

CEAT - Cultural Exchange Among Teenagers - Online Conference for Cross-Cultural Discussion



Shibuya Junior & Senior High School



Background

Service learning: All high school sophomores at our school tackle social problems **by themselves** and make **impacts for society**. Our team targeted **"Discrimination"**, **"Culture"** and **"International Exchange"**.

Problem

Discriminations and Prejudices

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 "89% of all current conflicts in the world occurring in countries with low intercultural dialogue"*
 "the cultural and creative sector is one of the most powerful engines of development worldwide"
 + COVID 19: reduced opportunities for interaction



CEAT
 Cultural Exchange Among Teenagers

Purpose

- Elimination of Discrimination
- International Interaction
- Cross-Cultural Dialogue
- International Peace

May 21st :
 World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development (UNESCO)

Event

CEAT 2022

Host: 9 students from Japan
 Participants: ~80 from 8 countries

CEAT 2023

Host: ~20 students from Japan, Malaysia, Turkey
 Participants: Over 100 from 9 countries

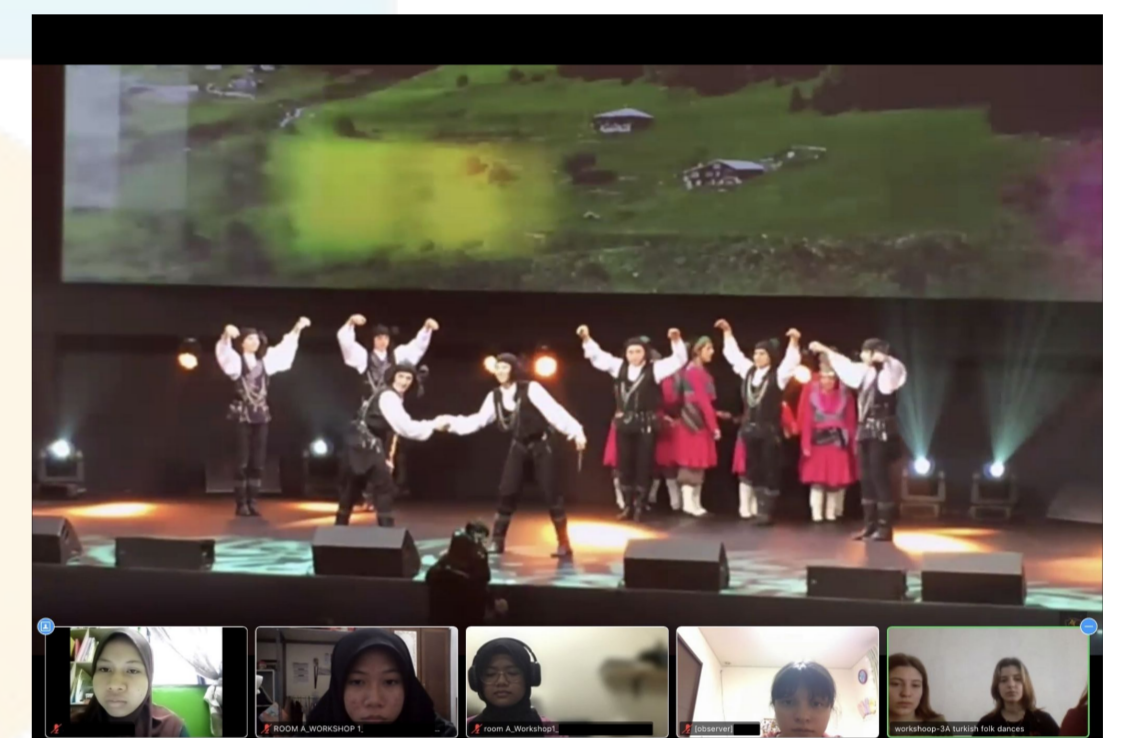
Malaysia, Japan, Turkey, Belgium, Brazil, India, Denmark, Spain, Indonesia



- Opening Ceremony
- ↓
- Ice Break
- ↓
- Presentation ①~③
- ↓
- Free Chatting & Exchange Info Time
- ↓
- Closing Ceremony

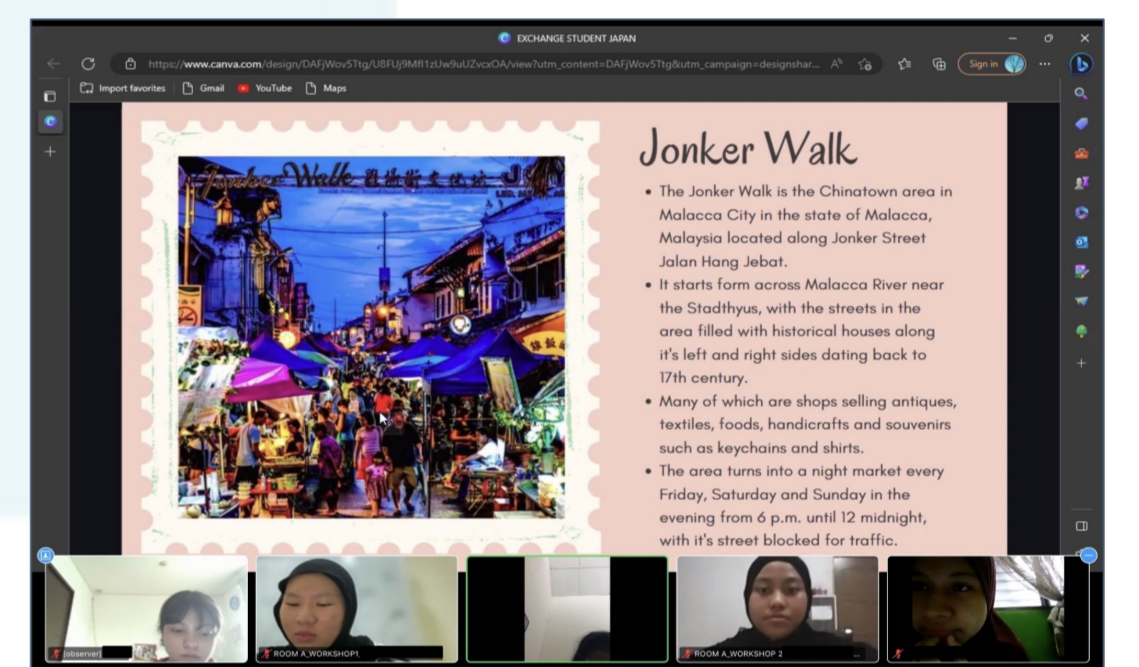
Presentation examples:

