

Acquiring

English

as

an

国 際 交 流 の た め の 英 語

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English Language Revisions: Brian Bond

International

Language

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はじめに

英語が国際語であることは誰も否定できません。にもかかわらず、英語ができればどのような利点があるのかと聞かれて、即答できる日本人の若者は意外と少ないようです。「グローバル化」「国際化」などの言葉が氾濫していて、英語ができれば何となく就職に有利になりそうだと感じているものの、国際語である英語を習得すれば自己にどのような益があるのかは明確に掴めていないようです。

本書は、国際語である英語を駆使して、国際舞台で活躍している様々な国の人を採り上げています。また、多様な文化的背景をもつ人とのビジネスを成功させるには、英語だけではなく文化を理解することも大切であることを実感した人々からのアドバイスも掲載しています。さらに、英語で他文化の人とコミュニケーションを図れば、習得できるものが多々あることも具体例を挙げて述べています。英語圏の人だけでなく世界の多様な人々と意思疎通が図れば、国際的な視野に立って幅広い選択肢の中からあなたに合った生き方を探索することが可能になり、活躍の場が広がることを確信できるでしょう。

本書で取り上げている様々な意見の中には、あなた自身の意見とは異なる考え方もあることと思います。そのような場合には、自分の意見を整理し、異なる考えの人々とどのように意見交換ができるかを考えていただければと思います。各章の Group Activity や Further Activity の練習を活用して、自分の意見を発信する力を身につけましょう。

学生の皆さん一人一人が自己に適した目標を見つけ、異文化への理解を深めながら、国際語である英語の学習に意欲的に取り組むことを切に願っています。

著 者

■ 本書の特徴と効果的な使い方 ■

本書は、国際語である英語を習得すると自己にどんな益があるのかを明確にしています。漠然と英語を学習するのと、具体的な利点を実感しながら学習するのでは学習意欲におのずと差が現れてくるでしょう。また、グローバル社会で多様な文化的背景をもった人々と建設的な人間関係を構築したり、ビジネスを成功させたりするには、英語だけではなく異文化理解が大切であることにも重点を置いています。

各章の練習問題は、Reading Comprehension、Word Variations、Listening、Group Activity (Pair Activity)、Further Activity から成り立っています。多様な練習問題を通して、英語力を効率よく身に付けられる構成になっています。

Reading Comprehension

4つの選択肢の中から最も適した解答を選択して、本文の大意が正確に把握できているかを確認します。

Word Variations

本文と関連した単語や表現を採り上げている練習問題を通して、語彙の増強を目指します。日本人学生に特に注意して欲しい項目を最後にまとめていますから、特に注意して読みましょう。

Listening

本文の内容の要約を聴き取り、空欄を補充することによって、再度内容を確認しましょう。

Group Activity と Pair Activity

＊ Group Activity と Pair Activity を各章交互に用意しています。

グループ活動と、パートナーと2人の活動を交互に採り入れています。グループ活動は、本文と関連した話題を採り上げて話し合うように設定されています。グループの他の人の意見を聞いて、同じ話題でも異なる捉え方があることを実感しましょう。また、パートナーと会話の練習をして、実際に使えるような表現を定着させましょう。

Further Activity

グループで話し合ったことを参考にしながら、与えられたテーマについて自分の意見をまとめてみましょう。あるいは、会話で聴いたことと関連するテーマで、パートナーと話し合ってみましょう。

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English as an International Language

国際語としての英語

英語が国際語であることを、プライドの高いフランス人をはじめとするヨーロッパ人はどのように捉えているのでしょうか。

Notes

01

Quite a while has passed since English has been recognized as an international language. France was once very critical of this trend and attempted to maintain French influence by investing a large amount of money promoting French culture to the world. However, even France couldn't resist the trend of the times. French people aiming for success in the business world are working hard on acquiring English as an international business language. The French people I came across in the United Kingdom didn't hesitate to mention the need of learning English: for instance, "I'm a salesperson. In order to promote sales, I have to explain the products in English, so I've put a lot of effort into acquiring English;" and "I'm an engineer. If I can speak English well, I'll be highly paid. So I'm taking an intensive English course here."

