

TOEFLのリーディングテストを縦に読む

TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) のリーディングテストの問題をモジュールに分けて縦に読んでみます。

実際のTOEFLリーディングテストは、以下のサンプルが示すように相当の分量の、それぞれ異なる主題の文書を55分の内に5件読み、各々10個の設問(合計50問)に答えなければならないので、1件あたり10分に対応して行かなければなりません。

ゆっくり読んでいる時間はないので、速読して大意を掴み、設問に答えて行く必要があります。

モジュールに分割して、文章中の主要部分を素早く見分けて読んで行く練習は、速読に大きな効果があります。

実際にはここで示しているような縦に並べる必要はもちろん無く、モジュール毎にスラッシュ(/)を入れて読んで行く方法が有効です。

ぜひ、(/)を入れてこのテストに出て来るような長い文章／文書をたくさん読んでください。

サンプルを以下に示します。

1. 産業革命以降の米国の農業に関する文書
2. 米国の環境に関する文書

- * 文章中のメイン部分を参考として太字(ボールド)で示しました。
- * 右欄に読解の支援としての、直訳型の対訳を示します。
- * 英文で下線を引いた単語は、二つの単語の直接の関係を示しています。

1. 産業革命以降の米国の農業に関する文書

まず原文を示します。読んでみてください。

Question 41-50

The industrial revolution was quickly followed by advance in agriculture which resulted in the rapid death of this new underclass of dirt farmers. Just as they had been displaced by machines in factories, they fell victim to the advances in agriculture. By 1910, most of the arable land in the United States had been settled and, with the foresight of conservationists, methods for prevention of soil erosion began to be implemented. In 1914, the Smith-Lever Act provided funding for educators to instruct farmers in farm management. As a result of European postwar poverty and US overproduction, however, farmers experienced a depression lasting from 1920 to 1922. Nevertheless, Clarence Birdseye perfected a method for freezing foods which spurred farmers to diversity and produce crops previously too perishable to be of commercial value. Then, in the early 1930s, droughts, and dust storms caused by poor tillage practices, devastated farms and ranches of the Great Plains. Franklin D Roosevelt's New Deal sought to satisfy the demands of striking farmers by a series of acts. The Agricultural Marketing Act improved prices for producers of perishables and allowed the federal government to buy surpluses, which were donated to the poor and used in school-lunch and food-stamp programs. By 1945 the prospects for farmers were bright but then wholesalers and distributors organized themselves into a network known as Agribusiness which grew to dominate the industry. It held a virtual monopoly of outlets and, by putting farmers under annual contracts rather than buying available merchandise, meant that by the 1960s farmers required a huge outlay of capital to survive.

モジュールに分け、右欄に読解補助として直訳型の対訳を示します。

The industrial revolution was quickly followed by advance in agriculture
which resulted in the rapid death of this new underclass of dirt farmers.

Just as they had been displaced by machines in factories,
they fell victim to the advances in agriculture.

By 1910,
most of the arable land in the United States had been settled and,
with the foresight of conservationists,
methods for prevention of soil erosion began to be implemented.

産業革命の後すぐに引き続いた急速な農業の進展がそれは急速な死をもたらした耕作農というこの新しい下層階級の

まさにとつて換えられたように工場において機械に彼らは農業の進展の犠牲になった。

1910年までに合衆国における耕作適地のほとんどは耕やされ、そして自然保護主義者の先見によって土壌の浸食を防ぐ方法が導入され始めた。

In 1914,
**the Smith-Lever Act provided
funding for educators**
to instruct farmers in farm management.

As a result
of European postwar poverty
and US overproduction,
however,
farmers experienced a depression
lasting from 1920 to 1922.

Nevertheless,
**Clarence Birdseye perfected
a method for freezing foods**
which spurred farmers
to diversify and produce crops
previously too perishable
to be of commercial value.

Then, in the early 1930s,
**droughts,
and dust storms**
caused by poor tillage practices,
**devastated farms and ranches
of the Great Plains.**

Franklin D Roosevelt's **New Deal**
sought to satisfy
the demands of striking farmers
by a series of acts.

The Agricultural Marketing Act
improved prices
for producers of perishables
and allowed the federal government
to buy surpluses,
which were donated to the poor
and used
in school-lunch and food-stamp programs.

1914年
スミスーリーバー法は用意した
指導員への補助金を
農業者に農業経営を指導するための

結果として
欧州の戦後の貧困と
合衆国の過剰生産の
しかしながら
農家は不況に見まわれた
1920年から22年まで続いた

それにもかかわらず
クラレンスバーズアイは完成した
食料品冷凍方法を
それは農家に刺激を与えた
作物を多様化し生産することにたいして
それまではすぐに腐るので
商品価値が無かった(作物への)

次いで、1930年代初頭
旱魃と
砂嵐が
一不適切な耕作に因る
農家と牧場を荒廃させた
大穀倉地帯の。

フランクリンルーズベルトのニューディール
満足させる方法を探し求めた
打ちのめされた農家の要求を
次々の法令で。

農業販売法は
価格を改善した
腐りやすい作物の生産者のために
また、連邦政府ができるようにした
余剰作物を買えるように
それらは貧困者に配られ
そして利用された
学校給食や食料品スタンプ計画に。

By 1945
**the prospects for farmers were bright
but then wholesalers and distributors
organized themselves into a network
known as Agribusiness
which grew to dominate the industry.**

