

The background features a gradient from light green at the top to dark blue at the bottom. On the left side, there are several circular elements: a large scale with numerical markings from 140 to 260, and several smaller circles with arrows indicating clockwise or counter-clockwise rotation. The overall aesthetic is clean and modern, suggesting a technical or scientific theme.

HARMONY

BUILDING AND MAINTAINING RELATIONSHIPS IN MODERN
JAPANESE BUSINESS

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INTRODUCTION

- The concept of harmony plays a large part in the Japanese culture as it plays an important role to many Japanese aesthetics. Besides its roles in Japanese aesthetics, harmony is greatly valued in relationships, whether it be between human and nature or human and human and seen in everyday situations. In this paper, I will be focusing on how harmony is maintained within groups of people in Japan's business world. I have come to write about this topic since businesses and corporations are plentiful in Japan and many people find their careers within one. But also, there are many practices and etiquettes used in daily life in the office to make sure relationships with co-workers, higher-ups and even other companies are stable and in harmony.

HARMONY IS WA

The intro to this section will contain and briefly talk about:

What is *wa*?

What are some aspects and concepts of *wa*?

The next part “Going past immediate group members to establish *wa* with others” will be about:

Analyzing how *wa* is used outside of the office workers in the same room or even the manager/boss

I will analyze how this can break the stereotype of *uchi/soto*

Purpose of this section is to give a basic introduction to the concept of *wa*

HONNE AND TATEMAE

General description of each term and how they are used

The negative effect:

Honne: holding back true feeling and unable to express oneself.

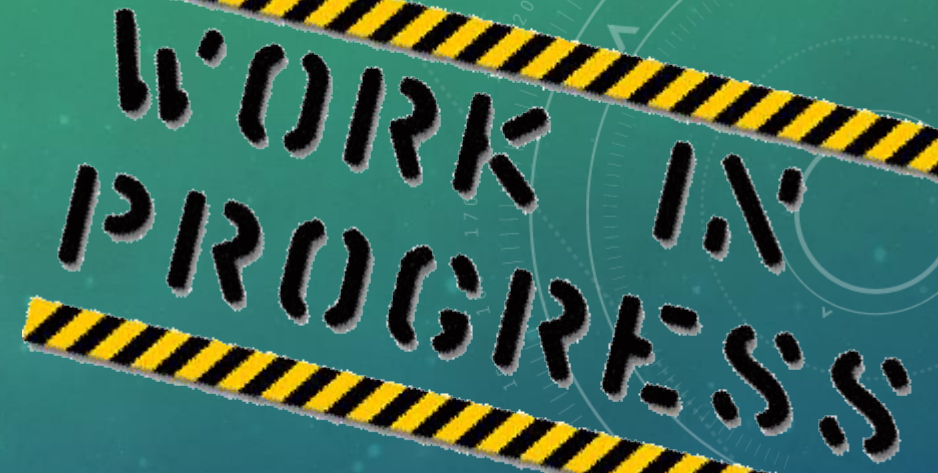
Group may be deprived of good answer because of fear of causing conflict

Tatemae: No real information is given and demands conformity

The positives: both concepts promotes groups be able form a connect and think as one unit.

Reason: cultural concept taught from a young age.

AMAE



WORK IN PROGRESS

Briefly defined aspects of *amae*

I will be looking at the pros and cons that it has towards maintaining harmony and on individuals.

I will analyze stereotypes that this concept might create or break.

Analysis will included an American p.o.v.

THE SUCCESS

WORK IN
PROGRESS

- Explaining why these concepts have been successful in Japan
- What-If
 - Will discuss what if American businesses were to adopt the practices of maintaining group harmony and why it would be impossible or a very long process to achieve

CONCLUSION

WORK IN PROGRESS

- Will briefly summarize content from my paper.
- Will answer questions mentioned in the introduction
- End Goal:
 - to have people understand why these concept and practices are unique to Japan and how they represent the Japanese Mind.
 - Show that these concepts cannot be adopt over night and is something instilled at a very young age.

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