

THINKING ABOUT OUR PLACE IN THE WORLD

— NEW QUESTIONS, NEW ANSWERS —

グローバル社会を読み解く新たな視点

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 **SEIBIDO**

はしがき

本書のタイトル *Thinking About Our Place in the World* は、いくつかの意味を持っている。一つには、相互のつながりがますます強くなっているグローバル社会において、誰もが折に触れて考えるであろう社会における自らの存在意義を指している。また同時に、私たちがグローバル社会として、大局的視点から人類の役割を考えようとする集合体としての営みをも本書は指している。本書が提示する「メディアの影響」から「公共の場における失礼な振る舞い」までの多岐にわたるトピックの情報や見方・考え方は、読者のみなさんが世界における自分の役割を考える手助けとなるだろう。また、「人間が環境に及ぼす影響」や「地球外生物の存在の可能性」などのトピックは、世界における人類の役割について考えるきっかけとなるだろう。

本書で扱う内容を、読者のみなさんがじっくり吟味することができるように、どの章も分かりやすく書くように努めた。各トピックに関する予備知識が一切なくとも、内容が理解できるようになっている。加えて、各章には北海道大学名誉教授の浪田克之介先生による丁寧な注釈が付けられており、学生のみなさんがリーディングの箇所を学習する際には大いに役立つだろう。浪田先生と一緒に日本の大学生向けの英語テキストの仕事をするのは本書で3回目であるが、このようにまた共同で仕事をする機会に恵まれたことは大変光栄であった。

相互のつながりが一層緊密になる現代社会において、英語でコミュニケーションを取る力はますます必要となっている。英語を使いこなすことのできない人は、多くのチャンス逃してしまう可能性も高い。しかし、情報化社会においては、基礎的な英語力だけではもはや十分ではなく、英語でクリティカルに考える力が求められている。多くの人々と共生しているこの社会や私たちが暮らす地球の環境について、そして私たちが自らの存在意義を理解する際に影響を及ぼしている考え方について、新しい疑問や課題が浮かび上がってくる中で、私たちは単に情報を伝達するという言語的な力だけではなく、知的に理解し合うための分析力が求められている。その力を養うためにも、本書のほとんどの章では各トピックに関して複数の視点を提示しており、読者は自分の意見を形成することができるだろう。本書で扱っている幅広いトピックは、興味深く、知的刺激を与えるもので、知的な議論に関連するものを選んでいく。近年になって取り上げられるようになったこれらの問題についてじっくり考えてみると、新しい答えが見つかるかもしれない。その過程において、世界における「個人」と「グローバル社会」の両方の役割について、私たち一人ひとりが考えるきっかけとなるのではないだろうか。

最後に、本書の企画・編集にあたり、成美堂編集部の菅野英一部長と佐藤公雄氏に謝意を表したい。

François de Soete

PREFACE

“Thinking about our place in the world” can mean a couple of things. It can refer to the notion that all people, at one time or another, try to figure out their own personal significance as individuals in this increasingly interconnected global society. It can also refer to a collective activity, whereby we as a global society try to figure out the role of human beings in the big picture. This book will help readers think about their own place in the world by presenting information and opinions about a wide variety of topics, ranging from the influence of the media, to the rise of rude behavior in public. This book will also help readers think about the place of human beings in the world by also offering readings about topics that range from the human impact on the environment, to the possible existence of extraterrestrial life.

To make sure that readers can think carefully about the information presented in this book, all of the chapters have been written in a very straightforward way, which means that readers do not need any prior knowledge of the topics covered. In addition, Katsunosuke Namita, professor emeritus at Hokkaido University, has attached a series of carefully researched Japanese annotations to each chapter. These annotations will undoubtedly prove helpful to students while working through the reading sections. It is worth noting here that this is now the third book on which Professor Namita and myself have collaborated, and having had an opportunity to work once more with him was a great pleasure.

