

# Life After JET

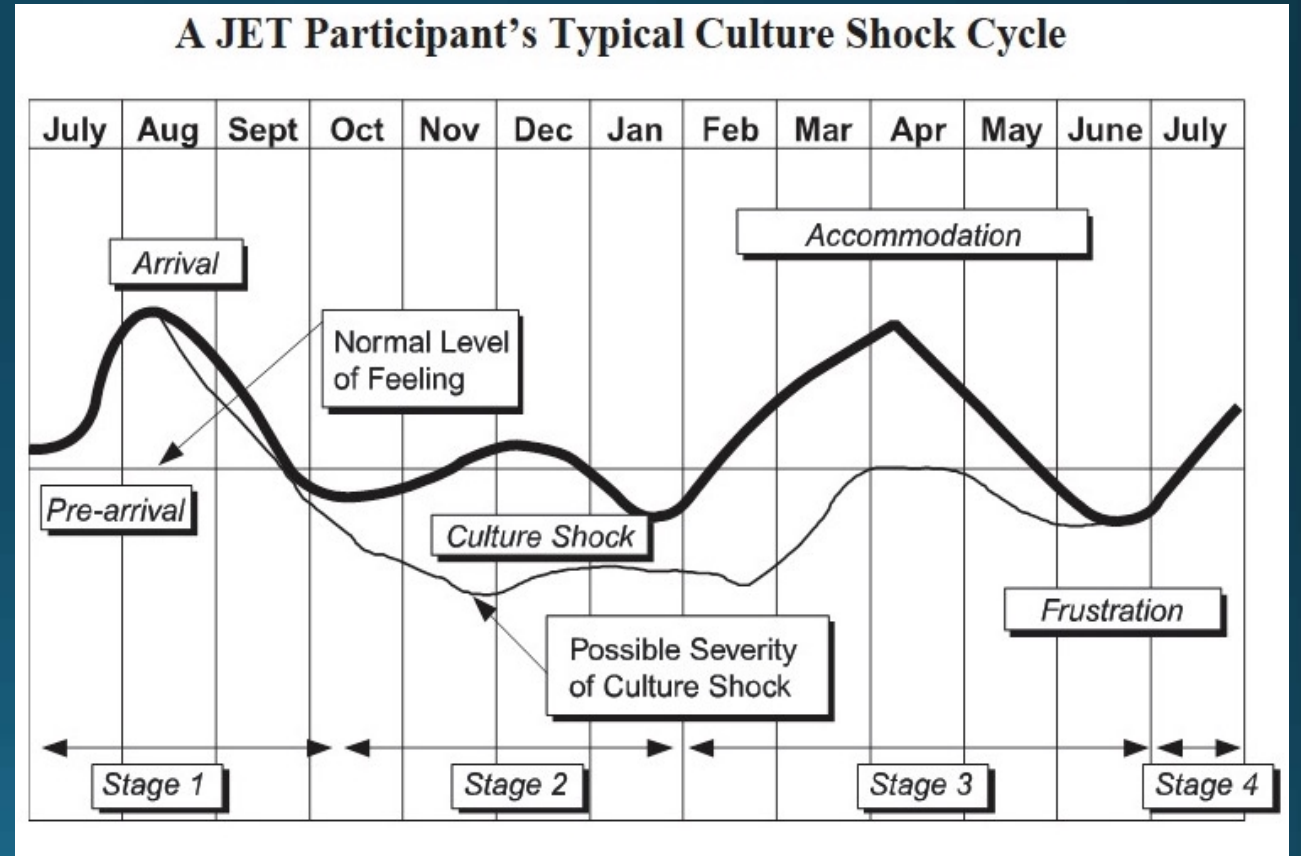
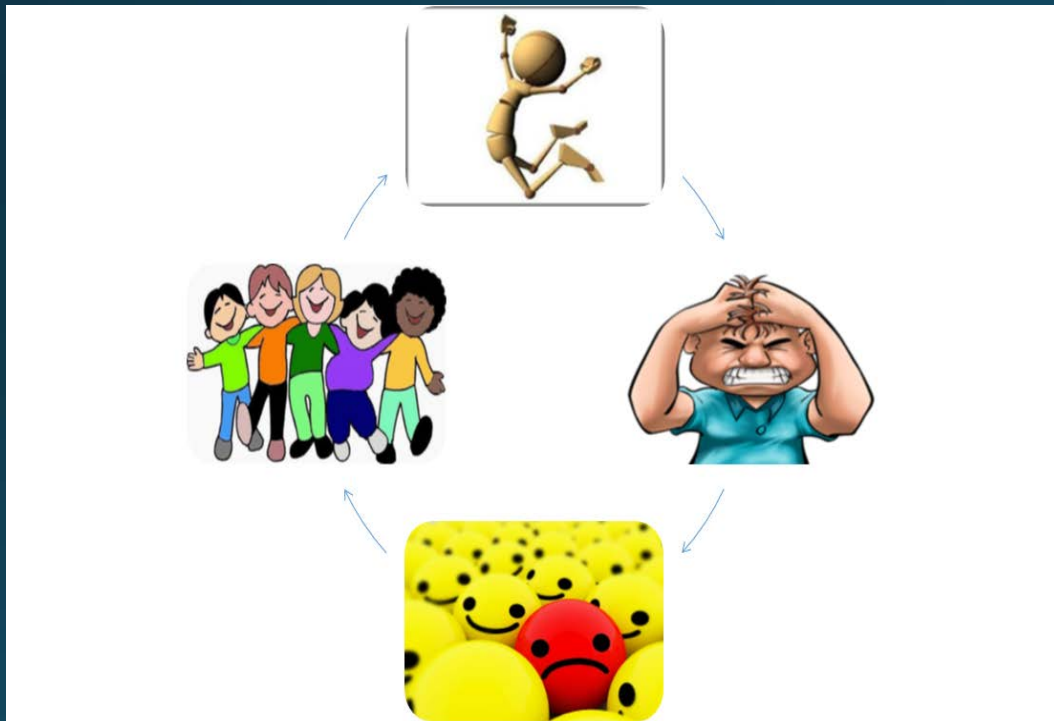
Tim Edenfield ♦ ALT in Chiba-ken, 2011-2012

