

# WORLD HERITAGE IN JAPAN

Our Cultural and Natural Legacy

英語で巡る日本の世界遺産

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NAN'UN-DO

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## はしがき

本書は、日本の世界遺産を英語で説明した総合的なテキストである。本書の構成は、本文として各世界遺産の説明をし、その後に Exercises を設けてある。Exercises は A から F まであり、A では本文の中から文章を取り出し、語彙や表現の置き換えの問題になっている。これは語彙力や表現力の増強を図るものである。B は本文の内容理解の問題である。内容と合っている文には T (True) を、間違っている文には F (False) をつける問題である。C は会話形式で本文に関連したもので、会話の流れから正しい受け答えの表現を選ぶ問題である。D は英作文の問題で、与えられた英語の語や句を和文に合うように正しい語順に並べる問題である。これは、日本語の語や表現がどのような英文で表現できるかを学ぶものである。E と F は Listening の問題である。E は写真を見て正しく説明された英語を聞き取るものである。F は会話の内容理解の問題である。会話を聞き、内容に合っているものを選ぶものである。このように Reading, Writing, Listening の三技能の増強を目指したテキストである。

今や日本は、歴史、文化、習慣、食べ物などいろんな面で世界から注目されている。世界遺産もその一つである。本書の扱った世界遺産を通して、日本の歴史や文化そして心に少しでも触れ、理解の萌芽になっていただければ幸いである。ここで扱った内容説明や問題だけでは十分ではないかも知れしれないが、これからの学習への一つの参考と足がかりになればと願っている。本書はまた観光という観点で書かれたものでもあり、観光英語の学習にも役立つものである。

最後に、本書の出版に当たっては南雲堂編集部に加藤敦氏に多大な教示をいただき、ここに感謝を申し上げる次第である。

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# 1. Shiretoko (知床)

1-2

The Shiretoko Peninsula, which faces the Sea of Okhotsk, is located on the eastern tip of Hokkaido. It has spectacular views and rich natural gifts. The word "shiretoko" comes from the Ainu word "Shir-etoku," which means "world's end." The Ainu are the native people of Hokkaido.



知床八景 オシンコシンの滝

The Chishima Volcanic Region is in the central area of the peninsula. Its coastline is pounded by the rough seas, creating an unspoiled wilderness. The Shiretoko Peninsula is the third area in Japan to be designated as a World Heritage Site for nature. The site includes the peninsula itself and the surrounding seas to a distance of about three kilometers off the coast.

In winter, drift ice comes to the coast and covers the Sea of Okhotsk. This is the southern limit of Japan's drift ice: there is no drift ice south of this point. The drift ice also brings with it abundant plankton, which enables many fish and shellfish species to inhabit the area off the coast. In the fall, salmon swim up the rivers from the sea; some of them are caught by bears and eagles. The soil is also very fertile and many kinds of plants grow in the region. In recognition of its valuable natural environment and the important food chain connecting the sea and the land, the Shiretoko Peninsula was designated as a World Heritage Site for nature by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) in 2005.

Some famous tourist spots on the peninsula include the five lakes called Shiretoko Go-ko and the Kamui-wakka Falls hot springs. Although nearby Oshinko Falls is not part of the heritage site, it is an attractive and popular tourist spot. Boat cruising tours are popular because they are the only way to see many of the remotest places of interest.

## Vocabulary

tip 尖端 spectacular 壮観な view 景色、見る pound 打ち砕く unspoiled <自然> が損なわれていない designate 認定する heritage 遺産 include 含む drift ice 流氷 limit 限界 abundant 豊富な enable 可能にする species 種 inhabit 生息する soil 土壌 fertile <土地が> 肥えた recognition 承認 \*recognize 承認する valuable 貴重な the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources 国際自然保護連合 attractive 魅力的な remote 人里離れた

## Exercises

A Choose the word or phrase that is similar in meaning to the underlined part of the sentence.

1. It has spectacular views and rich natural gifts.  
a) interesting b) fighting c) impressive d) understandable
2. The site includes the peninsula itself and the surrounding seas.  
a) covers b) keeps c) creates d) builds
3. The drift ice also brings with it abundant plankton, which enables many fish and shellfish species to inhabit the area off the coast.  
a) some b) plentiful c) a few d) a little
4. The soil is also very fertile and many kinds of plants grow in the region.  
a) broad b) narrow c) expensive d) rich
5. The Shiretoko Peninsula was designated as a World Heritage Site for nature.  
a) registered b) discovered c) appeared d) rejected

B Write T for the true statements and F for the false statements.

1. The Shiretoko Peninsula, which is on the western tip of Hokkaido, has wonderful views and many natural gifts. \_\_\_\_\_
2. The natural heritage of the site includes both land and sea. \_\_\_\_\_
3. The drift ice brings abundant plankton so that many fish and shellfish species can live there. \_\_\_\_\_
4. The soil of the area is not fertile enough for plants to grow there. \_\_\_\_\_
5. The Shiretoko Peninsula was designated as a World Heritage Site for nature because of its natural environment and food chain. \_\_\_\_\_

**C** From among the four choices below, choose the most appropriate question or response for each blank in this dialog.

A: Have you been to the Shiretoko area?

B: Yes, once. About three years ago.

A: \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_

B: Oh, yes. I really enjoyed it.

A: \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ this summer. The area is a World Heritage Site for nature, right?

B: That's right. I'm sure you'll love it.

A: \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_

B: In 2005.

1. a) How have you been?  
b) Did you have a good time?  
c) Have you seen a picture of Shiretoko Go-ko?  
d) When did you go to Hokkaido?
2. a) I'm going to take a rest  
b) I have taken a tour of the Shiretoko area  
c) I'm thinking of drawing a picture of the Shiretoko area  
d) I'm thinking of taking a tour of the Shiretoko area
3. a) When was it designated?  
b) When was it created?  
c) Where did you go?  
d) When was it founded?

**D** Put the words in the parentheses in the correct order to create sentences that correspond in meaning to the Japanese sentences. Use capital letters or add commas where necessary.

1. この地域は自然の恵みに満ち溢れています。  
( full, the area, of, is, natural gifts )

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2. 半島の海岸は荒々しく人跡未踏の所もあります。  
( unexplored places, has, and, the peninsula, a rough coastline )

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3. クルージングで離れたところの滝を見ることができます。  
( see, in, a boat cruise, the remote area, you, enables, the waterfalls, to )

---

**E** Listen to the four statements for pictures 1 and 2 below. Choose the statement ( a-d ) that best describes what you see in the picture.

1-3

Picture 1



a) b) c) d)

Picture 2



a) b) c) d)

**F** Listen to each dialog and the question that follows. Then, from among the choices below, choose the best answer to the question. The dialogs and questions will be spoken twice.

1-4-6

Dialog 1

- a) It's located far north of Hokkaido.
- b) It's located in southern Hokkaido.
- c) It's located on the eastern tip of Hokkaido.
- d) It's located on the western tip of Hokkaido.

Dialog 2

- a) You can see the sea covered with drift ice.
- b) You can see the sea covered with snow.
- c) You can see the land covered with drift ice.
- d) You can see many wild animals.

Dialog 3

- a) Because the area is so good for farming.
- b) Because the area is so good for sightseeing.
- c) Because the area includes both land and sea.
- d) Because the area has a natural environment that supports an essential food chain connecting land and sea.