

Power-Up English <Advanced>

総合英語パワーアップ
リーディング&リスニング〈上級編〉

JACET リスニング研究会



NAN'UN-DO

Power-Up English <Advanced>

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Acknowledgements

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はじめに

英語力をどう伸ばすのか、どんな英語力をどのレベルまで身につければいいのか、これは学習者にとっても教員にとっても一概には答えの出ない難問です。現在「国際語」としての英語は、あらゆる分野で、地球規模で使用されています。それぞれで使われる英語も多種多様です。基礎の段階では「文法的にも正しい」比較的理解しやすい英文、日本では特にアメリカ英語に触れることが多いのですが、ある程度のレベルに達すると、英語が第一言語ではない人たちが用いる多様な英語に接して、場面による多様な文体を理解する必要に迫られます。今までとは異なる発想や文体に出会うかもしれません。

本書では、教材のテーマを大きく8つの分野に分けています。中には読みにくいと思われる英文もあるかもしれません。英文の展開が今まで慣れているものと異なっているとか、知識がないと理解しにくい難易度のかなり高いものも含まれます。

問題の形式は、英語の試験を意識して作成していますが、理解を深めるために違う形式の問題も設定されていますので、大いに挑戦してみてください。

本書の構成と学び方

本書は、リーディングとリスニングの2つのセクションで構成された24ユニットのテキストです。3ユニットごとに分野別のテーマが設定されています。各分野のユニットは易しいものから難しいものへ段階的に並んでいます。各分野の最初のユニットだけ、あるいは興味のあるユニットだけを選んで学習することも可能です。

Part 1 Reading Section

このセクションでは、読み応えのある長文を選んでいきます。本文を読む前に、Pre-Reading Questionsで各分野の基礎知識やそれぞれの考え方・体験などを自由に話し合ってください。学んでほしい語句はVocabularyとして問題をつけましたので、長文の中で意味を推測しながら考えてください。ここでは、英語を英語で理解する練習が狙いです。各Exerciseは各種英語試験の問題傾向を踏まえて作成されています。時には、全体理解を促すために、試験では問われることのない「筆記」形式で答える問題も含まれています。Sectionの最後にはDiscussion Questionsを入れましたので、口頭で議論してもよいし、議論するために各自でリサーチをして意見を書いてみるような使い方もできます。

また、句読点の付け方などは、各ユニット間で揃っていないことがあります。これは、原典に忠実に従っているためですが、さまざまな表記法が存在することを理解してもらえればと思います。出典もスタイルも新聞記事をはじめとして、多岐にわたっています。「上級編」の学習者には、できるだけ多様な英語に触れていただきたいというのが筆者一同の願いです。

Part 2 Listening Section

このセクションでは、各ユニットで扱っているテーマ分野の内容に応じたトピックを選んでいきます。ユニットによって、ダイアログ形式のものとモノログ形式の2通りあります。ダイアロー

グでは、特に日常の会話で行われる省略や音声変化などを、なるべく自然な話し言葉の形で取り入れました。Reading Section で学んだ語彙や話題がそのままそっくり出てくるとは限りませんが、先の学習を生かして聞き取りできるように配慮しています。必要に応じて、聞く回数を調整してください。

本書は“Power-Up English <Basic>” および “Power-Up English <Intermediate>” の続編ですが、3冊の中では最も高い Advanced のレベルが設定されています。この3冊は同じシリーズですが、レベルが上がるにつれて、少しずつ編集も工夫されています。上級では文法単独のセクションはなく、多様な文に触れながら自分の背景知識や英語に関するあらゆる能力を総動員して英文の内容を推測し、考えながら理解する実践力を養っていただくように編集されています。本書を学習することにより、これまで身につけてこられた英語力をさらに高いレベルにまで発展させ、これからの国際社会において求められる英語コミュニケーションの確かな実践力を養成し、国際的な舞台で大いに活躍されることを、筆者一同心から祈念しています。

刊行にあたり、南雲堂編集部の青木泰祐氏、英文校閲などをお願いした先生方に大変お世話になりました。ここに深く感謝の意を表します。

2006年7月
著者一同

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Power-Up English <Advanced>

Unit 1

Culture 1

Part 1: Reading Section

Pre-Reading Questions

1. What do you think the phrase “personal space” refers to?
2. Do you ever feel that your privacy is being invaded? When? By whom?

Reading

At the airport the other day, I saw a dozen Asian tourists surround an American flight attendant, to the point where their faces were only 30 centimeters away from hers. The flight attendant was clearly annoyed by the violation of her personal space, but the Asian tourists didn't seem to understand why the flight attendant was so upset. They continued to bombard her with questions about a flight delay.

This illustrates one thing I find especially ⁽¹⁾intriguing about American culture. Americans use a lot of physical contact when greeting people — hugging and kissing and back slapping — yet they are very sensitive about protecting their personal space and privacy, more so than people in Asian cultures where less physical contact is the norm.

