When We Arrive

by Tamano, Hayato, Christina, and Monona

I wish I could stay here.

Leaving fills me up with fear.

I don't want to go on a plane.

It makes my heart and brain feel pain.

Aren't planes dangerous?

Aren't planes scary?

Are you sure it's time to go today?

I'm beginning to feel wary.

Do we really have to go?

I hope the answer's “no”!

**CHORUS:**

**Don't be nervous to make new friends.**

**When you really need some now.**

**Smile at people and say hello!**

**I know you do know how!**

It’s as easy as saying

“Ni-hao”

You don't need a dime to get a friend.

Just be true to who you are

As others learn more about you

They'll see that you're a star.

When we arrive in a new country

No one knows what we're saying

Its so frustrating

We wish we were back home playing.

People mumble things to one another

Are they talking about us?

It makes us feel oh so lonely

When can I catch the next bus?

CHORUS

If everybody’s starin’ atchya

Just respond with

“Ko-ni-chi-wa”

僕は去年の4月にアメリカに た  
Boku wa kyonen no shigatsu ni America ni kita  
I came to America last April  
そして5月に学校に来た  
Soshite gogatsu ni gakko ni kita  
I came to this school last May  
もちろん英語はわからない　（イエイ）  
Mochiron eigo wa wakaranai (Yeh)  
I didn’t speak English, of course  
だから誰とも仲良くなれない　（イエイ）  
Dakara daretomo nakayoku narenai (Yeh)  
So I couldn’t make any friendｓ  
学校来るのもイヤだったけど、すぐにながーい夏休み  
Gakko kurunomo iyadatta kedo, suguni nagaai natsuyasumi  
I didn’t want to come to school everyday, but the long summer holidays started soon  
9月になって4年になった  
Kugatsu ni natte yonen ni natta  
I became a fourth-grader in September   
やっぱり学校楽しくない　（ヤー\_

Yappari gakko tanoshikunai (Yah)  
The school wasn’t fun at all as usual   
英語も全然わからない　（イエイ）  
Eigo mo zenzen wakaranai (Yeh)  
I didn’t understand English at all as usual  
だから誰とも話さない　（ヨー）

Dakara daretomo hanasanai (Yo)  
So I didn’t want to talk to anyone  
早く終われと思ってた

Hayaku owareto omotteta  
I just waited for the close of the day  
でもなんだか最近ちょっと違う

Demo nandaka saikin chotto chigau  
But my feelings are changing these days   
みんなの顔が見えてきた　（イエイ）  
Min-na no kao ga miete kita (Yeh)  
I can see my classmates’ faces these days  
リセスは外で走れるし　（イエイ）

Recess wa soto de hashirerushi (Yeh)  
I can run outside during recess  
クラスにいるとなんだか落ち着く　（イエイ)

Class ni iruto nandaka ochitsuku (Yeh)  
I feel comfortable in this classroom  
英語もちょっぴりわかってきたんだ！　（イエイ　イエイ)

Eigo mo choppiri wakatte kitanda! (Yeh Yeh)  
I can even get to understand English to some extent!  
ヘイヘイ　ハヤト  
Hey Hey Hayato  
ヨーヨー　ハヤト

Yo Yo Hayato  
センキュー　エビバデ

Thank you everybody  
センキュー　ミスターシー   
Thank you Mr. C

“What time is it?” you try to ask.

But a mean look stares back at you.

You wish that you had brought your watch.

Then you wouldn't feel so blue.

You open up a book and try to read.

But the words on the page make you want to flee.

You s-l-o-w-ly make it through the s-t-o-ry.

And hope next time that you'll end in glory.

CHORUS

If you just flew in,

simply say, “How ya doin’?”

As soon as you learn to make lots of friends,

At some point loneliness comes to an end.

Now you are always smiley

You no longer talk so shyly

Now that you feel at home here,

then you hear you'll go back in a year.

And down from your cheek falls a lonely tear.

You will miss all of the friends that you have made.

You just wish that you could stay.

CHORUS

Ni-hao, Ko-ni-chi-wa, How ya doin’?

Ko-ni-hao-chi-wa

Ko-ni-hao-chi-wa-ya-doin’!

Yeah – That’s it!