

An Invitation to Critical Thinking

クリティカル・シンキングのすすめ
——基礎から応用への総合英語——

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Preface: How to Use This Book

The title of this textbook is *An Invitation to Critical Thinking*. Society around us is becoming increasingly globalized and digitalized. Today, as never before, we can easily access a huge amount of information from throughout the world with digital technology. However, this situation raises questions such as whether we can trust all of the information available, and what principles we should use to guide us in this new world. This textbook uses the opportunity of English study to consider these issues.

The keyword of this textbook is “critical thinking.” The word “critical” has negative connotations, such as “judgmental” or “disapproving,” but here critical thinking refers to a self-reflective and analytical way of thinking, one without prejudice. Of course, it is easier said than done, but this textbook aims to develop students’ critical thinking abilities while improving their English.

We often find ourselves unable to question authorities. We tend to believe major newspapers, famous scholars, or dogma with a long history. Moreover, we cannot make rational decisions if we are concerned with hearsay, or become emotional without having full understanding of an issue. It is difficult to change such patterns of thinking, but the first step is an awareness of our own thinking processes. At the very least, we need to avoid prejudice based on stereotypes, to look at a problem from various angles, and keep a cool head in order to avoid emotional decision-making.

At the beginning of each chapter of this textbook, there is a Dictation and Conversation section, where two people have a conversation. In most chapters, the conversation is between a Japanese person and a non-Japanese person. The non-Japanese characters are not only native speakers of English: there is an international cast of Asian and European characters, too. The conversations are intended to give insight into problems such as cross-cultural friction, and to enhance media literacy. The subsequent Reading section is intended to deepen consideration of a particular issue, and give hints about processes of critical thinking. These hints are developed through the Exercise sections, which build vocabulary and enhance writing skills. Finally, there are Knowledge Bites and Grammar Tips with information about culture and grammar.

The text should serve two functions: improving English skills and developing critical thinking, both of which are necessary for students living in today’s world.

From the Authors

はじめに・本書の使い方

このテキストのタイトルは『クリティカル・シンキングのすすめ』です。私たちの生きているこの社会は、急速にグローバル化と電子化が進展しています。過去の時代と比べ、世界中からたくさんの情報が電子機器を通して容易に入手できるようになりました。しかし、このために、かえって大きな問題が生じてきています。あふれるばかりの情報の中で、私たちはどの情報を信じていいのか、何を指針として行動したらいいのか分からなくなりました。そんな時代の中で、どのように行動していくか、英語学習を通して考えてみるのが、このテキストの狙いです。

このテキストのキーワードは、“Critical Thinking”です。Critical Thinkingとは「批判的思考」と訳されますが、簡単に言えば、「正しい考え方」になります。物事を先入観なしに理解して、自分の行動の指針にすることです。しかし、そんなことがどのようにして可能になるのでしょうか。実は、このテキストは、皆さんが英語学習を通して、少しでも批判的に思考する能力が身につくように編集されています。

確かに、私たちは権威に惑わされ、それに従いがちです。大新聞であったり、高名な学者であったり、昔からの定説であったりすれば、すぐに信じ込んでしまいます。あるいは、噂を聞いて動揺したり、結果と原因を混同して失敗したりします。また事態がのみ込めないまま、感情的になって冷静な判断が下せないこともあります。このような態度をすぐさま改めることは難しいですが、私たちの思考の実態やプロセスを知ることで、少なくとも是正することへの道が開けてきます。それによって、ステレオタイプなイメージにとらわれてはいけないうこと、感情的な判断をする前に頭を冷やす時間をおくこと、複眼的な思考をすること、第1次資料にあたることなどの大切さが分かってきます。

さて、このテキストの使い方ですが、各章のはじめに問題提起として **Dictation** があります。そこに2人の会話があります。多くの章では、日本人と外国人の会話になっています。外国人は英語のネイティブスピーカーだけではなくて、アジアの人々、ヨーロッパの人々と多種多様です。会話を通して、異文化摩擦やメディア・リテラシーの問題点を知ることになります。そしてその考察を深めるために **Reading** があります。この箇所をじっくりと読むことで、現実に対してどのようにして **Critical Thinking** を応用するかのヒントが得られます。そのヒントを補強するために様々な **Exercises** があり、同時に、英作文や語彙の力が增强されていきます。また「一口知識」や **Grammar Tip** で、文化や文法に関するちょっとした知識が得られます。

このテキストを学習することで、英語力と **Critical Thinking** の力の両方を、いわば二兎を得ることができればと思います。また、さらに学生の皆さんが現代社会で積極的に行動する力を是非とも身につけてもらいたいと願っています。

執筆者一同

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What Is Critical Thinking?