- The reason why Islamic women wear hijab and multicultural societies lifestyle (Singapore)
- Indigenous people's culture, art, and how to protect and keep them (Turkey)



Also...

- Multiethnic Societies in Malaysia
- Superstitions (Turkey)
- Education System, Traditional Food, Favourite Places, Lifestyle, Holiday (Spain)

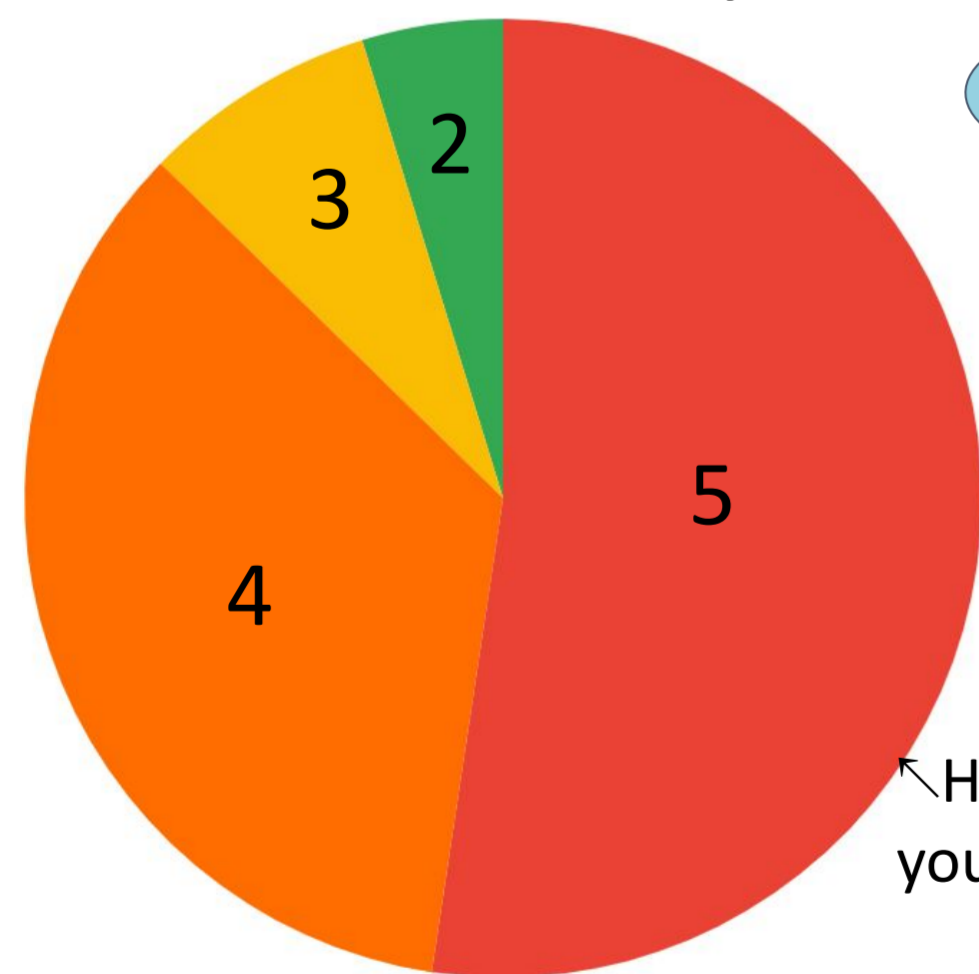


Reflection

Impact on participants

- ① Confronted with own culture & presented in front of other participants
 ⇒ **Acceptance of their presentations and their own culture**
- ② Learned about **other countries' cultures**
 ⇒ Teenagers: made many friends & shared their contact information. **Interaction** continues after the event.

Post Event Survey



How satisfied are you about this event?

"Very interesting and felt the **unity between countries**"

"As it was a great opportunity for me, I'm glad to meet foreign people and talk to them!"

"A great activity that let all students all around the world know about the **culture of different countries.**"

"That's a lot of people from different country to share their culture which I realize that some country's culture is **similar with my country**"

"I met people of different countries and I knew interesting facts of different cultures of the world."

Organizing Committees' Reflection

- Possibility of **eradicating discriminations**
- **Influence** to our surroundings
- **Actually interacting** with people of our age from other countries
- Deepening our **understanding** on people and cultures of countries

We continue this event **Next Year!**

Conclusion

On May 21, The World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, we hosted a conference to share our cultures and social issues. We accomplished **changing people's mindset in eliminating stereotypes and accepting diversity**. Participants **take action**, and this discussion is held **annually**. This year, we received a certificate of appreciation from **Ministry of Education Malaysia**. In the future, we hope to advance this conference more by cooperating with those from other countries and to reach out to more people around the world.

References

[1] United Nations World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, 21 May. United Nations HP