



1. Introduction

Japanese are often said to be poor at communication. One of the reasons is that Japan has a high-context culture. Since the world is getting more and more globalized and we have more and more opportunities to communicate with people from a low-context culture, we believe that Japanese people need to learn an effective way to deal with low-context communication.



2. Research questions

- ◆ Are Japanese people really poor at communication?
- ◆ Who needs to learn low-context style communication?

3. Comparison

1. Low-context and high-context

Low-context → to express ideas clearly with words

[Advantages]

- ✓ communication with different cultural backgrounds
- ✓ message can be easily conveyed

[Disadvantage]

difficulty reading others' feelings



High-context → to depend on other information

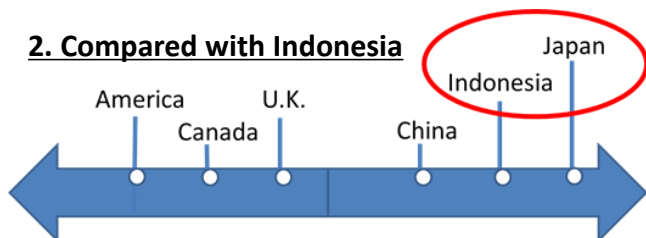
[Advantages]

- ✓ understand others' feelings without saying
- ✓ use moderate expression

[Disadvantages]

- ✓ conversation is difficult to establish
- ✓ might be considered to be unenthusiastic about communication

2. Compared with Indonesia



3. Diversity of Indonesia

	Japan	Indonesia
	High-context	High-context
Official language	Japanese	Indonesian
Ethnic group		Over 300
Language used	Japanese	Malay, English, local language such as Javanese with over 500
Culture	Regional differences but same culture	Totally different depending on the area

4. Suggestion

Introduce role-playing activities in English lessons

Background

- Cultural, ethnic and racial diversity
- Rich and poor

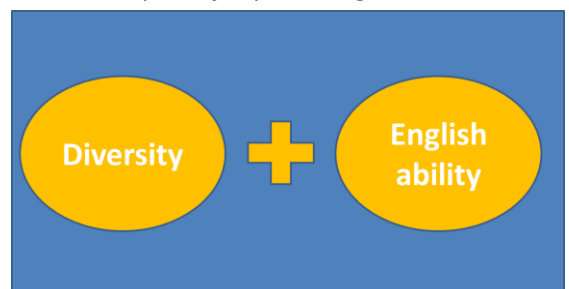
Purpose

- Learn communication skills
- Form student identity

Ex: Otemon Gakuin High School's expression communication course was recently established in 2014, and **drama education** was introduced.

5. Conclusion

In role-playing activities in English, students can learn low-context styles as well as improve their English by memorizing and acting out scenes from Western drama. Language and culture are strongly connected, so acting in the target language is more efficient. Therefore, we suggest creating drama education as part of Japan's English curriculum.



6. References

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- 3) Brian Neese(2016), "Intercultural communication: High-and Low-context cultures", SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY <https://online.seu.edu/high-and-low-context-cultures/>

