Discuss these questions in groups of 3 or 4. Do “janken” to decide which one of you will take notes (i.e., be the secretary) so that the results of your discussion can be reported back to the group afterwards. The reporter may be someone different than the secretary.

1. What facets of the mothers’ and daughters’ lives could you relate to? Did you find yourself identifying with these aspects — or are they completely alien to your own experience?
2. Under what circumstances do you think you could marry someone from another country, emigrate to their homeland, and assume a new nationality?
3. The Japanese women were separated from their husbands by race, nationality, language and custom. As we see in the film, some marriages failed while others endured. What accounts for the longevity of these unions? Do they differ from marriages in which both spouses are from similar backgrounds?
4. How does popular culture (movies, songs, TV shows, animation) shape your views about foreigners and foreign countries? Do you think your views are biased by fictional depictions of other countries?
5. Humans may be innately programmed to distrust strangers — or people from a different nationality/ ethnic group. How can this trait be bridged or overcome?