

# The characteristics of communication between Japan and the U.S.A.

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## Study overview

In this research, we investigated the difference between Japanese and American ways of communication, and found that parties play a role as a place of communication in the United states of America. From this information, we analyzed what high schoolers seek in communication in both countries by hosting parties and collecting surveys from high schoolers in America and grade 2nd high schoolers of our school. As a result, we were able to understand the characteristics of communication in both countries.

## Hypothesis

Japanese communication pursue maintaining balance with people around instead of conveying thier own ideas, while American communication pursue conveying their mind clearly to others. This affects the difference in how people correspond to each other on day to day basis, and the overall stance in which how people interact with those of opposite gender or those who they meet for the first time.

## Distance between opposite gender

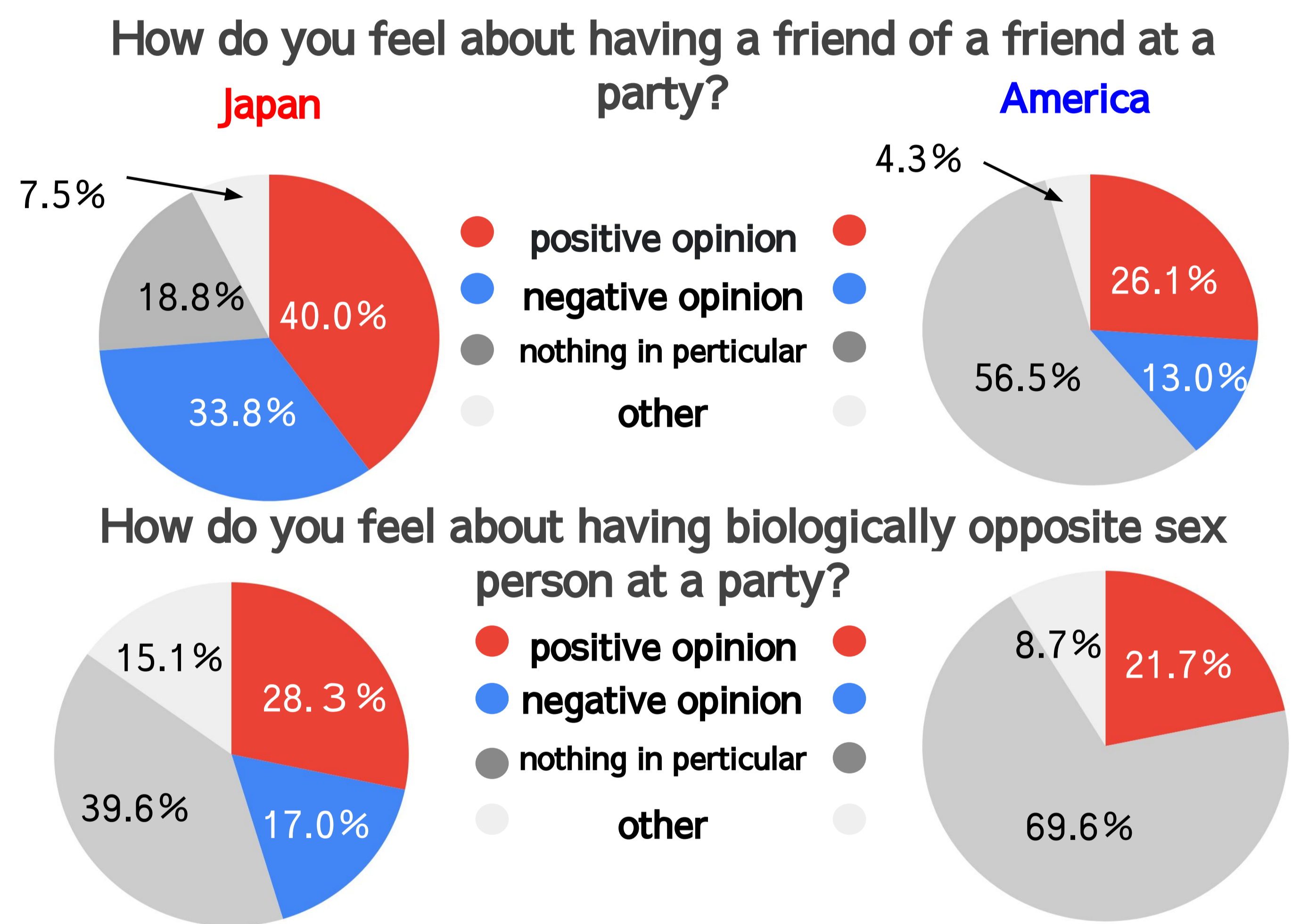
(Source from overseas experience and interview results of ALTs )

When asked to make a group freely

- **America** ⇒ Boys and girls mix
- **Japan** ⇒ Boys and girls separates from each other

## The concept of Party

To begin with, party such as potluck was originally a place intended for people to share their personal experiences and recover from emotional pain. Even now, this kind of party functions as a place of communication.



## Japan

- Refrain from or entrust others on making decisions
- Values social position
- Emphasize on delicate situational judgement and observation, such as reading between the lines
- Tries to appeal emotionally when convincing
- Is afraid of making a mistake or being denied of

## America

- Talk and make direct statements (in order to avoid misunderstandings)
- See everyone as equal, no matter what their sex or age
- Keep explaining logically in mind
- Many large body languages and gestures
- Has the stance of where making mistake comes natural

## First time

Party format : Potluck  
 Number participated : 5 ( 9 group memeber included)  
 Advrotisement means : SNS/direct invitation  
 Party duration : Four hour



## Second time

Party format : Potluck  
 Number participated : 7 ( 9 group memeber included)  
 Advrotisement means : direct invitaiton/review  
 Party duration : Three and a half hour



## Change in thoguhts

### Before the party

I felt anxious

I was nervous

### After the party

Interacting with people was fun

It was surprisingly easy to join in conversations

## Thoughts and conclusion

America uses candor, direct communication.

Japan uses euphemistic and indirect communication.

Americans should rely more on indirect communication.

It is important for Japanese to stand on equal position and express themselves to each other.

## Reference sources

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