Needless to say, it is truer of other European nationalities that are in a less advantageous position than French people. "I'm Spanish. Spain has a lot of beaches and discos. Spanish people in general focus on immediate pleasure, and don't worry about tomorrow. They act on impulse, but I personally like to make plans. In the future I'm hoping to import vegetables and fruit from African countries, and export them to European countries. In order to achieve this aim, English is essential. So I've kept learning English."

Another Spanish person mentioned another reason why some people learn English. "Recently the unemployment rate has become higher, giving people no other choice but to work

resist ～に抵抗する



other European nationalities
他のヨーロッパの人々

immediate 目先の

act on impulse
衝動的に行動する

essential 必須の

unemployment rate
失業率

hard. My friends and I are exploring ways to find employment by learning English as an international language. Some Spanish people go to former colonized countries in Central and South America to work because they can communicate in Spanish. However, we consider the past history of exploitation there and don't want to go to Central and South America."

Also, an Italian stated, "Italians are often said to be lazy, but it was true only in the past." Italians who want to achieve success in the business world learn English and conduct transactions with various nationalities in English.

Whether people like it or not, English as an international language will play a more and more important role in the business world from now on. This view is shared by the majority of Europeans. It would be wise for not only Europeans but also Japanese people to adjust themselves to the trend of the times.

(406 words)

explore ～を模索する

former colonized countries 旧植民地国

exploitation 搾取

transactions 取引

view 見解

adjust themselves to
～に順応する

Reading Comprehension

Questions are based on the content of the text. Choose the best answer.

- What did French politicians once spend much money on?
 - They spent it on the development of technology in France.
 - They spent it on foreign language education in France.
 - They spent it on promoting French culture abroad.
 - They spent it on the understanding of foreign cultures.
- What is a true statement of the French business people?
 - They are so proud of their own language that they don't try to learn English.
 - They still insist that French should be an international language.
 - They hire interpreters who can speak English when necessary.
 - They have begun to learn English in order to succeed in the business world.
- What is an accurate description of the first Spanish person?
 - He focuses on immediate pleasure just like other Spanish people.
 - He likes to make plans for the future, unlike other Spanish people.
 - He likes to spend his time on beaches and discos with his friends.
 - He likes to spend his time on beaches by himself.

4. What is the point of the Italian statement?
- (A) Italians are often criticized for being lazy, but it is not valid any longer.
 - (B) Italians are often criticized for being lazy, but it is based on cultural misunderstandings.
 - (C) People don't recognize the fact that Italians are more diligent than other Europeans.
 - (D) People aren't aware that Northern Italians are different from Southern Italians.
5. What can the majority of Europeans share?
- (A) Another language will replace English in the near future.
 - (B) English and French will be international languages.
 - (C) English will continue to be an international language.
 - (D) Many nationalities will be able to speak foreign languages.

Word Variations

Nouns (名詞)

Choose the best answer as a synonym of the word(s) given in the bracket.

1. Many Europeans use English when doing business with other _____. (peoples)
(A) nationalists (B) nationalities (C) natives (D) natures
2. Spanish people in general focus on immediate _____. (amusement)
(A) pleasure (B) present (C) preparation (D) progress
3. Recently however, the high _____ rate has changed their attitude. (no jobs)
(A) underline (B) unity (C) underdog
(D) unemployment
4. They have no other _____ but to work hard. (way)
(A) selection (B) decision (C) choice (D) division
5. They have to do so in order to find _____. (jobs)
(A) employees (B) employers (C) employment
(D) empresses



単語の覚え方

関連する言葉はまとめて覚えると記憶に残り易いものです。employment (雇用)を覚える際、employ (～を雇用する)、employees (従業員)、employers (雇用主) も一緒に覚えましょう。更にその逆の unemployment (失業)、unemployment rate (失業率) も同時に確認しておきましょう。これらはいずれも TOEIC に頻出する単語です。TOEIC などの試験対策として語彙を学習する際も関連語に注目すると効果的です。

Listening

Summary

The following is a summary of the text. Fill in the blanks.

1. _____ the fact that English is an international language.

2. Even French people _____ to learn English as an international language.
3. Recently the high unemployment rate in Spain _____.
4. Spanish people who don't want to go to former colonized countries _____ by learning English.
5. English is _____ among Europeans in the future.