Look at American offices, for example. Most are divided with ⁽²⁾partitions to ensure everyone's privacy and personal space. At the office where I work, senior staff members are given private rooms so they can speak with or ⁽³⁾reprimand their ⁽⁴⁾subordinates in a ⁽⁵⁾secluded space, and not in front of other workers. Even when a door is

left open, people generally don't enter a room without first knocking and asking, “May I come in?” Once in the room, co-workers keep their distance when talking to each other. Rarely do they stand shoulder to shoulder to look over the same document. Instead, they sit or stand at least a meter away and look at their own copy of the document.

I really appreciate this kind of setting. While working in Tokyo, I remember locking eyes with my colleagues every time I looked up from my files, because our desks were facing each other with no partitions in between. My colleagues knew every paper I had on my desk, saw every food and drink I was ⁽⁶⁾devouring, and overheard my every phone conversation. Talk about uncomfortable!

Now I have my own office and always close the door when meeting with volunteers or making phone calls. I can also block out noises by shutting my door when colleagues get too chatty.

It's not just offices. Personal space is respected everywhere. When people line up at the bank to use the ATM, they wait at least one meter behind the person using the ATM, or as far back as space

will allow. And in lines anywhere — be it the post office, supermarket or government office — people are careful not to let their arms, legs or any other body part

5 ⁽⁷⁾brush against the people around them. Doctors' and dentists' offices provide individual rooms for each patient so they don't have to see each other in the most embarrassing poses.

10 In a related issue, Americans can also be quite private about certain matters such as age, sexuality, religion, marital status and other personal information. I learned that the hard way.

15 One day in school, after becoming good friends with this one American girl, I asked her how many boyfriends she had had in the past. Shocked, Tina ⁽⁸⁾frowned and said, "That's private." The other girls around me also looked at me in disgust. That took me by

surprise because my Japanese girlfriends and I were always exchanging private information like that.

I had another uncomfortable experience when I asked a question that would

5 reveal someone's age. A volunteer and I discovered that we had the same birthday, so I naturally asked her what year she was born. Andrea hesitated before answering, as if she didn't want me to know how old she was. After she found out I was six years older than she was, our friendship, which had got off to a great start, began to ⁽⁹⁾fizzle. I guess some stones are better left unturned.

10

Ever since, I've avoided questions related to dating, marital status, sexuality, age and religion. It's not worth the risk of accidentally offending someone.

(633 words)

(Asahi Weekly, Oct. 17, 2004)

Vocabulary

Choose the appropriate definition or synonym for each underlined word in the reading.

(1)___ (2)___ (3)___ (4)___ (5)___ (6)___ (7)___ (8)___ (9)___

- (a) a thin wall
- (b) to scold
- (c) to touch lightly
- (d) to eat something quickly and eagerly
- (e) to look angry or disgusted
- (f) private and isolated
- (g) someone who has a lower position in an organization
- (h) very interesting
- (i) to come to nothing or fail

Post-Reading Questions

Exercise 1 Choose the best answer for each question.

- (1) What is the main idea of this passage?
 - (a) American business practices are more modern than those of Japan.
 - (b) Much value is placed on personal space and privacy in America.
 - (c) The concept of personal space is common to people both in America and in Japan.
 - (d) Respect for personal space is not related to the protection of privacy in America.
- (2) What does the story at the airport imply?
 - (a) A flight attendant's job is very hard.
 - (b) Asian tourists are rude.
 - (c) There is a difference between American culture and Asian culture.
 - (d) Flight delays are a serious problem for tourists.
- (3) What is NOT mentioned as an example of respect for personal space in America?
 - (a) Most offices have partitions.
 - (b) Co-workers seldom share the same document and keep their distance.
 - (c) Each dental or medical patient has an individual room.
 - (d) American houses generally provide a room for each family member.
- (4) What did the writer learn from her experiences in America?
 - (a) It is difficult to make friends in a foreign country.
 - (b) Trust is the most important thing in business.
 - (c) Americans are more sensitive about privacy than Japanese people are.
 - (d) It is necessary to have a good command of English to maintain a friendship.

Exercise 2 Write *T* if the statement is true, *F* if it is false.

- ___ (1) People in America use a lot of physical contact when greeting others because they don't care about protecting personal space and privacy.
- ___ (2) The writer likes the arrangement of offices in Tokyo better than the way it is done in America.
- ___ (3) In America, personal space is respected even in the ATM waiting line.
- ___ (4) The writer believes that we need to be very careful when asking others for private information in America.

Discussion Questions

1. What if an American were to greet you with a big hug? What would you do?
2. How are Japanese and American culture similar? How are they different?

Part 2: Listening Section



2-5

Exercise 3 Listen to the dialogue on the CD, then choose the best answer for each question that follows.

- (1) What is the woman so upset about?
 - (a) The lack of respect for personal space in American society
 - (b) Overcrowded trains
 - (c) Her long train ride to school
 - (d) The Japanese transportation system

- (2) What does the woman say is a step in the right direction?
 - (a) The introduction of women-only cars
 - (b) The introduction of discount fares
 - (c) The introduction of free passes
 - (d) The introduction of new railway lines

- (3) How can men become victims of sexual harassment?
 - (a) By not riding in men-only cars
 - (b) By being groped in rush-hour trains as well
 - (c) By being falsely accused of groping
 - (d) By accidentally getting in a women-only car

Vocabulary

grope, molest