

**The following body language are actually used by the Japanese:**

**Hand behind the head**--Sign of awkwardness or embarrassment. (Goku does this quite a bit. :)

**Pointing to one's own nose**--Referring to the self.

**Waving towards someone, palm down**--'Come here'.

**Clapping the hands in front of the face (bowing optional)**--pleading for a favor, asking for forgiveness, or thanking for a meal. Sometimes only one hand (the right, I think) is held up instead.

**Pounding the chest**--"Leave it to me."

**Thumbs up**--I don't need to explain this one, do I? ^\_^

**"V" for victory**--Same as in the U.S. :)

**"O.K."**--Watch the context on this one. The same gesture for "O.K." is also an old way to refer to money.

**Hand waving back and forth in front of the face**--"No, thanks." If you are a tourist in Japan and try to ask for directions from someone, that gesture means that the person you're talking to doesn't speak English.

**Pulling the lower eyelid down with the pinky and sticking out the tongue**--"Be--da!" (Japanese equivalent of a raspberry. :)

**Raising the arm (as if trying to show off muscle) and placing the other hand on the bicep**--Done before or after a difficult task.

**Raising the pinky**--Used to refer to someone's wife/girlfriend/lover.

**Licking the finger, then touching something/someone**--Laying claim to someone/something. If you find this unsanitary, you can simply say "**Tsube tsuketa!**" (Roughly, "I've got dibs on you!")

**Bending the index finger in a hooking motion**--Implies that some sort of underhanded dealing has happened.

The following are expressions used in manga and/or anime to imply certain emotions:

**Blushing**--Depending on the context, it could mean 1) embarrassment, 2) romantic/sexual desire, 3) drunkenness (Asians tend to flush when under the influence of alcohol) or 4) all of the above. :)

**The Face Fault**--The eyes pop, the jaw drops, and the person may also go Super Deformed. (An exaggerated shock/pain reaction.)

**The "Takahashi" Pose**--Arms splayed out, second and third fingers of each hand folded down in both hands (American Sign Language for "I love you" if done only in the left hand). Almost always accompanies facefaults in Takahashi works, and can be seen in other anime/manga as well. (It's actually a warding gesture to drive away pain, or something to that effect.)

**Drooling**--Depending on the context, it means 1) the person is in a very deep stage of sleep, 2) the person is thinking perverted thoughts about someone, or 3) both. :)

**The Nose Bleed**--A trickle of blood implies sexual arousal, while a full-blown explosion implies an erection. Generally only seen with males, although females have also been known to spout nosebleeds. :)

**The Snot Bubble**--Seen when people doze off, or in those (generally young children) whose mental capacities and/or sanitary habits are deficient.

**The Sweat Drop**--Seen during embarrassing/awkward/terrifying moments, size and number may vary.

**The Mallet, and other things that appear and disappear mysteriously**--Very angry characters (usually female) sometimes pull mallets of varying size out of nowhere to smash upon the head of their hapless victim. Other things that have been known to be pulled out of nowhere are kettles, water bottles, buckets, weapons of all sorts, microphones (see below), Tanuki statues...

**Pulling out a microphone**--Usually preceeds a melodramatic declaration.

**Vertical (blue, if in color) lines going down the face**--Disgust, shame, embarrassment, etc. When accompanied by little floating spirit-balls, it implies severe depression. (For example, what happens to poor Brock in Pokemon Johto every time Professor Ivy is mentioned.)

**Sparkling eyes**--Profound admiration and/or emotionally touched. Often accompanied by various numbers of **kira-kira**, the kana "sound effects" for sparkling eyes.

**Veins popping**--Extreme anger/frustration. Often accompanied by various parts of the face (usually the eyebrows) twitching. (Vegita does this a lot. :)

**Eyes swirling**--KO. (With Kenshin, this is often accompanied by his "Oro!" :)

**Stray hair popping out**--Fluster, surprise, or on the verge of being overwhelmed.

**Springs popping out**--Nervous breakdown.

**Flood of water from the eyes**--Very exaggerated crying. Usually not sincere.

**"Demon head"**--Extreme anger (I've only seen Tendo Soun of Ranma 1/2 do it, though, so I don't know if that's an actual anime/manga expression). Gainax characters, on the other hand, have a tendency to get "demon eyes": their eyes glow red or black, and sometimes steam blows out of their ears.

**"AAAHHH!"**--Holding hands against the side of the face (like McCauley

Culkin's scream in Home Alone). Means roughly "What in the world did I do now?!?"