi Journal! It's me, Maria! I arrived in New York city two weeks ago. I am writing
this **journal** for one of my classes. My teacher says it is a good way for me to
practice writing in English and to write about my experiences here in the United
5 States. So far, I like New York and my school. I have three classes a day. Most of
my classmates come from Japan, Korea, Poland, Germany, and Brazil. There aren't
many Italian students, so I have to use English most of the time. I am learning a lot!
I am living in student housing, and I have my own comfortable room.

October 20

2 10 My English is hopeless! I was on the bus this morning and a man spoke to me, but I
hardly understood him. I was so **embarrassed**. Why is my English **improving** so
slowly? I want to make **lots of** American friends, but this isn't happening so easily.
I feel **shy**, and it is hard for me to talk to people, even my classmates! I like them,
but sometimes I can't understand them very well. I'm feeling homesick. I miss my
15 friends and family.

October 27

3 I went to a school party last Friday and it was **awesome**. I talked with a Japanese
man named Kenji and a Polish woman named Anna. We talked about our countries'
customs and our experiences in the States so far. We are going to walk around the
20 city together this weekend. Also, Kenji wants me to write for the student newspaper
here at school. Maybe things are getting better!