クリティカル・シンキングとは何か？

Introduction

レッスンの紹介

Critical Thinking (CT) というと何か難しい方法と考えがちですが、簡単に言うと、「何事も鵜呑みにせずに、自分の頭で考えること」です。「自分はいつも自分の頭で考えている」と言う人がいるかもしれませんが、でも、そんな人でも、知らない間に人の意見に左右されることがあります。自分はなぜ左右されるのか、そのプロセスを知ることは大切です。



Making Sure of the Facts

事実を確認しましょう。

- (1) Ask a classmate whether they know the phrase “critical thinking.”
- (2) Do you agree with the opinion that “critical thinking is not necessary in daily life”?

Dictation



Let's listen to the conversation and fill in the blanks.

次の会話を聴いて、空欄に適切な語を入れてみましょう。

Kim: The number of foreigners staying in Japan is increasing.

Maho: To be honest, I cannot welcome the () of foreigners.

Kim: Why do you say such a thing?

Maho: Newspapers and TV report a lot of crimes that have been committed by foreigners.

Kim: Oh, listen. It is related to our social () or unconscious bias.

Maho: What kind of unconscious bias?

Kim: If the criminals are Japanese, the mass media do not mention their nationalities. But if foreigners are involved, the reports always include their nationalities.

Maho: Yes, you have a point. Their nationalities remain in our (), and we tend to think that more crimes are committed by foreigners than by Japanese.

Kim: Most foreigners are honest and hard-working, but newspaper readers look for () reports, and the mass media responds.

Maho: ㉠ _____

■ **What is the most appropriate sentence as Maho's response?**

Maho の返事として㉠の箇所に入る適切な文を1つ選びなさい。

- (a) The mass media should be more reader-oriented.
- (b) Reports on crime cases do not interest me, either.
- (c) In a sense, this is also our responsibility.
- (d) Unfortunately, our memory capacities are limited.

Answer: _____



Reading

Please read the passage.

英文を読んでみましょう。



What is “critical thinking” (CT)? This question may puzzle you because it looks very philosophical and profound. CT is similar to the common sense which you already have. However, sometimes
5 you may face a situation in which your common sense is not useful. At those times, you will find CT helpful. Through CT, we can see how common sense succeeds or fails, how our mind works or malfunctions, and how understanding
10 or misunderstanding occurs. In short, CT gives us insight into the functions of our minds. It is supplementary to common sense.

What kind of advantage do you gain from critical thinking? Let me explain the possible merits.
15 (1) The more you use it, the less you will become misled by books, public opinion, the mass media or other authoritative organizations. (2) You will be able to pass an appropriate judgement about your circumstances. (3) You can look at society with
20 more clarity. (4) You can control your feelings by realizing how your emotions may lead you to confusion and misjudgment. (5) You can clarify your own desires and establish a purpose in life. (6) You will have confidence in yourself and begin
25 to live actively.

Some readers may think this is too good a story to be true. Of course, it will be a long road to learning how to use the method. By reading the following chapters, you should come to understand
30 how to apply critical thinking.

We will also focus on the relationship between critical thinking and language. We apply CT mainly by using and analyzing language, so we

profound: 深遠な

malfunctions: 機能しない

In short: 要するに

insight: 洞察力

supplementary: 補う

a purpose in life: 一生の目的

must be very sensitive to language. However,
35 this kind of sensitivity and insight will not be possible if we depend mainly on our mother tongue. You should keep some distance from the language in order to look at it objectively. By analyzing a foreign language, we can understand
40 the function and structure of languages in general. A knowledge of language structure will help us develop CT. In this way, English language learning allows us the possibility of using critical thinking.

(342 words)

sensitive to...: ~に敏感である

mother tongue: 母語

keep some distance from...: ~から距離をおく
objectively: 客観的に

【一口知識】

教育の目標の1つは Critical Thinking の出来る能力を育てることです。つまり、子どもたちが科学的・客観的に物事を捉えることのできる力を涵養^{かんよう}することです。実は英語教育もこの目標に役に立つのです。英語は単語や文法を覚えるだけの作業ではありません。言語の構造や作用を知ることが、私たちがどのように認識するか、あるいは認識できないのかを知ることに関与します。それは現代を生き抜く力と結びつきます。

Quiz Critical Thinking にとって、大切な語を下から選びなさい。

analytic, emotional, empirical, intuitive, scientific, supernatural

Answer: _____



Vocabulary Building

Make a word with the opposite meaning by adding an appropriate prefix to the words below.

下の語に接頭辞をつけて反意語を作りましょう。

- (1) advantage _____
- (2) function _____
- (3) judgement _____
- (4) merit _____
- (5) sensitive _____
- (6) understanding _____



Comprehension

A *Please choose T (true) or F (false) according to the content, and write the line number where an appropriate explanation is shown in the text.*

本文の内容にあえばT、あっていない場合はFを選び、その根拠となる文中の行番号を記入しなさい。

1. (T/F) As you become accustomed to critical thinking, you are less likely to be deceived.

