Virtual Ryugaku: offering cross-cultural communication opportunities to Junior High School Students through Virtual Reality





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# Presentation Plan

- 1. The projects
- 2. Setups and constraints
- 3. Questionnaire and comments
- 4. Improvements for the future

Q&A



#### English VR Lab





#### For 5th year and Advanced Course Students

Use Quest 2 for study and fun

Speak English with people from all over the world

Prepare for international internships

Stage 1: May-November

Stage 2: November-February

Update and news: ask David Taquet

TEAMS code 5nwe8fa

1st meeting-guidance planned for late May 2021

# Associating two projects

- ▶ JSPS Kaken 21K00778: Measuring Iconicity
- Community project: associate STEAM and global communication while in Hakodate

#### 函館高専

Yeah! バーチャル留学体験!

### 戸倉ヶ丘留学



**VR(仮想現実)の技術を使って** 

**≫異文化コミュニケーションを体験しよう!** 

VR ヘッドセットを装着し、函館高専にいながら仮想空間内で外国の人たちと交流します。

素顔を合わせることなくアバター同士が交流するので「恥ずかしさを感じずに会話する」ことができます。国際交流に興味がある人や英会話に興味がある人は参加してください。日本語での交流もOKですのでVR技術に興味がある人も参加可能です。ぜひ気軽に参加してください。

参加者には修了の証として、デジタル証明書であるオープンバッジを発行します。

Enjoy your virtual study abroad experience!

第1回: 11月26日(土)10時~12時

第2回: 12月10日(土)10時~12時

会場: 函館高専 図書館2階

参加対象: 中学生(学年は問いません)

※参加費は無料。服装は自由です。上履きは不要です。

募集人数: 各回6名(先着順)

# Equipment, setup, and constraints

- Meta Quest 2: First steps, BigScreen beta
- iPad for casting (support and parents)
- Library 2F with Air Conditioning
- Safe space
- Registered on Network, Open IP ports



# Event objectives

- Hakodate is slightly remote, few international events
- International students = resource for the community
- Make technology language learning accessible
- Promote our school



### Event Plan

- 1. Staff does safety warning (heat, dizzy, hitting stuff)
- 2. Explain the controllers (trigger and grab button)
- 3. Launch 1st steps>give the headsets to students
- 4. First Steps for 15 minutes (staff troubleshoots)
- 5. Break for 5 minutes
- 6. Bigscreen Beta with international student for 15 min
- 7. End of session, questionnaire

# Bigscreen: "what is your favorite food?"



#### 戸倉が丘留学アンケート

Par	Part 1:一般な質問						
A.	なぜる	このイベ	シトに	参加し	たので	すか?	
В.	今日ま	きで、と	ごでv	Rのこと	とを知っ	たのですか?(例えばテレビ、友達、店など	
c.	バーラ	トャルリ	アリテ	ィを使	うのは礼	別めてですか?はい いいえ (回目)	
D.	すでに	こ VR を	使って	いた学生	<b>上に:何</b>	]の機種でしたか?	
						_	
E.	今日0	のイベ	ントを	実施す	る前に、	VR についてどれくらい知っていますか?	
		1	2	3	4	5	
F.	VR を	利用して	ていると	とき、と	の程度	現実だと感じましたか?	
		1	2	3	4	5	
G.	何かる	「快な感	覚あり	ました	か?(暑	い、重い、ぼやけるなど)	
		1	2	3	4	5	
しく	:						

H. 全体的に今日のイベントはどの程度楽しめましたか?

### Questionnaire

- Bioethical committee
- Online forms Waiver for parents 1 week before, with sample questions
- All questions were translated to, and answered in Japanese
- End of the event

## Questionnaire part 1: general

- Why did you participate in this event?
- ▶ Before now, where have you learned about VR?
- Is today the first time you have used VR?
- If you have already used VR, what device was it?
- Before this event, how much did you know about VR?
- ▶ While using VR, how real did it feel?
- ▶ Did you have any discomfort (hot, heavy, etc...)?
- Overall, how much fun did you have today?
- What was the most fun part?

# Questionnaire part 2: First Steps

- ▶ Do you think that First Step was an effective introduction to VR?
- ▶ What part of First Steps did you enjoy the most?
- What was the most difficult thing to do?

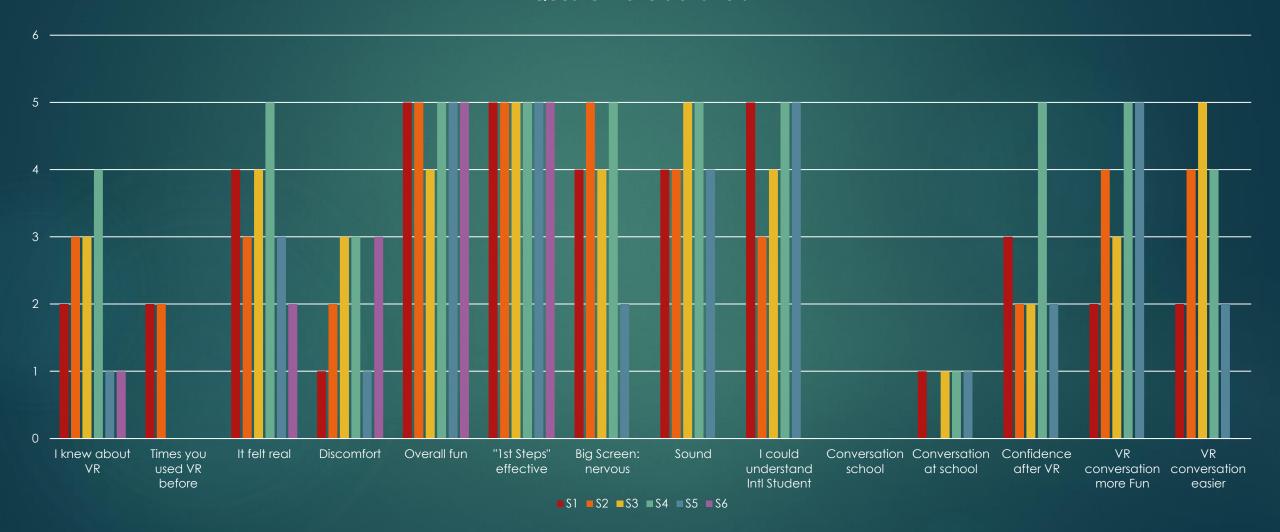
## Questionnaire part 3: Bigscreen beta

- While talking English in VR, how nervous were you?
- Do you think the sound quality was good?
- Did you easily understand what the international student was saying?
- Do you attend an English conversation school?
- In your junior high school, do you practice English conversation?
- After doing conversation in VR, do you feel more confident?
- Was virtual conversation more fun that face-to-face conversation?
- Do you think that VR conversation is easier than face-to-face conversation?



## Some highlights

Questionnaire's answers



#### Students' comments

Discomfort: 3 x blurry, 3 x heavy

Most fun: 2x shooting

Most difficult: 3x dancing

A bit hot, but really fun experience.

BigScreen tool interface was hard to understand

1st time using VR and VR conversation.
Thanks to the teachers, it was a lot of fun.

### 4. What is next?

- More proficient users
- ▶ More time in chat>VR Chat
- ▶ Better questionnaire and data analysis
- ▶ Full body tracking