

Connotation of season words In Japanese speaking community

SA&ME

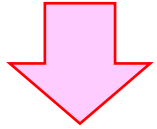
Goals of our project

- observe/interview one speech community and find patterns.
→ target speech community: Japanese speaking community
- find patterns in Japanese speaking community
in comparison to patterns in other communities
- find the effects of connotations in *haiku*; *whether they are*
different between Japanese and international students

Summary of the background

« 'rose' 'rosemary' in Dickinson's poem (p16) »

- denotation : plants (as dictionary meanings)
- connotation: more than what denotation refers to



- [rose : love, passion, beauty
- [rosemary: the fragrance of summer, the preservation of dried herbs



→ It is linked to the various associations
they evoke in the minds of their readers

Methods and procedures

- ① choose two *haiku*, (translated from Japanese into English)



*Deep silence
the shrill of cicadas
seeps into rocks*



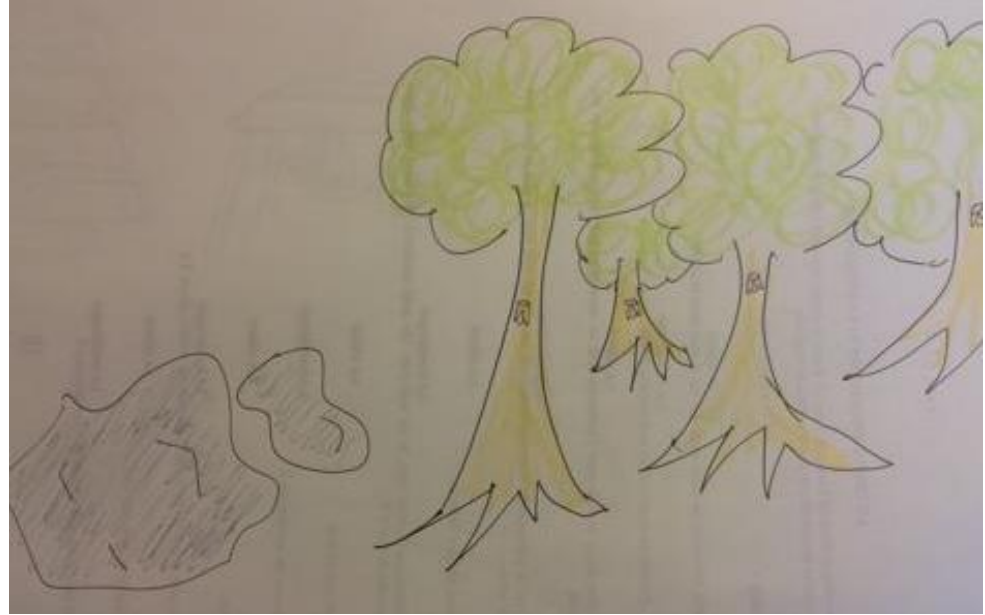
*Tasting persimmons
hearing the sound in the distance
the bell of a temple*

- ② interview Japanese and international students
and ask them to
- read the two *haiku*
 - imagine the situations/views
 - paint coloured pictures
- ③ ask whether they felt the season or not

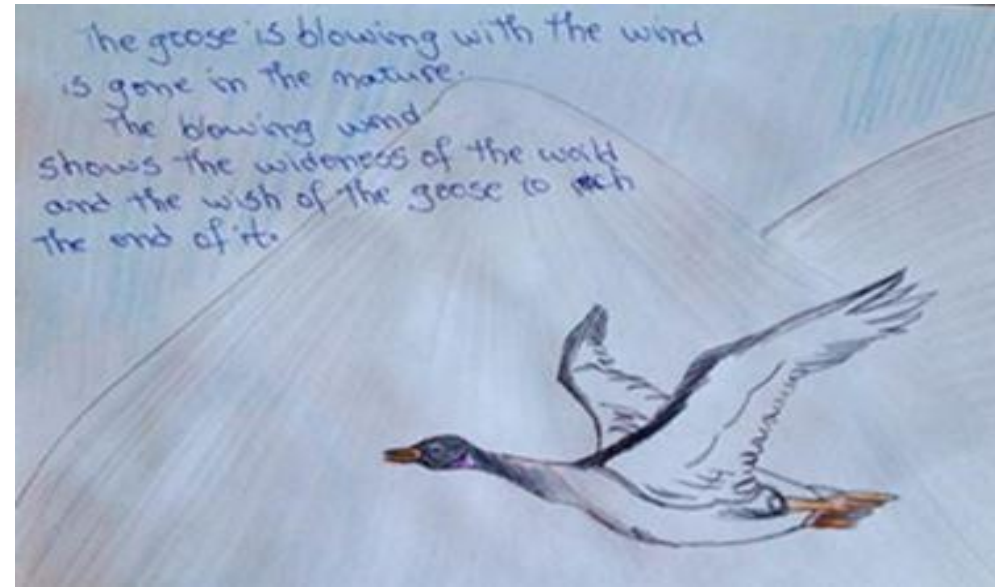
Results

haiku1: Deep silence
the shrill of cicadas
seeps into rocks

Japanese students (summer 4/4)



