

## 国際教養大学(B 日程)英語 解答速報

2013 年 2 月 16 日施行

### 【解答例 1】

Perhaps one of the goals of scientists is to be able to say one day: “Nature is no longer our master, but our servant.” It certainly does seem like scientific progress has allowed us to manipulate nature to our advantage, and make accurate predictions as to how it will act. In spite of this trend, however, I think we humans will forever remain helpless in the face of natural forces.

We live in a world where scientists are able to predict exactly on what day, and at what time, the next solar eclipse will happen. We are also able to control the behavior of cells, which made possible the cloning of desirable organs. In this way, it does seem like humans are getting closer and closer to “playing the role of God”, but in reality there are still many natural phenomena in life that are not fully understood.

The flash drought mentioned in the article is a very recent occurrence, which, even to some experts, appears to have happened without warning. It is stated that modern farmers are better-protected compared to the farmers who endured the drought crisis in the 1930s, but this does not change the fact that humans are at the mercy of nature, and that the best they can do is alleviate the suffering that is caused.

Even one of the most technologically advanced nations in the world, Japan, could not foresee the earthquake and resulting tsunami that devastated the Tohoku region. There is already talk of the next large-scale earthquake that is predicted to strike Tokyo, and even though precautionary measures are being taken, a high death toll is unavoidable. It seems that no amount of foreknowledge or preparation can completely subdue nature’s wrath.

Disasters such as these are waiting to happen all around the world, and it is certainly not up to us humans to decide whether or not they are “here to stay”. Humanity has come a long way, but I believe it will never be able to, and perhaps should not even strive to, harness the mighty forces of nature. (347 語)

### 【解答例 2】

The article on a record-breaking drought in the U.S. illustrates the complex effects that can be generated by an emerging disaster. A poor harvest has led to higher food prices for corn and a crisis in the meat industry, whose animals often rely on corn. Drought in the U.S. has pushed up global prices, and may be linked to social unrest in the developing world. The failure of the U.S. harvest is contributing to the third global crisis in five years, and a researcher notes that ‘this is likely to be the worst yet.’

We are certainly not helpless to act in the face of such disasters. Back in the 18th century, Thomas Malthus observed that populations naturally get checked by famine or disease. So far, we have avoided this outcome by developing ever more productive crops, and have survived and thrived as a result. We must continue to do research into the production of nutritious food. Yet there must be a limit to what science can do. The population now exceeds seven billion, and one wonders how often we can continue to find a “magical” solution to our problem. Malthus may yet be proved right.

The real problem is that we seem to be paralyzed when confronted with the hugely complex issue of global warming. In the face of this complexity, as demonstrated in the article's example of the "butterfly effect" consequences of drought, we take the easy route of denying the gravity of the situation and instead turn to self-interest, prioritizing short-term economic gain over the health of the environment. We must accept that we cannot accurately predict what will happen, and take action to deal with the worst-case rather than the best-case scenario. If we act in this manner, we can reduce global warming as the cause of human-created disasters, and our children and grandchildren may yet be saved. Natural disasters in the form of earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and natural climatic events will always be with us, and will always take a toll. Yet we can mitigate the human-created element of those disasters once we make the effort to see clearly what is in front of us. (358 語)

### 【傾向分析】

2011 年度の「非言語コミュニケーションとその問題点」(約 700 語)、2012 年度の「英語の変化」(約 1,500 語)に続いて 2013 年度は「干ばつの影響」(約 1,300 語)がテーマで、長文1題に対して設問1題(250 語以上の自由英作文)の形式は同じ。長文の難度も例年並みだったように思われる。

### 【解答のポイント】

有名なニュース誌 **TIME** が出典となっており、干ばつのもたらすさまざまな影響について述べられている。時事英語特有の表現も多く使われているので、こうした英語に慣れていないと読みにくさを感じてしまうかもしれないが、あまりに細かい点にとらわれ過ぎずに概要をつかむようにする。

設問では、著者が最終文で述べている **evolving disaster could be here to stay**. という内容について意見を述べるのが求められている。設問では、「自然の力に対して人間は無力であるのか、将来に渡って地球環境を守るために今行動すべきか」が問われている。立場を明確に述べた後で、それをサポートする具体例を述べていく。

【解答例 1】のように東日本大震災のような天災に対して私たちは無力であった、などの具体例を挙げることもできる。また、【解答例 2】のように、自然を征服しようとするのではなく、自然と調和し、共に生きようとする視点で書くこともできる。設問に **Your essay should be informed by the article** とあることからわかるように、自分の意見を述べるだけではなく、本文内容を組み入れる必要がある(本文を読んで理解しているかどうか示すため)、干ばつについて、特に発展途上国での影響の大きさやその原因について触れるとよいかもしれない。

いずれの場合も、全体の段落構成は **introduction, body, conclusion** の 3部構成で書くことが好ましい。

トフルゼミナール