

**Study Guide for
“Americans I Have Met”**

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Pre-reading discussion questions:

1. What was your impression of Americans when you first came to the U.S.? (Elicit vocabulary that describes different kinds of people.)
2. Do you still have the same opinion of Americans? How has your opinion changed? How has it stayed the same?
3. Do you have many friends who are Americans? Why do you think this is so?
4. What makes someone a good friend? What do good friends do together?

Vocabulary

First impression	Hesitant	Tremendous	Housewarming party
Get used to	Superficial	Encounter	Indifferent

Post-reading comprehension questions:

1. The writer’s first impression of Americans was that they were
 - a. very rude and indifferent
 - b. clumsy and big
 - c. very friendly and helpful
 - d. nosy and embarrassing
2. Later, the writer found that Americans who work in government offices were
 - a. very kind and helpful
 - b. similar to people who work in government offices in her country
 - c. unfamiliar with customs in Korea
 - d. very punctual
3. What was one of the things the writer found really hard to get used to in the U.S.? Is this a problem for you, too?

4. What kind of party did her neighbor invite her to? Do you have parties like this in your home country? Explain.

5. Did the writer become good friends with her neighbor after that? Explain.

6. How, according to the writer, are Koreans different from Americans?

7. According to the writer, why have psychologists in Korea had a difficult time keeping patients?

8. How are people in the U.S. similar to/different from people in your home country?

9. Why does the writer think American relationships are superficial? Do you agree or disagree? Explain.

10. What advice do you have to help the writer be more successful at making friends with Americans in the future?

What is the main idea of this story?

- a. First impressions can be deceiving.
- b. Saying “hi” to strangers can be embarrassing.
- c. Close friends in Korea don’t need to see psychologists.

Write your experience:

Title: _____

1. My first impression of Americans was that

2. An example of why I thought that Americans were this was

3. Later, I found that my first impression changed/remained the same. An example of this is

Or,

Later, I found that my first impression changed/remained the same. This is because

4. In conclusion, what I have learned about Americans and myself is
