

[I] 次の和文の内容を英語で書き表しなさい。

医者にかかるというのは「より健康に長生きするチャンスをつかむ」ということだ。そのためにも、こちらが「よい患者」にならなくてはならない。よい患者とは自分自身が意欲を持って「治ろう」と本気で取り組む人のことだ。まず、自分の状態をきちんと把握し、医者に病状を理解してもらうことが大切だ。そうすれば、的確な治療が受けられる。ひいては自分のためなのだ。

[II] 次の英文の (ア) ~ (シ) に入れるのにふさわしい語を選び、その番号を解答欄 [A] の所定の位置に書き入れなさい。

I once spent six years in the Netherlands, which is also known as the “land of tolerance”, and I can confirm that it’s a country where almost any kind of behavior is overlooked (ア) it places an overwhelming strain on others.

The canals in Amsterdam are bordered on both sides by brick-paved streets. These are narrow, single-lane thoroughfares*, and if a van makes a stop there, all the vehicles (イ) are also forced to stop. Once when driving I had an ominous premonition when the truck ahead (ウ) to slow. Sure enough, it stopped and the driver disembarked and began unloading his cargo. The Dutch are a (エ) lot. Even if they have to wait for five to ten minutes, they sit back calmly (オ) the work is finished. They reason that even if they sound their horn it will make (カ) difference to the speed (キ) which the other driver completes the work, and also that the driver has a (ク) to earn as well.

Back in the 1970s, there were seven Asian stringed instrument players with the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra. Some people even jokingly (ケ) to it as “the Oriental orchestra”. But when we consider that the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra at the time was closed to Asian musicians, the Royal Concertgebouw seems to sum up the tolerance of the Dutch character.

The Dutch are uncomfortable with an (コ) of formality and ceremony, a fact made clear to me while walking through an airport terminal in Holland. I noticed the Queen walking nonchalantly with a couple of her attendants in front of a duty-free shop. I don’t know whether the surrounding people failed to notice the party or if they (サ) not to notice out of politeness. (シ), it was delightful to witness such a civilized scene.

[選択肢]

- (ア) 1 unless, 2 if (イ) 1 after, 2 behind (ウ) 1 began, 2 came
(エ) 1 patient, 2 patience (オ) 1 so that, 2 until (カ) 1 much, 2 no
(キ) 1 at, 2 in (ク) 1 fortune, 2 livelihood
(ケ) 1 called, 2 referred (コ) 1 excess, 2 extent
(サ) 1 managed, 2 pretended (シ) 1 Nevertheless, 2 Therefore

[Ⅲ] 次の英文を読んで、設問に答えなさい。

Japanese schoolchildren are taught how to practice self-criticism both in order to improve their relations with others and to become more skilled in solving problems. This stance of perfectionism through self-criticism continues throughout life. (1) Sushi chefs and math teachers are not regarded as coming into their own until they've been at their jobs for a decade. Throughout their careers, in fact, Japanese teachers are observed and helped by their peers to become better at their jobs. (2) Contrast this with the American practice of putting teachers' college graduates into the classroom after a few months of training and then leaving them alone to succeed or not, to the good or ill fortune of a generation of students.

An experiment by Steven Heine and his colleagues captures the difference between the Western push to feel good about the self and the Asian drive for self-improvement. The experimenters asked Canadian and Japanese students to take a bogus* "creativity" test and then gave the students "feedback" indicating that they had done very well or very badly. The experimenters then secretly observed how long the participants worked on a similar task. The Canadians worked longer on the task if they had (A); the Japanese worked longer if they (B). The Japanese weren't being masochistic. They simply saw an opportunity for self-improvement and took it. The study has intriguing implications for skill development in both the East and West. Westerners are likely to (C). Easterners seem more likely to (D).

