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Off the top of my head, I can slice and dice the life at NCC in so many ways. However, I'd like to touch on my current issue and culture shocks I got here in the US.

Actually, I've been stuck in English specifically in terms of listening every time I talk with native English speakers. I'm quite struggling to get my head around what they are saying because they speak just so freaking fast. I quite often would be like "What was that?" or I just put on a brave face even though I don't understand what they are saying. I am not avoiding them, but I tend to hit it off with international students since we are on the same wavelength. They normally do not care about grammatical accuracy, etc. as they make mistakes as well. I am neck and neck with them in terms of how your English is. That being said, hanging out with only them indicates I am cutting corners because my ultimate objective is to become like a native speaker. It really drives me up the wall when I find my English sucks and I feel like I might as well throw in the towel, and would be what's the point of doing this dumbass! That said, good things take huge time in general, so I'm hands-down better off keeping dig deep. The other day, I came across a very low-key but fantastic pep talk which is "I will make it. Maybe not immediately but absolutely and definitely". That's pretty ego-boosting.

Let me talk about one of the culture shocks that was freaking stunning to me so that even people who've never been to the US can get on the same page. In the second week, the professor of science started giving a lecture with literally sitting on the teacher's desk! Obviously, if you do that in Japan, people would be "What the hell are you doing!". I am broadening my horizons by experiencing so many things and my gut feeling is that kind of culture that I mentioned is actually comfortable to me.



(A professor in US)