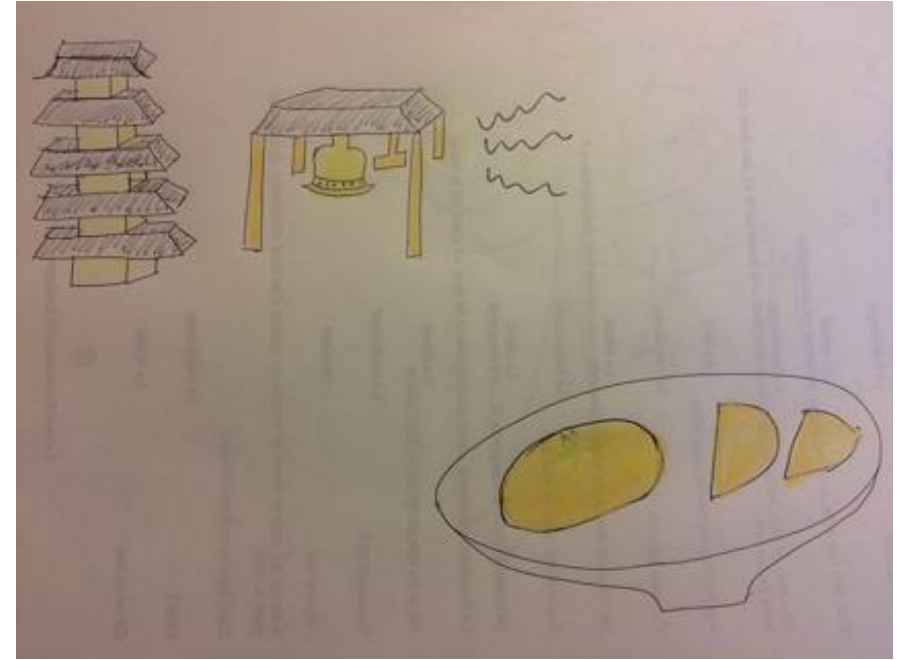
International students (spring 1, summer 1, no season 1)



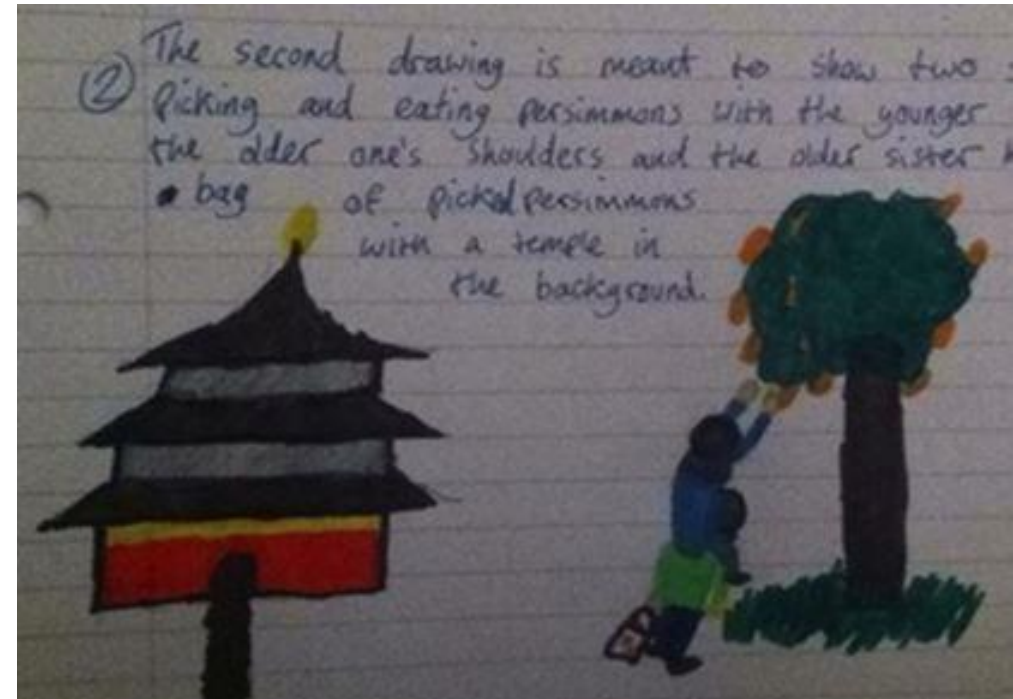
Result

haiku2: Tasting persimmons
hearing the sound in the distance
the bell of a temple.

Japanese students (autumn 3, no season 1)



foreigners(spring 2, no season 1)



Conclusion

- The way the individuals interpreted *haiku* was different
 - What they as groups perceived from *haiku* was different
 - { internationals: feel more religious/moral, more like a story
 - { Japanese : feel a season (cicadas=summer, persimmon=autumn)
- ↓
- Season words remind Japanese of a particular season, and they have the common image and concept

