

What's Going On in the World?

未来へ続く道

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 **SEIBIDO**

はじめに

学生の皆さんへ

本書は、国内外の社会問題について考える力を養えるように工夫された総合教材です。各エッセイは、450語以内で構成されています。重要な単語を繰り返し使い、具体的な事例を多く示すことで分かり易くしました。社会問題の読み物としても興味深く書かれています。

エッセイを読み進んで行くうちに、社会問題を身近に感じ、問題点や解決方法について考えることができる仕組みになっています。語彙、読解、聴解、討論の系統だった練習問題で、総合的な基礎力を身に付けることができます。繰り返し使われる重要単語に注意を払うことで必要な語彙を習得でき、それらを使って議論を進めることができます。

国際人とは、語学力のみならず、世の中の情勢を理解し、意見を持って行動できる人です。将来を担う学生の皆さんが、本書を通して得た知識と能力で、世界中の人々と共に諸問題について考え、語り合える日が来ることを心から願っています。

先生方へ

本書を十分に活用することで、学生の主体性を高められます。ただ単に授業を受けるだけではなく、各テーマの内容をさらに調べて自分の考えを発表するような、学習者中心の授業にも対応できます。社会問題への理解を深め、自分で考える習慣を身に付けることに役立つでしょう。本書が、学生の自主的な学習態度を促す一助となれば幸いです。

最後になりましたが、本書の刊行にあたり、辛抱強く温かいアドバイスを下さった(株)成美堂の菅野英一氏に深く感謝申し上げます。なお、単語の解説の作成にあたり、ジーニアス英和大辞典（大修館書店）、プログレッシブ英和中辞典（小学館）、ロングマン英和辞典（桐原書店）を参照させていただきました。この場を借りてお礼申し上げます。

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著者

Contents

Society

- Unit 1 Smart Phones Deserve Smart Users**1
＜賢い電話と依存症の利用者＞
- Unit 2 The Animals in Our Lives**7
＜動物のいる生活＞
- Unit 3 Reforming Japan's Education System** 13
＜日本の教育はどこへ行く？＞
- Unit 4 A Hungry Future** 19
＜未来が飢えている＞
- Unit 5 No More Unwelcome Advertisements** 25
＜押し売りお断り！＞

Work and Leisure

- Unit 6 A Living Wage**..... 31
＜賃金の効果的な払い方＞
- Unit 7 Keeping Mothers on the Payroll** 37
＜働くママを応援！＞
- Unit 8 Slow Life** 43
＜心豊かな生活＞
- Unit 9 Volunteering** 49
＜広まるボランティア活動と深まる疑念＞
- Unit 10 Longevity: a Mixed Blessing** 55
＜ご長寿万歳！＞

Environment

- Unit 11 The Importance of Biodiversity** 61
＜生物の多様性が人類を救う＞
- Unit 12 A Home for Endangered Storks** 67
＜コウノトリに優しいまちづくり＞
- Unit 13 Japan's Future Energy Supply** 73
＜再生可能エネルギーの時代＞
- Unit 14 Green Transportation** 79
＜持続可能な社会の乗り物＞
- Unit 15 How Much Is Nature Worth?**..... 85
＜あなたは自然にいくら払いますか＞

Business & the Economy

- Unit 16 Business Can Be Green** 91
＜環境に優しいビジネス＞
- Unit 17 Storing Energy** 97
＜エネルギーはためられない？＞
- Unit 18 A Dollar a Day** 103
＜貧困を撲滅せよ＞
- Unit 19 Beyond Fair Trade** 109
＜フェアトレードと生産者の自立支援＞
- Unit 20 Shrink the Economy, Not the Earth** 115
＜経済発展は地球を減ぼす＞

Smart Phones Deserve Smart Users

Introduction

スマートフォンはもはや単なる電話ではなく、携帯端末までに進化した。今や世界人口の4分の1、日本人の2人に1人が利用している。ユーザーの生活はどのように変わったのだろうか。スマホ依存に陥っていないだろうか。日常生活を振り返ってみよう。



Words in Context

*Try to guess the meanings of the words and phrases shown in bold.
Write your answer in Japanese. Then check it in your dictionary.*

1. I can't live without my smartphone: it is **essential** for me.

meaning: _____

2. My smartphone is my most important **possession**.

meaning: _____

3. It's hard to stop smoking if you are **addicted** to tobacco.

meaning: _____

4. According to a recent **survey**, 12 percent of all students do not eat breakfast.

meaning: _____

5. A little exercise is good for us, but **excessive** exercise can be harmful.

meaning: _____

6. Do you work **continuously**, or do you sometimes take a break?

meaning: _____

A revolution in communications technology began in 1973, when Motorola introduced the world's first truly portable mobile phone. Since then, the cellphone has spread to almost every corner of the globe, with over six billion users. The modern smartphone isn't just a telephone, it is also a computer, a camera, a television, and an **essential** business tool. Increased sophistication is not the only improvement. The original Motorola weighed about 1,100 grams, and went on sale a few years later for almost \$4,000. The iPhone 6 weighed 129 grams, and cost about \$200.