Since the world is growing increasingly interconnected, the ability to communicate in English is rapidly becoming a virtual requirement. Those who do not have command of the English language are likely to miss out on many opportunities. Basic English skills are not enough, however, since the information age demands that people have the ability to think critically in English. As new questions arise about the society that we share with so many others, the environment in which we live, and the ideas that shape how we understand our own existence, it is vital that people not only possess the linguistic skills necessary to communicate, but also the analytical skills necessary to communicate intelligently. To that end, most of the chapters in this book present multiple perspectives regarding the topics at hand so that each reader can form his or her own opinion. The widely varying topics presented in this book are therefore meant to be interesting, intellectually stimulating, and relevant for intelligent discussion. Thinking carefully about some of these questions that have come up in recent years can lead to some new answers, and in the process, it can help us all think about our place in the world as individuals, and as a global society.

François de Soete

本書の使い方

各章の構成は以下の通りとなっている。

要旨

各章の冒頭に本文の内容が分かりやすく日本語で要約されている。これまであまりなじみのないテーマであったとしても、この日本語による簡単な解説を読むことで準備ができる。

Getting Started

このセクションは、本文を読み始める前に、その準備として関連内容について学生が各自で考えることのできる質問を用意してある。個人の意見を問うものであるため、下調べなどの必要はない。授業内でディスカッションのテーマとして利用することも可能である。

Reading

分かりやすい英文で書かれた本文は、文化や社会問題、環境やエネルギー、科学や人間・宇宙の起源まで、幅広いトピックを扱っている。予備知識がなくても十分に理解できる内容となっている。また、『大学英語教育学会 基本語リスト』（通称JACET 8000）の基本的には5000語レベル以上および固有名詞に注釈を付けている。

Vocabulary

本文で使用された語について、それぞれの意味を選択する問題。知らない単語であっても、辞書を使うのではなく、文中で使用されている箇所を読みながら解答を推測するように学生に指示している。また、単語の意味を英語で説明できるようになるための訓練としても使うことができる。

Comprehension Questions

本文の内容理解を問う問題。本文の該当箇所を特定すれば答えられる易しめの問題だけではなく、本文の内容と問題文の意味をよく理解していなければ解答できない難しめのものも用意してあるので、内容分析の力も養うことができる。

Summary

CDを聴きながら空欄になっている単語を埋める問題。単語や語尾の変化の聞き取りとつづりの練習になっている。リスニングの文章は、本文の要旨になっており、本文の内容理解のチェックにも利用することができる。

Point of Interest

本文で扱っているテーマや人物に関連した、おもしろい豆知識を平易な英文でまとめたコラム。本文の関連個所に、日本語でこの欄への参照指示が掲載されており、関心に応じて読み進めることができる。問題や試験などには、このコラムの内容は含まれていないが、楽しみながら各章のテーマに関する知識や理解を広げるのに役立つ。

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TYPE IT UP

1

How can writing something get you in trouble?

CHAPTER

インターネットの普及により、個人が自分の意見を発信することが容易になった。しかし、自分の考えを文章にすることは、時にはリスクを伴う。例えば、著作権が保護されている事柄を自分の文章に書く際に、「公正使用」の理解が不十分なままに誤って使用してしまうと、著作権法違反で訴えられることもあり得る。他人について不注意なコメントをすると、名誉毀損（きそん）で訴えられることもあるかもしれない。従って、人の目に触れるところに自分の意見を掲載する際には、責任を持って内容を吟味することが重要である。

Typing something up and posting it online is incredibly easy, but as this chapter makes clear, it can also get the person who wrote it in a lot of trouble.



1. GETTING STARTED

Think about each statement or question below, and circle the option with which you agree most. There is no right or wrong answer here—it is your opinion!

How often do you write blogs or post messages on social media sites?

- a. *Very Often* b. *Often* c. *Occasionally* d. *Rarely*

How often do you write about other people, including friends and celebrities?