インタビュー
こぼれ話



▶▶ フランス人とのビジネス

外国人とビジネスする際、相手の文化を理解し、相手に適した対応をすることがビジネスを円滑に進めるコツです。フランス人とビジネス経験のある日本人が次のように語りました。「最近のフランス人ビジネスマンは英語が話せ、英語でコミュニケーションが図れるのはいいのですが、夏に長期休暇を取るのに困ります。連絡を取ろうとしても、『担当者は長期休暇を取っている』『私は担当者ではないので分からない』などと当然のように応答されます。」過去から学んだ教訓は、事前に担当者がいつ長期休暇に入るかを確認し、それまでに必ず仕事を終えてもらう約束を取り付けることだ、とのことです。

Group Activity

Recall an incident when you wished you could speak English well, and share it with other members in your group. Use either English or Japanese based on your instructor's guidelines.

「英語が上手に話せればいいのにな」と思った出来事をグループで話し合ってみましょう。先生の指示に従って英語か日本語を用いましょう。

ex.

1. Have you ever been asked for assistance by a foreign tourist on the street or a train?
2. Have you ever spoken to an international student on the campus in English?

Further Activity

Organize your ideas about the advantages of having a good command of English when finding employment.

英語ができる場合の就職の際の利点について、意見をまとめてみましょう。

記入欄

The Benefits of Bicultural People

2つの文化を理解している人の利点

2つの文化を理解している人は、グローバル社会でどのように有利なのでしょう。

Notes

03

Bicultural people can have an advantage over monocultural people in the global community. Then, how can they expand their opportunities to display their ability?

A Mexican man living in the United States said, “I used to work for the government in Mexico. I found a better job and decided to immigrate to the United States. I work at a large insurance company, and provide Hispanic clients with insurance.” He recognized that Mexicans and other Hispanics value personal relationships more than Anglo-Americans. He communicated with his clients in Spanish, and treated them as if they were friends. Then, his reputation spread by word of mouth in the Hispanic communities. He succeeded in attracting many clients to contracts compared with his American colleagues. That led to a remarkable increase in the number of clients, and he got a promotion.

A Japanese-American has adjusted her communication styles depending on the other person; that is, whether the person is Japanese or American. That brought her various job opportunities. “Executives in the United States have to take part in seminars about how to avoid sexual harassment every year. When writing letters to American companies, I just focus on business matters. Otherwise, they wouldn’t read the letters. When I send the same letters to Japanese companies, however, I start with apologetic expressions such as ‘I’m sorry to interrupt your tight schedule.’ If I just write about business matters, they will regard it as impolite.” Also, when events are held in the United States, I try not only to help plan events but also to give advice after taking cultural differences into

bicultural 2つの文化
を理解している
have an advantage
有利な立場に立つ
monocultural 1つの
文化しか理解していない

immigrate 移住する
insurance company
保険会社
Hispanic
ラテンアメリカ系の
Anglo-Americans
ヨーロッパ系アメリカ人
reputation 評判
by word of mouth
口コミで

colleagues 同僚
promotion 昇進

executives 重役
sexual harassment
セクハラ

apologetic expressions
謝罪表現

impolite 失礼な

consideration. For instance, I urge Japanese companies to take all letters and receipts with them for events so that they won't incur additional charges. American colleagues take the measure for granted, and they don't offer it as cultural advice.

The above people can clearly recognize what monocultural people can never see. By utilizing this special skill, they can benefit from their ability. Bilingual people have been highly regarded up to now. In the future, people with bicultural backgrounds will play a prominent role in global business.

(351 words)

incur additional charges 追加料金を請求される
measure 対策

be highly regarded
もてはやされる

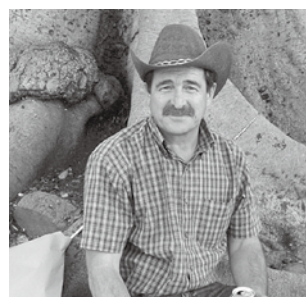
prominent 際立った

Reading Comprehension

Questions are based on the content of the text. Choose the best answer.

1. Why did the Mexican man decide to live in the United States?

- (A) He found better employment.
- (B) He wanted to lead a luxurious life.
- (C) He considered his children's education.
- (D) He had many American friends.



