

# 英 語

(問 題)

## 外 国 学 生

2011年度 (早稲田大学文化構想学部/文学部)

### 注 意 事 項

1. 問題冊子および解答用紙は、試験開始の合図があるまで開かないこと。
2. 問題は2~4ページに記載されている。
3. 解答はすべて解答用紙の所定欄にHBの黒鉛筆またはHBのシャープペンシルで記入すること。
4. 受験番号および氏名は、解答用紙の所定欄に記入すること。
5. 問題冊子は持ち帰ること。

I Read the following passage and answer the questions. Write your answers (a~d) on the separate answer sheet.

According to the latest *Times Higher Education World University Rankings*, Waseda University is the top private university in Japan. Over the past few years, global university rankings have become a huge topic of attention and debate internationally. The first global ranking of universities, called the *Academic Ranking of World Universities*, was produced by Shanghai Jiaotong University in 2003, for the purpose of identifying the gap between Chinese universities and world-class universities in terms of academic and research performance. This ranking attracted huge interest worldwide, and was soon followed by similar initiatives, the most influential of which is the *Times Higher Education World University Rankings*. Both the *Academic Ranking of World Universities* and the *Times Higher Education World University Rankings* are updated annually, and universities around the world anxiously await the release of these updates to see their position. Some universities already proclaim in their vision statements that they are aiming to be in the top 100 or top 200 universities worldwide.

But what do the rankings actually mean? What is a “world-class university”? Does a world-class university automatically provide a better education than other universities? In order to answer questions such as these, it is necessary to look more closely at the methods used for determining the rankings. Different rankings use different criteria, and this obviously produces different results. For example, one of the criteria in the *Academic Ranking of World Universities* is the number of staff and alumni winning Nobel Prizes and Fields Medals. This is not counted in the *Times Higher Education World University Rankings*, which changed its criteria in 2010 to cover a broader range of evaluation. Now, the new *Times Higher Education World University Rankings* judge teaching/learning environment (30%), citations or research influence (32.5%), research (30%), international mix of students and staff (5%) and industry income or innovation (2.5%).

Both of these rankings still depend mainly on research productivity, which is not necessarily indicative of whether a university provides a good education to its undergraduates. Both rankings have also been criticized for their bias towards English-speaking regions, as the top universities tend to be American and British, and for their bias toward science, as the research criteria tend to favor the kind of research productivity common in science but less evident in arts fields. As with any research study, the methodology used influences the results, and different methodologies produce different results. If the number of globally competent staff or students, measured by bilingual ability, were to be included as a criterion, for example, the position of many British and American universities would go down while the position of universities in the Netherlands, India or Malaysia would probably go up.

World university rankings may be useful as a general guide, therefore, but some caution should be taken in interpreting the implications of the rankings. As Liu and Cheng, the creators of the *Academic Ranking of World Universities* themselves state, the quality of universities cannot be measured by numbers alone. The suitability of a particular university for a particular individual student is even less conducive to statistical measurement. However many global league tables of universities are produced, the ultimate responsibility for finding the best education for one’s own needs and dreams remains with each individual student. The top-ranked university in the world (usually Harvard University) may provide the best education, but so may the university ranked 400 or 500, if that is the university providing a well-taught curriculum that leads to exactly where you want to be. Graduating from a world-class university obviously has its advantages, but the proverb “Don’t judge a book by its cover” may be worth remembering.

1. According to the text, international interest in global comparisons of universities
  - (a) focuses mainly on the gap between universities in China and the rest of the world.
  - (b) has increased phenomenally over the past seven or eight years.
  - (c) is a major concern for researchers, but not for universities themselves.
  - (d) originated from and has been dominated by English-speaking universities.
  
2. Criticisms of the major rankings mentioned in the text imply that there is a bias in the rankings toward universities that
  - (a) are located in the USA and offer a wide range of subjects.
  - (b) are strong in science and located in English-speaking countries.
  - (c) employ many English-speaking researchers in scientific fields.
  - (d) encourage their staff to write many research papers in English.
  
3. According to the text, people who are using the rankings should
  - (a) be aware of the criteria that are being used to create the rankings.
  - (b) check how many Nobel Prize winners the universities have themselves.
  - (c) judge for themselves what the best criteria for world-class university rankings are.
  - (d) study statistics in depth before looking at the rankings.
  
4. In the final paragraph, the author uses the proverb “Don’t judge a book by its cover” to
  - (a) advise readers to make their own evaluations about universities.
  - (b) encourage readers to study hard whichever university they attend.
  - (c) motivate readers to graduate from the best university possible.
  - (d) warn readers that world-class universities do not provide the best education.
  
5. The most appropriate title for this article would be:
  - (a) Statistical analysis of world-class universities
  - (b) WASEDA: A world-class university
  - (c) World-class universities: The path to success
  - (d) World-class university rankings: Approach with caution

II Choose the most appropriate sentences from the following list (a~g) for the gaps in the text (6~10). Write your answers on the separate answer sheet.

- (a) A dangerous method he uses is to remain under water until he gets a flash 0.5 seconds before death.
- (b) A quiet walk on the beach led to one of his earliest inventions, thanks to the ocean mist.
- (c) According to Thomas Edison, "Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration."
- (d) Apparently they did, however, reach some kind of secret agreement to avoid any future problems.
- (e) He does not drink or smoke, and he lifts weights and swims every day.
- (f) His first one was what he called the Automatic Center of Gravity Stabilizer, which he invented at the age of five.
- (g) Such an example shows that in those early days the spirit of his inventions came from love and not from the desire for fame or money.

Anyone who is interested in technology and Japan should be aware of Dr. NakaMats, who has patents for the basic technology for inventions such as the floppy disk, the CD, the DVD, digital watches, and even the taxicab meter. Born Yoshiro Nakamatsu, he claims to have the world record for the largest number of inventions. ( 6 )

Dr. NakaMats got his start in the sciences through his mother who taught him the basics of physics, chemistry, English, Japanese, history, and most importantly, humor from the age of three. He takes credit for inventing the pump that people use to fill kerosene stoves after seeing his mother having trouble refilling a bottle of soy sauce from a larger bottle when he was 14 years old. ( 7 )

The idea for the floppy disk goes all the way back to the beginning of the 1950s. While listening to a scratchy copy of a classical music record, he decided that he wanted to find a way to play it without a needle. His story is that he licensed this patent to IBM, but although the company has used some of his inventions, they take credit for the invention of the floppy disk without his assistance. ( 8 )

Dr. NakaMats credits oxygen, or the lack of it, for the inspiration that leads to his inventions. According to his Pagoda of Creativity, one must start with a strong spirit followed by a strong body. Then, with study and experience, these lead to a "trigger" event containing all four elements, resulting in the final invention. ( 9 ) He writes down his inspirations on a special waterproof pad that he also invented. Another way he uses to get ideas is a calm room such as his golden toilet that shuts out all noises, and magnetic and electric fields.

In order to keep up his creativity, Dr. NakaMats has come up with a variety of methods to maintain his sharpness. He sleeps only four hours a day, and that is after spending most of the night concentrating on coming up with new ideas. ( 10 ) His diet is limited to one meal a day for a total of 700 calories, and he is a firm believer in power naps. Of course these 20-minute naps are taken in a special chair of his own invention. In 2005 he received an Ig Nobel Prize, an international award parodying the Nobel Prize, for nutrition for taking pictures of all his meals over a period of 34 years in order to remember those that were most stimulating. His goal is to live 144 years!

III Of all the countries that you have never been to, which one would you most like to visit? Explain the reasons for your choice in English, using the space provided on the separate answer sheet.