Japanese people don't realize the importance of being confident.

I went to England to study English during spring vacation.There I met many students from all over the world. I soon noticed that all of the students had confidence in their opinions.But I didn't have any confidence in my English skills or opinions.

One day I had a discussion about various cultures with some students.I didn't have any confidence in talking about my opinions.So I ended up agreeing with another student's opinion.Actually,she had said the same thing that I was thinking. In the end, everyone agreed with her opinion. I had been thinking the same thing before,but I couldn't say it. At the end of our conversation,I realized that even if I had thought of it, it's meaningless if I don't say it.Once again, I realized having confidence is very important.

We need to have confidence to share our opinions. I think that Japanese people have less confidence in themselves than people from other countries.

I think part of the problem is our childhood education and living environment.There is little time to talk about our opinions in class.Parents and teachers always say to us "Do as others do","Do not do anything in your own unique or original way". So Japanese students don't form strong personalities or unique opinions. But I think that uniqueness is meaningful in school and social life.

Japanese people are always thinking about what others think of them. We hold back our strong opinions. We are afraid of being wrong.

On the other hand,other students in my class in England were proud of their opinions and said them clearly, even though they may be wrong.

We must remember that criticism is not a personal attack,but a way to make ideas better through discussion.

In addition,being humble and saying "I can't do it"won't make you proficient in a language. Speaking out is more important than making mistakes.

Maybe it is common in Japan not to express your opinions.Japanese people think being humble is good. But being humble and not saying your opinions are two totally different things.Not saying your opinions isn't a virtue in many parts of the world .If we don't share our opinions and ideas,other people will think we don't have any.

I hope that all Japanese people,including me,become more positive and share their opinions and ideas with confidence.

I want to succeed in the coming years of this global society. In the global world, we need to communicate with people from many different cultures. I want to communicate with people from all over the world through my unique opinions.

In order to say our opinions with confidence,we first must recognize our strong points and think to ourselves: "I can do it".I want to be able to say my opinions without fear of criticism.

By doing so, I want to share my opinions with the world and be active in the future global society.

                                                                                            Thank you.