

平成21年度 熊本県立大学 英語英米文学科 一般前期 (120分)
英語I・II・リーディング・ライティング (平成21年2月25日)

【1】これは英語を聴き取る力を試す問題です。指示に従って解答しなさい。(この問題は試験開始後30分たってから始めます。それまでに答案用紙の指示を読んでおいてください。)

【2】次の英文を読んで設問に答えなさい。

Many people all over the world study English as a second language. For some, like Spanish or German speakers, it may be relatively close to their native language, but for others, like the Japanese, the gaps in language and culture are larger. This can present quite a challenge.

All language learners realize at some point that learning a new language requires more than just learning new words. ① Beyond the new vocabulary is a new system of grammar that makes order of the new words. This system, together with the cultures shared by the speakers of a language, make up the “logic” or “worldview” of that language, and grasping this worldview is central to using the language well.

This idea is strongly related to an important advancement in the field of linguistics called the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis. This concept, pioneered by American scholars Edward Sapir and Benjamin Whorf in the 1950s, asserts that one’s language influences one’s way of thinking in one’s daily life. Put simply, “language creates thought.”

If we understand ② this idea, we will realize that the language one is speaking will influence, or even control, one’s way of thinking. Thoughts or ideas in one language can be turned into something very different in another language. A simple example of this might be that in a certain situation the appropriate Japanese-language communication might be “sumimasen” but in similar circumstances in English the appropriate remark may be something like “thank you,” which has a very different feel.

The way people think and their reactions to different situations are, of course, key points to making up their personalities. Thus we can see that if a person learns a new and very different language well, which includes grasping all the cultural particulars of the language, then it will affect who they are, their personality, when speaking that language.

This is to say that speaking and interacting in the new language can lead to a new and different personality in the speaker. Of course, the base personality in the native language is not (usually) fully eliminated or ignored. Elements of it will come through in the new language, but still we can see a distinct new identity in the second language.

In this way, ③ people who are bilingual, or at least fluent in two very different languages, have two distinct personalities. In the context of a single language, “split personalities” can be considered a mental illness, but in two different language contexts, it is natural and almost necessary to have different personalities. So enjoy your new identity along with your new language!

(Adapted from *Shukan ST*, July 11th, 2008)

1. 下線部 ① を日本語に訳しなさい。
2. 下線部 ② の内容を本文に即して日本語で説明しなさい。
3. 筆者が下線部 ③ のように述べている根拠を、本文に即して日本語で説明しなさい。

【3】 次の英文を読んで設問に答えなさい。

On the surface, Japan appears to be a relatively crime-free and comparatively safe society. One crime, though, is on the rise—*shoplifting. A recent survey by the Japan Publishing Organization for Information Infrastructure Development found that nearly ¥4 billion in books are stolen every year, a figure that has nearly doubled since 2003. Countries with higher rates of more serious crimes may find ① these figures and the type of crime unimportant or even slightly amusing. Taken as an indication of a shift in Japanese social values, however, shoplifting is cause for concern.

Particularly worrisome is the fact that most of the shoplifting is being done by young people. Minors commit the majority of the thefts (40 percent), though housewives (15 percent) and, increasingly, people over the 65 are lifting their share as well. These reported figures do not reflect the actual percentages, though, since many of the incidents are never reported, or go unrecorded after the suspects write a letter of apology. ② The extent of the problem is startling.

The seriousness of shoplifting lies somewhere between “borrowing” an umbrella from a public rack and bicycle theft, one of Japan’s most common crimes. The main reason given by those caught in the act of stealing books is not laziness, drunkenness or selfishness, but rather an intention to resell the books for cash. The romantic image of the starving student who truly wants to read an overpriced classic is far from reality. This main object is money. Books, like objects left unattended, are easy targets.

An estimated 4,000 small to medium-size booksellers have shut their doors from 2001 to 2007. ③ That is not all due to shoplifters, of course, as online bookstores have taken most of the customers away. When a bookstore disappears from a shopping

street, station front or pedestrian mall, we lose one more outlet for distributing books, and with it, written culture.

Bookstores and publishing organizations are right to protest, though their focus seems more with profit margins than social morality. Shoplifting should not be placed on a young person's record forever or be treated so severely as to ruin one's current life, but neither should it be ignored.

④ The attitude of getting “something for nothing” runs counter to the values of a society where lost wallets are still usually returned, people work hard for their money, and trust still remains central to most public interactions.

The answer to book shoplifting may be technological in part, with improved methods for safeguarding stores, but a change in attitude is needed as well. The public library system needs updating to become more convenient and to keep in line with changes in the Internet. Secondhand bookstores need to reconsider making their buyback policies stricter. Police need to establish consistent guidelines for handling shoplifters. An unsystematic approach by police to warning first-time shoplifters only encourages repeat offenders.

