

## Title : How teens take photos

Hello everyone,

Let's take a picture.

Strike a pose.

Are you ready ?

On the count of three. One, Two, three..

What kind of pose did you hold ?

Today I would like to talk about how teens take photos.

I'm a high school student in Tokyo.

I have many friends in my school who I lived abroad when they were little.

So they are influenced by foreign cultures.

One day, We were looking at old pictures of ourselves.

Then, I noticed they look like grown ups in their pictures though we are the same age.

On the other hand , the way I look was childish somehow.

In their oictures , they look different from me.

I found some differences between Japanese teensge girls and American teenage girls in photos.

These differences are poses and facial expressions.

First , many Japanese people make V-signs, which I rarely see American teens doing.

And putting our hands on our faces is popular among Japanese teenage girls.

Americans tend to put their hands on their hips like this.

If Japanese people do this in photos , we might think they look too confident.

If American teens take photos with their friends ,they wrap their arms around their friends shoulders.

Second, facial expressions are also different.

In pictures, Japanese people usually give smiles with our mouths closed.

Also, recently what is called a “worried look” is in fashion among Japanese teenage girls.

And some girls even shut their eyes on purpose.

In contrast, American people always smile with their mouths opened.

They look very confident and cheerful.

Where do these differences come from.?

Before I show my answer, please think about the meaning of “beautiful” ?

What does “beautiful” mean ?

It varies depending on the countries, or individual.

So, it is different between Japanese teenage girls and American teenage girls.

In Japan , girls are referred to as “pretty”, “lovely” and “kawaii”

However in American , they prefer strong, independent, mature girls.

So we hold those so called “ Kawaii” poses in photos.

That is why there are differences in photos.

We are all worried about how other people see us.

Of course everyone wants to look beautiful.

When we look at photos of people , we will be able to find out what they want us to focus on.

Consequently , Japanese girls look childish , while American girls look mature for their ages.

What poses will you hold next time ?

How do you want to be perceived in pictures ?

Again take a picture.

Are you ready ?