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Research Journal Entries

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The very first research topic I come up with is the international students. Because, as an international student I personally experienced a lot of communication barriers. As I trying to narrow down the topic, I found that the culture, as a part of my personal experience, is a vital thing that prevents great communication. Then I start to search for the articles, I found a bunch of passages that describes the culture difference and shock for international students, especially the Chinese students, which is the largest international student group in the US. The research states that, in some Asian culture, people are told to be conservative. People there think they should not directly told others their ideas to act their own “etiquette”. Thus, when it comes to an international circumstance, like a US campus, the barriers appear. Chinese students might think the local are “rude” to talk that directly, and locals might think they are wired, or just cannot talk well. That does cause communication barriers.

The second one, also derived from the international student topic, is related to the language barriers when international students communicating to the local American people. That is an obvious thing, which happens in every country. As a Chinese student, I do feel hard to communicate when I first came to the US. People just talk in a whole new way for me, different from what I learned from the English textbook. Then I think this might be also a good topic for the essay. The research says, the language is a main barrier for international students to talk others, and that also prevent them making more local American friends. That inspires me. How the language barriers work in different stages for Chinese international students communicate in the US? That is my second research question.

For the third one I come up with a topic in different aspect. In my daily life, especially in the daily communication to my girlfriend, I do feel the barriers. What I want to express often be distorted and misunderstand by her. So, I think, is there any gender difference do the negative effects on the communication in a relationship? Then I try to search for the passages. Some researchers derive some result on it. The thing is, women and men think in different way on some level, and more generally, they often live in a relatively different environment in the child so they have different values. Also, their brain work also differently, meaning that women might be more sensitive and easier to get mad for the interact experiences than the men.

Overall, I want to focus on the topic “What Prevent Chinese Students Communicate Well in a US Campus on the Culture Level?” for the current research.