(Adapted from *The Japan Times*, May 4th, 2008)

*shoplifting: the crime of stealing things from shops, for example by hiding them in a bag or under your clothes

1. 下線部 ① が示している内容を具体的に日本語で述べなさい。
2. 下線部 ② の内容を本文に即して日本語で説明しなさい。
3. 下線部 ③ が示している内容を具体的に日本語で述べなさい。
4. 下線部 ④ を日本語に訳しなさい。

【4】 次の英文を読んで設問に答えなさい。

Traditionally scientists have been trained to look for order. This can help them to make reliable predictions about the world. Familiar formulas such as Pythagoras' $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$, Newton's $F = ma$, and Einstein's $E = mc^2$ can give us a sense of security in a confusing world. ① Yet a new generation of scientists is telling us that we may have been concentrating too much on the limited parts of reality that show order. We have been overlooking the equally important aspect of reality in which *chaos is the dominant feature. Trying to understand this strange, unpredictable side of reality is the focus of the rapidly growing field of chaos theory.

A common illustration of the ideas of chaos theory is the so-called ② “butterfly effect.” Imagine a butterfly in Tokyo. It flaps its wings, perhaps even only one time.

No one can predict exactly what the effects of this wing flap will be, but it is possible that this small event could cause wind patterns around the world to change in a way that eventually results in a hurricane in New York. Such complex, unpredictable cause-and-effect situations are the focus of chaos study. Chaos conditions can be just as important as the more orderly conditions of planets' movements, gravity, and electricity, which were studied by earlier scientists like Kepler, Newton, and Edison.

What kinds of things can chaos theory help us understand? It is particularly applicable to understanding complex, hard-to-predict processes such as weather, population trends, stock markets, earthquakes, ocean currents, molecular movements, and ecosystems. Recently, chaos theory has been applied to some real-life problems. In medicine, for example, it is being used to understand the problems of patients with irregular heartbeats. Using chaos theory, doctors can help to put patients' chaotic heartbeats back into a steady state, thus saving them from possible heart attacks.

Chaos theory tells us that reality is made up of a complex relationship between order and chaos. This recent idea shows similarities to the ancient Taoist principle of yin(陰) and yang(陽): the idea that reality is made up of apparent opposites. To see reality we need to accept both aspects of life: its yin and yang; its chaos and order. Chaos theorists do not ignore order; rather, they emphasize that nature is far more complex—and chaotic—than we had thought. They tell us that in order to understand the deep order in nature, we also need to look deeply at its chaos. This may be a frustrating and humbling lessons, but it is also one filled with exciting possibilities for the future.

(Adapted from Bruce Allen and Makoto Shishido, *Imagining Tomorrow*)

*chaos: a situation in which everything is happening in a confused way and nothing is organized or arranged in order, disorder, confusion

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2. 下線部 ② の内容を本文に即して日本語で説明しなさい。
3. “chaos theory” が医学の分野においてどのように応用されているか、本文に即して日本語で説明しなさい。
4. “chaos theory” において “reality” はどのように捉えられているのか、本文に即して日本語で説明しなさい。

【5】次の文章の下線部を英語に訳しなさい。

- ① 未知の場所へ旅する場合，その旅が首尾よくいったかどうか，満足のいくものだったかどうかは，旅のまえに思い描いていた旅のイメージを基準として決まる。「旅行者」の最良のものとは，旅に何も期待しないことである。

(鷲田清一『ことばの顔』より，一部改変)

- ② 外国語は私達にさまざまな利益を与えてくれる。実際に行ったことのない国々のさまざまことから，その国の人々の考え，文化・社会について，私達は，外国語を学ぶことにより知ることができる。

(津田幸男『英語支配の構造』より，一部改変)

解答例

【1】(省略)

【2】1. 新しい単語を並べる新しい文法体系は、新しい語彙の範囲を超えている。

2. 言葉が日常生活における考え方に影響を与えるということ。

3. 新しい言葉で話し情報を伝え合うことは、話者に新しい異なった個性を生じさせるが、そうすることで母国語の基本的な個性が消去されたり無視されるわけではないので。

【3】1. 日本で毎年盗まれる本の金額の40億円。

2. 窃盗の40%が未成年で、15%が主婦で、65歳以上の窃盗が増加している。また窃盗事件の多くが、詫状が出されると報告されることはないので、この数字は実際のパーセンテージを反映しているのではない。

3. 2001年から2007年までに、小規模、中規模のおよそ4000店の本屋が倒産したこと。

4. 無料で何かを得るという態度は、失くした札入れが依然として戻ってきたり、お金のために人が一生懸命働いたり、信用が依然としてたいの社会的相互作用の中心となっている社会の価値観に反するものである。

【4】1. しかし新しい世代の科学者は、私たちに我々が秩序を示す現実の限られた部分に注意を向け過ぎてきたと言っている。

2. 東京でのチョウの羽のはばたきが世界中の風向きを変え、最終的にはニューヨークのハリケーンにつながるかもしれないという予測のつかない効果。

3. 患者の不規則な鼓動を安定した状態に戻して、患者を起こりうる心臓発作から救う分野。

4. 秩序と無秩序の複雑な関係で構成されている。

【5】① The best way to travel is that we expect nothing from traveling.

② A foreign language gives us various benefits. By learning a foreign language, we can learn a variety of things about a country where we have never been in reality and its people's idea, culture, and society.