 02

The designers of smartphones are very clever people. The users, however, are not always so clever. For example, they often check their mail while doing something else, such as driving, cycling, or crossing busy roads. That is very dangerous, and can cause serious accidents. People also lose their phones after leaving them in trains, coffee shops and other places. When that happens, they lose not only a valuable **possession**, but also many names, addresses, contact details, photos, and details of bank accounts.

 03

Smartphones are a useful tool. However, people can easily become **addicted** to them. One self-help website has a simple online test consisting of 15 questions, such as: Do you find yourself checking your phone many times a day just out of habit even when you know there is likely nothing new or important to see? On crowded trains in Japan, I am often surrounded by people who appear to be doing exactly that.

 04

Various **surveys** report that the average Japanese female high school student spends more than six hours a day using her smartphone. Much of this time is spent on social networking, which can easily become addictive. It is also bad for health in other ways. **Excessive** smartphone use causes physical problems such as repetitive strain injury resulting from **continuously** tapping tiny keys and poor vision from staring at small screens and letters. A doctor who has treated many patients suffering from such problems advises them to limit their continuous

 05

smartphone use to 40 minutes. This is good advice: according to a recent report by the World Health Organization, cellphones may also cause brain cancer.

30

A smart user will take good care of his or her smartphone and not leave it in Starbucks or drop it in the river. In exchange, a good smartphone may soon be able to look after its owner, by turning itself off after 40 minutes and refusing to turn back on until its owner has had a long rest.



Notes

sophistication 「(高度の) 知識」 **clever** 「利口な, 頭が良い」 **repetitive strain injury**
繰り返される筋肉の緊張により引き起こされる傷害 **poor vision** 「視力低下」 **stare at** 「~を
じっと見詰める」 **World Health Organization** 「世界保健機関」 国連の専門機関の一つで、本
部はスイスのジュネーブ **brain cancer** 「脳腫瘍」

Comprehension 1

Decide whether these statements are true (T) or false (F) according to the reading passage.

1. The first completely portable mobile phone was made by Motorola. T / F
2. People who use smartphones are often careless. T / F
3. The aim of the online test mentioned above is to find out what smartphones are used for. T / F
4. Most Japanese female high school students use their smartphones only for communicating with friends. T / F
5. Using smartphones a lot can lead to bad eyesight. T / F

Comprehension 2

Choose the best answer for each question, according to the reading passage.

1. In what way was the 1973 phone made by Motorola revolutionary?
 - a) It enabled people in different places to communicate.
 - b) It could be used all over the world.
 - c) People could carry it around with them.
 - d) It was cheaper than an ordinary phone.

2. What does the writer say about smartphones?
 - a) They are very expensive.
 - b) They are very dangerous.
 - c) They often get broken.
 - d) They often contain important information.

3. What does the writer often see on the train?
 - a) People who appear to be addicted to smartphones.
 - b) People using smartphones to prepare for tests.
 - c) People who use their smartphones to get important messages.
 - d) People who don't understand how to use their smartphones.

4. Why should parents worry about their daughters' smartphone use?
 - a) They don't communicate enough with other people.
 - b) The keys are too small for them to see.
 - c) It's bad for their mental and physical health.
 - d) After a while, they become very impatient.

5. What does the writer think may soon happen?
 - a) Smartphone users will become more careful.
 - b) It will be easier to locate lost smartphones.
 - c) New software will protect smartphone users.
 - d) People will exchange their old smartphones for new ones.

Vocabulary Practice

Complete the sentence with a word or phrase from the reading.
You may need to change the form. e.g. danger > dangerous

1. My first score was 52 percent and my second was 78 percent, so I made a big _____ .
2. This diamond is very _____ . It's worth over \$1 million.
3. She has savings _____ with several different banks.
4. My doctor is very kind to me and to all his other _____ .
5. My friend drives me to work, and in _____ I pay for the gasoline.

Listening 1



Try to predict the missing words. Then listen and write the words you hear.

People often lose their mobile phones, and sometimes in very strange (1) _____. A builder lost his one day after building an extra room attached to someone's home. He couldn't figure out where he'd lost it, so he ended up buying (2) _____ . He then got a call from his last customer, who was puzzled by the sound of (3) _____ inside her new wall. He had to break open the wall, take out his phone, and then repair the (4) _____. But he was luckier than the person who carelessly dropped her phone into the mouth of a (5) _____ while trying to photograph it at a zoo.

Listening 2



Listen again. Are these statements true (T) or false (F) according to the listening passage, or is no information given (N)?

1. The builder had left his phone inside the new wall. T / F / N
2. The person who lost her phone at the zoo did not get it back. T / F / N

Your Opinion

Write your answer to each of the following questions and try to explain your opinions.

1. Do you have a smartphone? If so, what do you use it for?

2. If you lost your smartphone, what would you do to find it?



Column

若者のスマホ“老眼”にご用心！

スマートフォンの画面は小さいので、顔を近づけて操作しがちだ。また、集中してしまうとまばたきの回数が減る。そのため目に大きな負担がかかり、夕方になるとピント調整機能が衰えて目がかすむ（いわゆる老眼）などの症状が現れる。スマホを長時間使用しがちな若者に急増しているそうだ。スマホ依存に要注意！