# Life after JET?

- But that's so far away!
- Hmm... what do I want to do?
- Moving back is complicated
- **AFTER JET CONFERENCE – Go!**

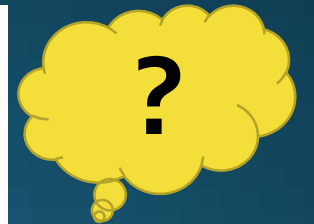
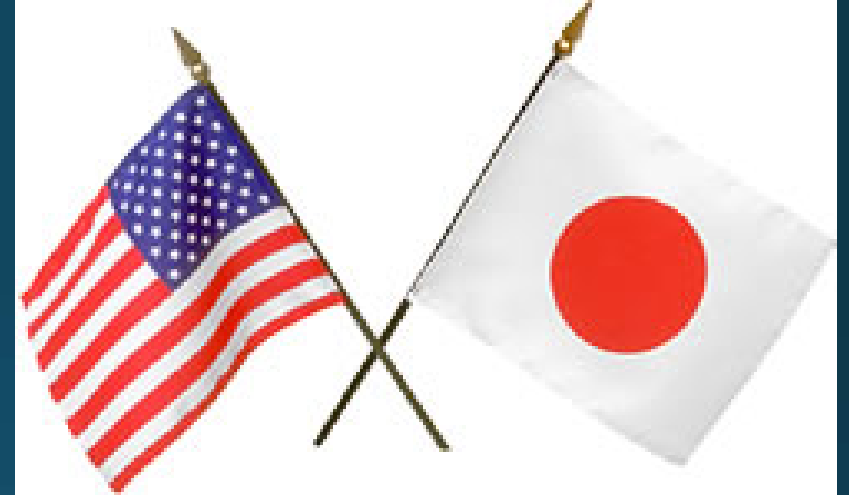
# Reverse Culture Shock

Remember this??



# Whither to after JET?

- Jobs in the U.S.
- Graduate school
- Jobs in Japan



# Jobs in the U.S.

- Returning home? Heading to a new city?
- Continuing your connection to Japan in your work?
- Learning to “sell” the skills and experience you gained on your Japan adventure to employers
- Many recruiting companies for bilingual positions with Japanese companies

# Graduate school

- A popular option, BUT – don't go to grad school just to avoid job hunting!
- Could be U.S., Japan, or a third country – do your research!
- Start developing a professional goal in your mind, then pick a degree to help you get there
- Start studying for and/or take GRE, GMAT, LSAT, etc. while still on JET in Japan
- Start applying to programs well in advance! Check deadlines!
- Continuing TEFL? Consider a master's to gain the credentials to teach in a college-level setting

# Jobs in Japan

- English teaching – via private companies and contract positions
- Monolingual English speakers: English teaching, recruiting, IT, consulting, banking, etc.
- Bilingual individuals are rare and valuable – being able to operate in two languages and two cultural environments is a huge asset!
- Develop your Japanese ability in Japan to greatly enhance and widen your job prospects – the world is your oyster (if you can speak the language!)

# Maintaining ties to Japan after JET

- How to connect your JET experience to your future life and career?
- For some, Japan/Japanese is a “9-to-5” (career) and for others, it’s a “5-to-9”(interest, hobby, etc.) – this is okay!
- Don’t compartmentalize your experience in Japan!
- Find the “silver thread” that connects your experiences in Japan to what you want to do in the future
- Join **JETAA Southeast** and get involved!
- Maintain and develop your Japanese language skills
- Attend events like JapanFest and join Japan-America Society of Georgia, JASG Young Professionals, etc.



# Contribute to the future good of JET!

- Get involved with JETAA Southeast!
- Volunteer to help new JETs and others interested in Japan
- Participate in Japan-related events
- Share your experiences and knowledge with incoming JETs and the wider community
- Be a bridge between your home country and your adopted home of 1-5 years! (or beyond)





Questions?