2. What does the Mexican statement imply?

- (A) Hispanics are more efficient in business than Anglo-Americans.
- (B) Hispanics cherish human relationships more than Anglo-Americans.
- (C) Hispanics value written contracts more than Anglo-Americans.
- (D) Hispanics are more ambitious than Anglo-Americans.

3. What is an accurate description of the Japanese-American?

- (A) She personally prefers the American style because it is more efficient.
- (B) She personally prefers the Japanese style because it is more polite.
- (C) She can use her communication styles properly.
- (D) She needs to practice written Japanese more.

4. What expressions does the Japanese-American often use in communication with Japanese?

- (A) Expressions for showing happiness.
- (B) Expressions for showing gratitude.
- (C) Expressions for showing regret.
- (D) Expressions for showing apologies.

5. Why can't American colleagues give appropriate advice to Japanese companies?

- (A) They don't recognize that all letters and receipts are important.

- Ⓑ They don't think Japanese companies should prepare all letters and receipts.
- Ⓒ They can't grasp what advice is culturally necessary for Japanese companies.
- Ⓓ They know that each company has different policies.

Word Variations Adjectives (形容詞)

Choose the best answer as a synonym of the word(s) given in the bracket.

- A seminar about how to avoid _____ harassment is held every year. (related to gender)
Ⓐ sexual Ⓑ sentimental Ⓒ spiritual Ⓓ power
- At events in the United States, _____ charges may be requested if you don't have receipts. (extra)
Ⓐ adequate Ⓑ additional Ⓒ assistant Ⓓ advanced
- Japanese often say, "I'm sorry to interrupt your _____ schedule." (heavy)
Ⓐ hard Ⓑ high Ⓒ tight Ⓓ much
- If you just write about business matters, it will be considered as _____ by Japanese. (impolite)
Ⓐ rough Ⓑ round Ⓒ rude Ⓓ loyal
- Many people find advice from bicultural people _____. (useful)
Ⓐ helpful Ⓑ handy Ⓒ handful Ⓓ hasty

和製英語に注意

和製英語の「セクハラ」「パワハラ」がニュースでよく使われていますが、どちらも日本人が短縮した形でそのままでは英語圏の人に伝わりません。“sexual harassment”(女性に対するいやがらせ)、“power harassment”(権力を濫用したいやがらせ)と英語では総て言わなければなりません。この短縮形を用いる傾向は他にも見られ、「コンビニ」、「リストラ」は、“convenience store”、“restructuring”と言う必要があります。

Listening

The following is a summary of the text. Fill in the blanks.

- Bicultural people are in a _____ than monocultural people in the global community.
- The Mexican is _____ treat Hispanic clients.
- The Mexican _____ the number of clients.
- The Japanese-American can _____ depending on the situation.
- Bicultural people are expected to _____ in business.



インタビュー
こぼれ話



▶▶ ヒスパニック系の人とのビジネス

ヒスパニック系の人とビジネス経験のある日本人が次のように語りました。「ヒスパニック系の人とは効率より人間関係を重んじるので、いきなり商談を始めると失敗します。挨拶言葉に時間を掛けたり、スポーツや音楽の話題を続けたりしますが、彼らにとってはその時間も商談同様に大切なのです。」日頃からスポーツ・音楽などにも関心をもち、相手が提供した話題に興味を示すことが肝要だ、とのことでした。

Pair Activity

Listen to the following conversation and have pair conversation practice.

以下の会話を聞いて、パートナーと会話練習をしましょう。

(A: American, J: Japanese)



A: The other day I had an appointment to meet a Japanese friend at 2. I arrived at the appointed place at 1:50, and she showed up 5 minutes later than me. I was surprised to hear her say, "I'm sorry to have kept you waiting."

J: If you were put in her place, what would you say?

A: I would say, "Oh, you're early" or "Thank you for waiting."

J: You think that Japanese people use "I'm sorry" too much, don't you?

Further Activity

Do you personally think that Japanese people use "I'm sorry" too much? Recall an incident when you said, "I'm sorry," and talk about it with your partner.

あなたは日本人が「すみません」を使い過ぎだと思いませんか。「すみません」と言った出来事を思い出し、パートナーと話し合ってみましょう。

記入欄