

2021年度 早稲田大学大学院教育学研究科

修士課程 一般入学試験問題

〔 外国語 〕

【英語】

解答上の注意

1. 解答の際には、問題番号、設問番号を記入してから解答すること。（例「問題1 問1」）
2. 解答用紙は、「問題番号」別に使用すること（一つの問題で一枚使用）。
3. 解答用紙の所定欄に、受験番号・氏名・研究指導名・指導教員名を必ず記入すること。
4. 問題用紙は「4枚」（本ページ含む）、解答用紙は「2枚」です。必ず枚数を確認すること。

以 上

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I. 次の英文を読み、以下の設問に答えなさい。

When large-scale faculty layoffs began at the University of Southern Maine in 2014, a philosophy professor named Jason Read wrote a detailed account of the assembly where the university president announced the cuts:

Words like "metropolitan," "innovative," and "nimble" passed from the president of the university and the chancellor of the system to the members of the board of trustees, all from banking, corporate law, and the business sector, constituting a dismal display of the current corporate common sense....The recasting of the university as corporation that must "adapt or die" was coupled with ⁽¹⁾disparaging remarks about shared governance, union contracts, and public debates over the fate of a public university.

Layoffs are necessary to make a more nimble university, says the university president. What does nimble mean, and what is its opposite?

Google's ngram database shows that "nimble" has remained steadily popular for the last two centuries. It was once a children's book staple, reflecting the word's literal meanings, which are applicable to instructive and vigorous play, as well as active [A] and dexterous hands: "Quick at grasping, comprehending, or learning," according to the *OED*, and "light in movement or action." The word literally refers to intellectual quickness or physical dexterity in an individual person, as in Jack's famous leap over the candlestick. Well into the 1980s, it appeared in the *New York Times* most often in the sports section. An early, rare business usage appeared in a 1981 headline, "Nimble Commodities Broker," above an article about the merger of two Wall Street commodities trading firms. (The author of that article: a young reporter named Thomas L. Friedman.) The adjective is also popular in literary criticism as a term of praise for the dynamism of a writer's prose style. Although one occasionally still sees it applied to dexterous athletes, nimble is now most often used in mainstream journalism in a business context, as a metaphorical synonym for "[B]." It was ubiquitous in media coverage of the General Motors and Chrysler bankruptcies of 2009, misfortunes commonly attributed to the companies' size and inefficiency. The layoffs of tens of thousands of employees were reforms necessary to make more ⁽²⁾nimble companies, it was said. Here, the word was plainly euphemistic, depicting the firm as an overweight body that needed to slim down and get in shape, rarely stating the human consequences of "nimbleness" outright. GM was "bloated" and a "behemoth," causing it, wrote a *New York Times* reporter, to "lose a step to more nimble competitors," especially Japanese automakers. (It is hard not to notice how this usage also plays on common American physical stereotypes of both blue-collar US midwesterners and Asians.)

Like the related concepts of lean and flexible, nimble optimistically describes a sort of labor discipline, in which individual employees, in a variety of fields, assume more and more tasks once performed by separate employees. The University of Southern Maine's president was using the concept ⁽³⁾in this way, cushioning the blow by presenting layoffs as a hard but healthy decision. In a 2010 news report on layoffs in the journalism industry, nimble referred to the willingness of an employee to assume the labor and learn the skills once provided by another page staffer. "They're going to have to be more nimble both journalistically and technically in terms of the production of their pieces," said a reporter of the additional work of writing and editing that the journalists who remain must do in the field. ⁽⁴⁾A nimble organization, in short, maximizes productivity while minimizing labor costs. Nimble is athletic, vigorous, youthful, and gymnastic, like the boy who jumps over the candlestick. Never mind that nimbleness is so often a vaporous concept. Much of the language of late capitalism imagines workplaces as bodies in virtually every way except as a group of overworked or underpaid ones.

(Leary, John Patrick. 2018. *Keywords: The New Language of Capitalism* より)

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設問1. 下線部(1)にもっとも意味が近い語を以下から選び、記号で答えなさい。

- a. banal b. complimentary c. derogatory d. flippant

設問2. 空欄[A]に入れるのもっともふさわしい語をa～dから一つ選び、記号で答えなさい。

- a. brains b. eyes c. feet d. fingers

設問3. 空欄[B]に入れるのもっともふさわしい語をa～dから一つ選び、記号で答えなさい。

- a. common b. efficient c. inefficient d. quick

設問4. 下線部(2)nimble companyとはどのようなcompanyなのか。本文に即して簡潔に日本語で答えなさい。

設問5. 下線部(3)in this wayとは具体的にどのようなことを意味するのか。日本語で簡潔に答えなさい。

設問6. 下線部(4)を和訳しなさい。

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II. 次の英文を読み、以下の設問に答えなさい。

※この問題は、著作権の関係により掲載できません。

*EAR CLEANING: A systematic program for training the ears to listen more discriminatingly to sounds, particularly those of the environment. A set of such exercises is given in my book *Ear Cleaning*.

**CLAIRAUDIENCE: Literally, clear hearing. The way I use the term there is nothing mystical about it; it simply refers to exceptional hearing ability, particularly with regard to environmental sound. Hearing ability may be trained to the clairaudient state by means of EAR CLEANING exercises.

(Schafer, R. Murray. 1994. *The Soundscape: Our Sonic Environment and the Tuning of the World* より)

設問 1. 下線部(1)について、具体例を考えて 100 語程度の英文で説明しなさい。

設問 2. 下線部(2)を和訳しなさい。

設問 3. 空欄〔 A 〕に入れるのもっともふさわしい語を a~d から一つ選び、記号で答えなさい。

a. abatement b. accretion c. appreciation d. augmentation

設問 4. 空欄〔 B 〕に入れるのもっともふさわしい語を a~d から一つ選び、記号で答えなさい。

a. clamorous b. conspicuous c. obscure d. opaque

設問 5. 下線部(3)には筆者の活動目的が書かれているが、この目的について 25 語程度の英文で説明しなさい。

設問 6. Noise pollution が air pollution や water pollution と同様に、人間の健康に影響を与える可能性の有無について、自分の意見を 50 語程度の英文で述べなさい。