- a. *Very Often* b. *Often* c. *Occasionally* d. *Rarely*

Writing research papers is enjoyable.

- a. *Strongly Agree* b. *Agree* c. *Disagree* d. *Strongly Disagree*



Read the following short essay.

CD1-2 People often point to Johannes Gutenberg's movable type printing press in the fifteenth century as one of the most revolutionary developments in human history. Prior to Gutenberg's invention, books were meticulously written by hand, and so they were very expensive and largely inaccessible to most people.

5 Once the printing press emerged, however, books became far more accessible, making it possible for revolutionary ideas in areas like science and politics to spread rapidly throughout Europe. A more recent development may be revolutionizing the world in similar ways: the rise of the Internet. Publishing companies and newspapers used to essentially control who could and could
10 not be an author. With the rise of the Internet, however, anyone can start a blog, self-publish a book, or garner a large following by means of social networking. The result is that more perspectives about topics ranging from international politics to local news are now available.

15 This may be a good thing, but for those who put their ideas out there for the world to read, there are some serious risks. Let us take a closer look at some of the ways that people can get in trouble by just writing a course paper, a blog, or even a brief post on a social networking site.

CD1-3 One way that people can get in trouble when writing something is by
20 plagiarizing the work of others. Plagiarism occurs when someone copies another person's words, or rephrases someone else's ideas, without stating the source of those words or ideas. It is essentially taking credit for someone else's words or ideas. Plagiarism can be as blatant as deliberately copying an entire paper, or as minor as accidentally copying just one sentence without using quotation
25 marks. Anyone who writes something or gives a speech can be accused of plagiarism, but allegations of plagiarism most commonly arise in university settings. Plagiarism may not have been quite as tempting a few decades ago when students had to type up papers on a typewriter, since copying someone else's words still required a lot of typing. Today, however, students can simply
30 cut and paste written work from material found online. Many universities therefore now require that students also provide digital copies of their papers so that university instructors can use software to scan for plagiarism. Universities view plagiarism as a serious act of academic dishonesty, and some universities can even expel students who plagiarize.

35 **CD1-4** Another big concern when it comes to writing is the risk of violating intellectual property laws. Most notably, those who put their writing online in the form of a blog or self-publish a book, for example, can violate copyright laws

書き言葉が持つ強力な力について、章末の Point of Interest を読んでみよう。

if they are not careful. Copyright laws are complicated. For instance, copyrights eventually expire, but the length of time varies from country to country. This means that a book may be copyrighted in one country, but considered public domain in another country. Moreover, fair use laws may allow writers to freely copy a limited amount of material from copyrighted works, but the rules about what counts as fair use are subject to interpretation. This means that someone who uses something from copyrighted material may believe that his or her usage constitutes fair use, but the copyright holder may not agree. If that is the case, the copyright holder can sue in court. The person accused of violating a copyright may have to spend a lot to hire an attorney, and may end up losing even more money if he or she loses the case.

CD1-5 Finally, writing something online can violate defamation laws. Broadly speaking, defamation can come in the form of slander, which is a verbal attack on someone's character, or in the form of libel, which is a written attack on someone's character. Writing blog posts, or even just making a comment on a social networking site, can result in a defamation lawsuit. As with intellectual property laws, defamation laws are complex, and vary from country to country. In one country, writing something that hurts someone's reputation may not lead to a lawsuit if the statement is true. In some cases, even if the statement is false, the person who wrote it can avoid being sued if the statement in question is clearly a personal opinion. In another country, however, making statements that hurt someone's reputation can result in a lawsuit even if the statement is actually true. This means that anyone who writes about other people, whether it is someone he or she knows personally, or a celebrity that he or she has never met, can be sued for defamation. In some countries, defamation may even constitute a crime that can lead to prison time.

