

2024 年度 早稲田大学文学部 学士入学試験問題

【 西洋史 コース】 ※解答は別紙（縦・横書）
 【科目名： 専門科目 】

[1] 次の英文を読み、和訳しなさい。

But what is 'progress'? Is the story of mankind one of steady advance, as many have believed? Progress implies improvement – getting better. But 'better' in what sense? If history is the story of progress, does that mean that all things have improved? Or only some? If only some, have the improvements outweighed the deteriorations? Has the improvement been continuous, or in halts and leaps? Have there been backslidings? Has the improvement been everywhere, or only in some places? If the past is a progress, is that due to the efforts of man? Or to a supernatural force – God, Fate, the Absolute? Assuming progress does occur, is it inevitable? Or the result of good fortune? Above all, will it continue?

It is worth asking such questions because, as one historian believes, 'the idea of progress is, in this modern age, one of the most important ideas by which men live.' It is the 'modern religion, or the modern substitute for religion.' Doubts are possible. What of the environment? Is that more or less polluted after fifty centuries of history? What of literature? Are Sophocles and Plato, Homer, Virgil and Dante, Augustine and Shakespeare overtopped by their modern counterparts? What of morality? Has there been notable advance upon the teachings of Christ, or even upon those of the Hebrew prophets, of Gautama Buddha, Zoroaster or Confucius several centuries before him?

Let us suppose that you wish to establish the fact of progress in one particular field over a stated period. These problems will confront you: an agreed interpretation of the evidence; the possibility of comparison; perhaps the establishment of valid statistical series; the determination of the beliefs, values and expectations of various groups of people; the evaluation of particular achievements and states of affairs; the balances of gains and losses. Progress cannot be taken for granted. On the other hand, is it worth all this effort to prove it? Most historians today (unlike their predecessors) rarely attempt it.

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 The Old European Order 1660-1800,
 William Doyle, Copyright © 1992
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[2] 次の英文を読み、和訳しなさい。

The Great War was the single most important event of the twentieth century, shaping the world that we live in today. Yet it is often regarded as a pointless war; a catastrophic mistake fought for little or no reason. Historians, politicians and economists may testify to its over-arching importance, but somehow the popular belief remains that it was all for nothing. Yet how could that be? Was everyone afflicted by a communal madness? Or were there really some very important issues at stake in this frontal collision between forces whose vision of Europe and the world could no longer co-exist peacefully? In 1914 there was an absence of any real attempts by statesmen on either side to resolve their difficulties through compromise and meaningful negotiation, making war all but inevitable given the aggressive posture adopted by the Austro-Hungarian and German Empires after the assassination of Archduke Ferdinand on 28 June. Once started the Great War had to be fought to the finish as none of the participants could countenance a defeat that would mark the end of their economic, political, military and imperial ambitions. This was not a 'war to end war' but rather an attempt to resolve the main issues of the day in one fell swoop. When industrial nation states resorted to armed conflict they generated a monstrous capacity for death and destruction, while at the same time the vastness of their populations meant that there were a lot of people to kill before victory could be proclaimed.

※WEB掲載に際し、以下のとおり出典を追記しております。
 Hart, Peter. The Great War: 1914-1918. Profile Books, 2013, p.xix.

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学士入学試験 解答用紙

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