

英語構文課題10(比較を中心に)

第1問 和訳せよ(基礎の確認)

1. He is not so much a talented writer as a careful observer of human nature.
2. The problem became even more serious after the government failed to take immediate action.
3. Some people go so far as to argue that technology has made genuine communication impossible.
4. As early as the 1960s, some scientists were already warning about the possible effects of climate change.
5. The weather couldn't be better for our school trip.
6. The entire discussion lasted no more than ten minutes, but it completely changed my view of the issue.

第2問 和訳せよ。

1. The new system allows students to learn as much through discussing difficult questions with one another as they do by simply listening to their teachers.
2. Although many people believe that modern technology has made our lives easier than ever before, it has also created even more serious problems, some of which are no less difficult to solve than those faced by earlier generations.
3. No matter how much information we obtain from the Internet, it does not necessarily make us any wiser, for what matters is not so much how much we know as how carefully we examine and compare the ideas presented to us.

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第3問 和訳せよ

The gap between children and adults may be wider than many of us realize. Children are far more willing than adults to question rules that seem meaningless to them, whereas adults are more likely to accept such rules simply because they have existed for a long time. The older people become, the less easily they seem to remember how strange the adult world once appeared to them. What seems no more than a minor problem to an adult may be as serious a matter to a child as any problem he or she has ever experienced. Adults sometimes go so far as to dismiss children's fears as childish, although they themselves may be no better at controlling their own anxieties. In fact, children are not necessarily less rational than adults; they may simply judge the world by standards different from those of grown-ups. The more seriously adults try to understand these differences, the smaller the gap between the two generations will become. Perhaps adults should listen to children at least as carefully as they expect children to listen to them.

第4問 和訳せよ

A person does not need to be better than others at everything in order to make a valuable contribution to society. In economics, comparative advantage suggests that even a country less productive than another in every field may still benefit from specializing in activities in which its opportunity cost is relatively low. The same principle applies no less strongly to individuals, whose abilities are often judged by comparing their performance with that of the most talented people around them. The more narrowly we define ability, the more likely we are to overlook forms of competence that become valuable only in relation to other skills and circumstances. A worker who is not as efficient a programmer as his colleagues may communicate with clients far better than any of them can, and the opportunity cost of assigning him exclusively to technical work may therefore be higher than it first appears. What matters is not so much whether one person is superior to another as whether each person is engaged in the task in which he or she has the greatest comparative advantage. Indeed, a society in which everyone competes to develop the same highly valued ability may be less productive than one that allows differences in talent to lead to specialization. In this sense, inequality of ability, far from being merely a weakness to be corrected, can become the very basis of cooperation.

*comparative advantage 比較優位