/Answer: 根拠 ~ 行目

2. (T/F) Studying language subjectively is important for critical thinking.

/Answer: 根拠 ~ 行目

3. (T/F) To know a language better, we should focus on our mother tongue rather than study foreign languages.

/Answer: 根拠 ~ 行目



B Choose the correct answers.

正しい答えを選びなさい。

1. ***According to paragraph 2, what is NOT the advantage of critical thinking.***

第2段落を読んで、CTの利点でないものを選びなさい。

- (a) You can see your surroundings with clarity.
- (b) You can control other people's minds.
- (c) You can avoid being deceived by others.
- (d) You can visualize a future goal and start working towards it.

/Answer:

2. ***What does the essay say about common sense and critical thinking? Choose the appropriate sentence.***

常識とクリティカル・シンキングに関して、適切な文を1つ選びなさい。

- (a) CT is essential, while common sense is not so necessary.
- (b) We mainly depend on our common sense because it is enough for our lives.
- (c) We need both common sense and CT.
- (d) Common sense is like CT but it is more sophisticated.

/Answer:

3. ***How do we control our emotions according to CT?***

どのようにして感情をコントロールするのか、適切な文を1つ選びなさい。

- (a) We should try to forget an unhappy past, and take a forward-looking attitude.
- (b) Language controls our emotions, so we should learn how to use a language.
- (c) We can ask our friends how they overcome confusion and poor judgment.
- (d) By knowing how emotion influences our judgement, we can control ourselves.

/Answer:

Grammar Tip

形容詞が名詞を修飾する場合の語順は、**a good story** のように、冠詞 + 形容詞 + 名詞の語順になります。ところが、副詞 **too** が形容詞 **good** を修飾する時は、不定冠詞が後ろにさがり **too good a story** となります。また、形容詞 **such** が、名詞 **story** を修飾する時は、冠詞の前に来て、**such a story** という語順になります。

Quiz **a good story** を副詞 **so** が修飾する時はどちらになりますか。

- (a) so a good story
- (b) a so good story
- (c) so good a story

/Answer:



English Composition

Please translate the following Japanese sentence into English while utilizing English words below.

英語の語(句)を参考にして、次の日本語を英訳しなさい。

- (1) 正しい判断はどのようにして身につけるのですか。

[learn, judgement]

- (2) 何も難しいことではなく、よく考えてから常識を使うことです。

[think clearly, common sense]

- (3) 常識をどのように使うか分からないから悩んでいるのです。

[puzzled]

What Is the Point?

Critical thinking is a method for understanding your surroundings more deeply by knowing how our thinking works and how our thinking is influenced by others.

.....

まとめ Fill in the blanks. 次の空所に適語を入れましょう。

Critical thinking is to () how we () and how we are () by others.

**Introduction**

レッスンの紹介

何か問題に直面したら、まず紙に書いてみることです。それによって頭が整理整頓されていきます。問題を見つけて、その構造を知ることが問題解決の第一歩なのです。紙の上にある各要素を時系列に並べ直したり、結果と原因の関係を矢印で示すことで、自分のかかえている問題の構造が浮かび上がってきます。

**Making Sure of the Facts**

事実を確認しましょう。

- (1) Ask your classmates what they do when they face problems.
- (2) Ask your classmates if they know the meaning of “brainstorming.”

Dictation

Let's listen to the conversation and fill in the blanks.

次の会話を聴いて、空欄に適切な語を入れてみましょう。

Shota: Wow! New smartphone, right? When did you get that?

Rachael: I bought it yesterday. This is ().

Shota: Actually I have never owned a mobile phone.

Rachael: In this IT ()? Really?

Shota: Yeah, I'm an “analog” person. I feel more () when I communicate via paper-based methods, rather than sending and receiving e-mails.

Rachael: Paper-based? No way! We live in a paperless world! We can do whatever we want to do without paper! See, now I use a variety of () on this phone.

Shota: Sounds convenient. How do you use those?

Rachael: This one guides us to our destination. I'm bad at reading maps, so I often use this.

Shota: When you face a () problem in your life, how would you solve it? Are there any good applications or tools for solving problems?

Rachael: ① _____

■ **What is the most appropriate sentence as Rachael's response?**

Rachael の返事として①の箇所に入る適切な文を1つ選びなさい。

- (a) Yes, of course. In this IT era, you are one of the most out-of-dated people I know!
- (b) There are some applications for that. They can be used just like your pens and paper.
- (c) Yes, but they are very expensive. Only a rich person can buy one.
- (d) You don't know what it is? Anyway you should try one!

/Answer: _____