設問

- 1 下線部分(1)を和訳しなさい。
- 2 下線部分(2)を this の内容が具体的にわかるようにして和訳しなさい。

3 (A)(B)に入れるのにふさわしい語を次の中から選び、その番号を解答欄 [A] の所定の位置に書き入れなさい。

- 1 failed 2 succeeded

4 (C)(D)に入れるのにふさわしい句を次の中から選び、その番号を解答欄 [A] の所定の位置に書き入れなさい。

- 1 get very good at a few things they start out doing well to begin with.
2 become Jacks and Jills of all trades.

[IV] 次の英文を読んで、設問に答えなさい。

I'm pretty busy and don't have much time to watch television. When I do find sometime to curl up in front of the box, I'm usually watching sports or news. I don't often watch the variety offerings or dramas on Japan's commercial channels.

But that's not just because I don't have the time. ⁽¹⁾The biggest reason I don't watch these programs is that lately I find the editing to be incredibly irritating — so irritating that I'd rather avoid the shows altogether than put up with it.

I'm talking about the stations' attempts to keep your attention on the program even though they must also air commercials to stay in business. ⁽²⁾Since the invention of the TV remote control, broadcasters are worried that you're going to flip channels the instant a sponsor's message pops up, and never return. To combat this, they've come up with several highly annoying ways of editing their programs around commercial breaks. Here are just a few of the more common examples:

The guerilla * break:

(A)

The bait-and-switch break:

(B)

The it-ain't *-over-yet break: After showing a few spots, the program returns and you settle back into your seat to watch ... more commercials!

⁽³⁾They fool you into complacency by running little 30-second chunks of the main show in between the spots.

The déjà vu* break:

(C)

Another irritating trend is caused by stations figuring you'll stay with them if their show starts before other stations' shows, usually while the competition is airing commercials.

(D)

The more the commercial channels insist on these annoying techniques, the less I'll be watching. ⁽⁴⁾ One can only pray that the next clever idea broadcasters will come up with for holding your attention will be to make their programs interesting!

設問

- 1 下線部分(1)を和訳しなさい。
- 2 下線部分(2)を和訳しなさい。
- 3 (A)～(D)に入れるのにふさわしい文章を、1～4から選んで、その番号を解答欄[A]の所定の位置に書き入れなさい。

- 1 Just before the commercials, the show's announcer will say something like, "When we return, we'll show you the most incredible thing in the history of the universe!" So you wait through the spots, and then watch a comedian trip over their shoelaces, or something equally mundane.
- 2 It comes out of nowhere, when you least expect it. There's no warning from the program at all. Somebody might be in the middle of a sentence and wham! — dancing toilet paper suddenly fills your screen.
- 3 So many programs are now starting at weird times, like 9:54 or 6:55 or 11:24 instead of on the hour or half-hour. That makes programming video recorders, and remembering when to start watching, more complex than it has to be.
- 4 This type of break can be coupled with one of the techniques from above. You're relieved when your program finally starts up again, but then your temper flares as they show sometimes over one minute of the same material they showed going into the commercials. This is an attempt to snare* newcomers from other programs.

- 4 下線部分(3)を和訳しなさい。
- 5 下線部分(4)を和訳しなさい。

[V] 次の英文を読んで、設問に答えなさい。

I wonder if there is a worse job in marketing than trying to persuade people to switch from one electricity supplier to another. No doubt some physicist will correct me but as far as I know, volts and amps are identical wherever they come from. You cannot claim your brand of electricity burns more efficiently, creates a more soothing ambience* or gives off a more pleasant aroma than that of your competitors. You cannot even pack it in a prettier box. ⁽¹⁾You are left without any point of differentiation whatsoever except price.

At least, you would think so. Recently, as part of a campaign to trim the household budget, I used one of those online comparison services to look at the rates charged by different electricity suppliers in my area. ⁽²⁾Price being my only criterion, I chose the cheapest on the list and promptly switched. Then, last week, I received an e-mail from the new supplier asking me to provide my first quarterly meter reading, with instructions on how to read the meter.

