Presentation by the other team

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11 teams including us made presentations concerned with Chinese ancient architectures. Learning level of mathematics and science in China was much higher than that in Japan, so what they mentioned were too difficult for us to understand perfectly. Besides all that some presentations were performed in Chinese! (Of course, none of us can understand it…) I report few presentations which we could understand.

The presentations began with the Nara Women's University Secondary School. They had two main chapters, the Golden Ratio and collapse of Japanese pagodas. The latter was similar to what we had experimented and planned to talk. Surprisingly, they made software to simulate the earthquakes by themselves! They tried to show some videos of the simulations, but unfortunately the computer did not work correctly. After all we could not watch any videos. They made two-story models of pagoda to investigate the "Rocking Structure". They mentioned that this makes the center of the gravity of building upper and it leads to the stability.

Schools from China made presentations about their traditional architecture styles. Some were about ancient gardens and others were about "Dougong." It is one of the structures which support the whole building under the roof. There are eight kinds of Dougong and they are used in different ways. The combinations of the two different sizes lead the building to be more stable. They investigated why it makes the stability of the building by mathematical considerations, but it was too hard to understand…

Two teams were from Singapore. One of them won the best presentation award. They talked in English and their presentation was conversation style. It was the most impressive one. Their theme was the "tenon." It is the structure which connects one timber to another without any items, in other words, only by engagement. They showed videos of their experiments to measure the weight that their tenon could endure.

Through these presentations, I felt that the level of science and math of the world. It was much higher than I expected. Can Japan keep up with such level? I think that we must learn English very hard to improve our level.