

[筆記試験]

次の英文を読みなさい

How attuned are you to other people's body language? Sometimes, cultural differences in appropriate body language can cause discomfort or misunderstandings too. For example, there are definite cultural differences in how much distance should be kept between two people who are speaking together. If you are used to people keeping their distance, you will feel very uncomfortable, and probably move away repeatedly, if someone keeps trying to stand closer to you at a party! We call this the "personal comfort zone".

Another common example of misunderstanding is the use of a smile. In some Asian cultures, a smile can show embarrassment or apology. However, smiling back at a teacher who is unhappy with you, or a stranger whose foot you accidentally stepped upon is probably not a good idea in most English speaking cultures! Also, you should not assume that nodding your head means "yes" or that shaking your head means "no".

It's worth learning, understanding any underlying cultural or regional attitudes can help you learn how to understand and use body language to improve your communicative abilities.

attune 合わせる

comfort 安心感を与える

embarrassment 困惑・当惑

assume 当然のことと思う

1. 英文の大意をまとめよ。

2. 内容に関する自分の考えを述べよ。