CD1-6 Ultimately, history has shown that the written word is a powerful force. There is no better example of this than the way that the development of the printing press helped spread ideas that transformed Europe just a few centuries ago. The power of the written word today is at just about everyone's fingertips, insofar as it is now so easy for people to disseminate their thoughts and opinions online. Using this power irresponsibly, however, is a recipe for trouble. Fortunately, exercising caution can help people avoid getting into trouble when they share their writing with others. Making sure to seek the permission of copyright holders before using copyrighted material, for instance, can help avoid lawsuits. On the other hand, dishonestly passing off the ideas of others as one's own ideas, failing to respect intellectual property laws, and attacking the character of others can lead to serious consequences. For those who live in democratic societies, then, as much as they may enjoy having the

right to freely express themselves, that right to free expression can actually be quite costly if misused.

NOTES

Johannes Gutenberg 「ヨハネス・グーテンベルク (1398?-1468)」 **meticulously** 「細心の注意を払って」 **inaccessible** 「入手し難い」 **garner** 「得る, 集める」 **following** 「ファン, 支持者」
post 「投稿」 **plagiarize** 「剽窃(ひょうせつ)する, 盗作する」 **plagiarism** 「剽窃, 盗作」
rephrase 「言い換える」 **take credit for** ~ 「~の功績とする」 **blatant** 「露骨な, 見え透いた」
allegation 「申し立て」 **expel** 「追放する」 **expire** 「有効期限が切れる」 **public domain** 「公有財産(著作権が消滅した状態)」 **fair use** 「(著作権のある著作物の)公正使用」 **defamation** 「名誉毀損」
slander 「中傷, 悪口」 **libel** 「文書誹謗(ひぼう)」 **at one's fingertips** 「思いのままに利用できる」
disseminate 「広める, 普及させる」 **irresponsibly** 「無責任に」 **be a recipe for** ~ 「~の元(原因)である」

3. VOCABULARY


Try to use the context in the reading section to figure out the correct definition for each vocabulary word in the column on the left.

- | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-----------------------------|
| 1. control | () | a. change significantly |
| 2. deliberately | () | b. have power over |
| 3. constitute | () | c. be the same as something |
| 4. transform | () | d. carefulness |
| 5. caution | () | e. done intentionally |

4. COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

Read each statement below carefully, and then based on the information presented in this chapter, write "T" if it is true or "F" if it is false.

- _____ Simply copying one sentence written by someone else, without using quotation marks, can get a student in trouble for plagiarism.
- _____ It is sometimes possible to use copyrighted material since fair use laws exist that allow people to do so.
- _____ As long as someone believes that using someone else's copyrighted material is fair use, then he or she will not face a lawsuit.
- _____ In some instances, writing something that hurts a person's reputation, even if true, can lead to a lawsuit.
- _____ The author concludes that people should avoid writing something and putting it online since it can be such a costly mistake.

5. SUMMARY① 7 

Listen carefully to the audio recording for this summary and fill in the blanks in the paragraph below.

The rise of the Internet has made it easy for ^{1.)}_____ to disseminate his or her ideas. Putting one's ideas in writing, however, is sometimes ^{2.)}_____. For example, copyright laws can expose writers to ^{3.)}_____ if they misinterpret fair use laws when using copyrighted material in their own writing. Libel laws can also get writers in trouble if they ^{4.)}_____ write comments about other people. It is therefore important that people remember to act ^{5.)}_____ when putting their ideas out there for anyone to read.

**POINT OF INTEREST*****The Power of the Written Word***

A good illustration of the power of writing comes from Martin Luther's Ninety-five Theses, which he wrote in 1517. The German theologian's Ninety-five theses were essentially ninety-five sentences that challenged some of the Catholic Church's core views. Although this seems like just a short piece of writing, his words transformed European society dramatically. It helped spark the Protestant Reformation, which led to a wide variety of Christian denominations and a number of vicious religious wars. As for Luther himself, he was condemned by the Catholic Church.