

Fellow toastmasters and honored guests, my speech is Mystery Locations. In a moment, I will describe 3 places without giving away the name of the place. At the end of the speech, I will then ask the audience to guess each place. To make things simple, I will call each place by numbers 1, 2 and 3.

Great Wall of China:

The first thing that I thought of was how immense 1 was. This structure stretches as far as the eye could see. The structure was about 7.5 meters tall or about 5 of me one on top of another and it was about 4.5 – 9 meters wide so that's about 3 – 6 of me laid end to end. As I climbed the steps, the wind immediately caught onto my clothing to try and push me off the structure but luckily my heavy body helped to keep my balance. I felt like I was a gymnast trying to walk and balance on a high beam. As I climbed the uneven stone steps on the structure I hung on for dear life to avoid getting blown off. Some steps were very small while other steps were not actually steps but rather a wall that you had to climb up. With the hot blazing sun overhead, I can only imagine how much work and effort went into building this huge and magnificent structure.

My room:

For the second location, imagine yourself walking into a room. The first thing that you think of when you enter the room is how much of a slob the person living here is. In the kitchen, you look at the sink which has many dirty and greasy plates piled up. You take a cautious look in the fridge and find that most of the food has gone bad. The once red and plump apple has turned into a green and furry twin and you can see the purple and orange stains of juice on the fridge walls. As you become sick in the stomach, you hurry into the bathroom where a pile of dirty clothing greets you once you enter. You think you're beginning to develop glaucoma but it's actually the mirror foggy from condensation. Leaving the bathroom and then entering the bedroom, you see that the desk is strewn with papers and more dirty clothing. You wonder to yourself, who lives here?

Green Timbers Park:

You leave the room in a hurry and end up in the middle of a field with very tall grass. You look to your feet and you see yellow dandelions dancing with the wind. As you look around, all you can see are giant firs and evergreens. You hear quacking in the distance and as you follow the quacking sound, you see a worn out path hugging a big pond. In the pond, you can see cat tails and even lazy green turtles sitting on boulders. 'Whoosh', an osprey comes down from its high perch in the trees to capture fish in the pond. Sitting in the shade of a tall oak tree, you drift off and spend a few hours listening to the crickets chirp.

These three places are the Great Wall of China, a very dirty version of my room and Green Timbers Park in Surrey. These three places are important to me because one, the Great Wall of China is an incredible structure that shows what hard work can do. Two, my room is where I spend most of my life eating, studying and sleeping. And three, the

Green Timbers Park in Surrey reflects the simple things in life and is a great place to relax.