Read my own electricity meter? The impertinence*! My last supplier never asked me to do that. Why should I have to spend my time groping around in some dark and dirty cupboard working out how much electricity I have used just to save the people at the electricity company the trouble? Next, I suppose, they will be asking me to install a sewage-powered generator in the bathroom to save them the bother of having to supply any electricity.

I blame supermarkets. Before they came along, the general idea in commerce was that the more service you could provide customers with the better, because it increased the amount you could charge. ⁽³⁾But supermarkets turned that idea on its head. By making customers pick the goods from the shelves instead of employing clerks to do it for them, they reduced the amount of service they provided and used the saving in costs to charge less.

After that came self-service restaurants and self-service filling stations; then there was a bit of a lull*. ⁽⁴⁾But recently, the idea of making customers do the work has turned into an epidemic. Now, we are not just reading our own electricity meters. We perform our own banking services, either online or at ATMs; when phoning company helplines, we navigate endless menu options to find the answer to our question instead of talking to employees; we go online to book our own hotel rooms and make our own airline reservations; and if we shop at Ikea*, we spend more time manufacturing the furniture we buy than the manufacturers themselves.

I was about to say that the common element in all of this was cost reduction. But of course, it is not that at all; it is cost transference, from company to consumer.

設問

- 1 下線部分(1)の内容を40字以内の日本語で説明しなさい。
- 2 下線部分(2)を和訳しなさい。
- 3 下線部分(3)を that idea の内容が具体的に分かるようにして和訳しなさい。
- 4 下線部分(4)を和訳しなさい。

[VI] What kind of master would you like to have if you were a pet? Write your answer in English in about 80 words.

[NOTES]

ain't : short form (non-standard or humorous) 1 am not/is/are not: *Things ain't what they used to be.*
2 has not/have not: *I ain't got no money.* • *You ain't seen nothing yet.*

ambience (also **ambiance**) : noun [sing.] the character and atmosphere of a place: *the relaxed ambience of the city*

bogus : adj. pretending to be real or genuine [SYN] FALSE : *a bogus doctor/contract* • *bogus claims of injury by workers*

déjà vu : noun [U] (from French) the feeling that you have previously experienced something which is happening to you now: *I had a strong sense of déjà vu as I entered the room.*

guerrilla (also **guerilla**) : noun a member of a small group of soldiers who are not part of an official army and who fight against official soldiers, usually to try to change the government: *urban guerrillas* (= those who fight in towns) • *guerrilla war/warfare* (= fought by guerrillas on one or both sides) • *a guerrilla group/movement/leader*

Ikea : a Swedish home furnishings retailer

impertinence : noun [U, C, usually sing.] : *She had the impertinence to ask my age!* > **impertinent** : adj. rude and not showing respect for somebody who is older or more important: *an impertinent question/child* • *Would it be impertinent to ask why you're leaving?*

lull : noun [usually sing.] ~ (in something) a quiet period between times of activity: *a lull in the conversation/fighting* • *Just before an attack everything would go quiet but we knew it was just the lull before the storm* (= before a time of noise or trouble).

snare : verb [VN] to catch something, especially an animal, in a snare: *to snare a rabbit* • (figurative) *Her one thought was to snare a rich husband.* • (figurative) *He found himself snared in a web of intrigue.*

thoroughfare : noun a public road or street used by traffic, especially a main road in a city or town: *We walked down Patrick Street, Cork's main thoroughfare.*

(Adapted from *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* 6th ed. & *Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia* <<http://en.wikipedia.org/>>)

[出典]

- [I] 里中満智子 朝日新聞, 2005年9月20日.
[II] Takemi Tamaki in *Fountains*, Vol. 33 (September 15, 2004).
[III] R. Nisbett, *The Geography of Thought* (Free Press), 2003.
[IV] Scott T. Hards in *Shukan ST*, April 29, 2005
[V] Richard Tomkins in *Financial Times*, July 12, 2005.