Communication Problem Between International Students and American Students

Introduction
Our research goal is to reduce the communication and language barrier between international students and American students for a better learning environment. We used our survey to collect the data for our research.

Many international students who are non-native speakers of English experience culture shock when studying in a different country. Therefore, this research is important to understand how to overcome communication barriers among international and local students.

Survey Results
71.43% of international students find it important to communicate with American students.
55.56% of international students are afraid of communicating with American students due to the fear of being unable to understand English.

Do you think it important to learn how to communicate with native?

Factors Affecting Communication
Place
From the bar charts below, most international students find that the best place to communicate with local students is in the dormitory. According to the responses from American students, they do not have a preference in terms of where communication takes place.

Content
Topic of interest for international students: ANYTHING! However, most non-native international students have a difficult time interpreting the meaning behind slang/phrases that Americans use. For example, many international students respond that when they hear Americans say “How are you?”, they misinterpret that as a question instead of a general greeting.

Conclusion
According to our research, we discovered that the biggest communication barrier between American students and international students is not the motivation to communicate, but the difference in culture and languages.

Suggestions
Some suggestions to overcome the research problem include conducting a panel of past international students to share their experiences with current local and international students as well as organizing more events that bridge the gap between international and local students.

Recommendations

Reference
All the pictures come from google.