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My name is Tyler. I'm from Vermont. I came to Korea about 10 years ago for grad school.

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Hi, I'm Abby. I'm from Louisville(루이빌), Kentucky, and I've been here for about eight months. So currently in South Korea, we are experiencing Corona virus infection.

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we thought we'd try to take this opportunity to speak to you guys about our experience here in Korea, how we've been dealing with it how the country has been dealing with it to see if maybe we can all find a way to get through this

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I think there's a little bit of like stress that you get just from the atmosphere. Seoul is normally such a bustling, busy city. Yeah, and right now it's like really empty.

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Yeah, ya know, everybody's really sort of like trying to dial it down. Like a few days after they were like, “wow, this is gonna be in Korea It's a problem.” I landed in Gimpo airport and they had sanitizer everywhere, everywhere. And I was like, “wow, okay, that was fast.” And there's actually more and more of effort on the government's behalf to try to provide information where there is either lack of information or disinformation. You know, for example, like, like this.

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Yeah, we get a lot of really good signs out the public spaces so that people have an idea of what's going on,

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Because the government is making data available to the public. Now, there are all these apps available where you can literally see [the situation] it's like mapped on your phone,

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What I really enjoyed is being able to see the kind of the bar graphs that show the increase in infections here, because it's a really easy way to see that we're kind of leveling out. That things are under control. We don't have this wild uncontained spread.

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The way that you actually go about getting testing here is actually really not very hard. Like you call and you go get tested, and they process it and let you know. (and these people like) you figure it out in the next week. 24 hours. It's pretty fast.

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like the drive thru kind of testing things that they had set up. Those were so interesting. I've seen a lot of engagement with that online from like people in America where they're like, "wow, like we should try this. This is really good, like a really innovative" That would work really well in the States It would. We have so many cars in the US. It will be great.

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How have they done it? I'm joined live from Seoul by South Korea's Foreign Minister Kang Kyung Wha.

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Well, the basic principle is openness, transparency, and fully keeping the public informed. As governments we also have to guard against panic. I think governments have to be cool-headed about this and do what we do based on evidence and science.

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So it seems like based on our conversation, both of us are feeling like pretty good about the situation here in Korea. pretty comfortable.

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Yeah, I think I mean, there was definitely a period of kind of fear and not knowing what to do. Now. I think we're definitely coming down off of that, and I definitely feel like I've reached a much calmer place. So just to trust that we're all (sort of) in this together and pushing forward. I think that's a really a big thing that's gonna help us and seems to be working.

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While this situation with Coronavirus is serious, we were already able to see that if we take proper public health measures, then we can all stay healthy, so let's keep calm, and do our best to prevent the spread of Coronavirus.