



SET YOURSELF APART

ZAMBIA

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REALIZATIONS

Teaching a class of 80 ninth graders had a big impact on me. Many of the resources I take for granted - pencils, sharpeners, textbooks, even clean water - are not always available in developing countries. I realized I was able to engage students with no resources besides a chalkboard. I also learned that managing a classroom requires staying firm to the rules I've made but also treating the students with respect. Observing the teachers' I found many strategies to implement and some to avoid.

INSPIRATIONS

In one lesson I discussed the American social classes. Many students were shocked to learn that not everyone in America is financially stable. This knowledge - that America is not perfect, that we have our own problems - seemed to give them a sense of hope for their own country. We began to compare issues faced by our countries, which brought out more realistic views of both. It was a unique experience of changing perspectives for which I am grateful.

Favorite Parts

- Eating Shema with our host family
- Getting my hair braided in a Zambian salon
- Singing in the local language on the way to Livingston to encourage the driver
- Performing a combination of my cultural dances with Zambian cultural dances
- Trying on custom-made African clothes



Tiana at Victoria Falls (left), goofing with students (above) and teaching (below).

Have an open mind when traveling abroad.

"We hear this a lot, but I believe that many people fail to truly put it into action. Having an open mind means eliminating all of your preconceptions and being willing to learn. It means understanding and identifying your personal bias but not letting it hinder you from fully appreciating another culture."