**It held a virtual monopoly of outlets
and,
by putting farmers under annual contracts
rather than buying available merchandise,
meant
that by the 1960s
farmers required
a huge outlay of capital to survive.**

1945年までに
農家の将来は明るかった
しかしそのとき、卸業者と販売代理業者が
自らをネットワーク化した
農業ビジネスとして知られているところの
それは産業を支配するまで成長した。

それは販路の事実上の独占を維持した、
そして
農家を年間契約で縛ることによって
入手可能な商品を買うのではなく
それは意味した
1960年代までには
農家は必要となった
生存のために巨額の資本が。

問題

41. What most probably preceded the passage?

- A. an account of a bomb explosion
- B. an account of a violent revolution
- C. a description of impoverished farmers
- D. a description of industrial advancement in the 19th century

42. What encouraged the prevention of soil erosion?

- A. the settling of arable land
- B. the Smith-Lever Act
- C. the anticipation of conservationists
- D. traveling educators

43. What caused the 1920-22 agriculture slump?

- A. mobilization
- B. wartime poverty
- C. too many goods chasing too little money
- D. the Smith-Lever Act

44. What could best replace “perishable” in line 9?

- A. cheap
- B. prone to rot quickly
- C. unusual
- D. delicate

45. What caused the dust storms of the 1930s?

- A. poor weather forecasting
- B. lack of government aid
- C. uncontrolled marketing of commodities
- D. Inadequate irrigation schemes

46. What was one of the main aims of the 'New Deal'?

- A. to stop the dust storms
- B. to improve irrigation
- C. to strike workers
- D. to raise farming incomes

47. What did Roosevelt's New Deal consist of?

- A. direct actions
- B. Legislation
- C. School-lunch and food-stamp programs
- D. Improved prices for retailers

48. What did Agricultural Marketing Act achieve?

- A. more powerful tractors were produced
- B. it controlled crop production
- C. it raised prices and empowered authorities to buy overproduction
- D. it donated money to poor farmers

49. What caused the downturn in the fortune of farmers in 1945?

- A. a strike
- B. the invention of new machines
- C. increased outlets
- D. better organized produce buyers

50. What does the pronoun "it" in line 16 refer to?

- A. a monopoly
- B. agribusiness
- C. the agriculture industry
- D. merchandise

答え

answer key

41: C 42: C 43: C 44: B 45: D 46: D 47: B 48: C 49: D 50: B

2. 米国の環境に関する文書

Questions 26-35

The National Environmental Policy Act was first presented to Congress in 1969 and the following year the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was established as an independent agency in the executive branch of the US government “to implement the new law and permit coordinated and effective government action on behalf of the environment”. The EPA consolidates in a single body the administration of all federal environmental legislation, ranging from the Refuse Control Act of 1899 to the most recent statues concerning environmental pollution. The agency monitors environmental quality and seeks to control pollution. It has established special programs in air and water pollution, hazardous wastes, and toxic chemicals, and sponsors research in the technologies of pollution control. The agency is responsible for collecting environmental impact statements; reports on the probable environmental effects of proposed projects which might significantly alter the environment. The National Environmental Policy Act, which became effective in 1971, requires every US government agency to issue a statement on any project it plans to undertake, regulate, or fund. From its creation to the present day the environmental impact statement has been attacked as a hindrance to economic growth and as too vague to provide a strict standard for environmental control. The EPA reviews all federal environmental impact statements to ensure that the statements comply with laws. Litigation may be instigated if environmental considerations conflict with existing zoning or planning laws. The Endangered Species Act of 1972, which is designed to protect rare animal and plant species, has been used to block several projects that might destroy vital wildlife habitats.

問題

26. What is the subject of this passage?

- A. the National Environmental Policy Act
- B. environmental impact statements
- C. the Refuse Control Act
- D. a US environmental protection agency

27. What was the EPA formed?

- A. to legislate the Refuse Control Act of 1899
- B. to be an independent government agency
- C. to police environmental protection measures
- D. to control pollution

28. What word could best replace “consolidates” in line 5?

- A. fortifies
- B. conmines
- C. solidifies
- D. controls

- 29. What has the EPA already achieved?**
- A. the monitoring of environmental quality
 - B. special programs
 - C. the control of pollution
 - D. the distribution of environmental impact statements
- 30. the word "statutes" in line 7 is closed in meaning to :**
- A. rules
 - B. art work
 - C. governments
 - D. laws
- 31. what does the pronoun "it" in line 8 refer to?**
- A. pollution
 - B. the Refuse Control Act
 - C. the EPA
 - D. federal environmental legislation
- 32. On what grounds has the environmental impact statement been criticized?**
- A. it is too precise
 - B. it is an obstacle to economic progress
 - C. it is ineffectual
 - D. it is too strict
- 33. How can the EPA enforce its findings?**
- A. under the Endangered Species Act
 - B. using the courts
 - C. using environmental impact statements
 - D. using existing zoning laws
- 34. When did the National Environmental Policy Act go into operation?**
- A. 1969
 - B. 1970
 - C. 1971
 - D. 1972
- 35. What is the purpose of the Endangered Species Act?**
- A. to block project
 - B. to preserve wildlife habitats
 - C. to protect animals
 - D. to guard threatened wildlife

答え

answer key

26: D 27: C 28: B 29: B 30: D 31: C 32: B 33: B 34: C 35: D

モジュールに分割して読んでみます

* 文章のメイン部分を太字で示してあります。

The National Environmental Policy Act
was first presented to Congress
in 1969
and the following year
the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
was established
as an independent agency
in the executive branch of the US government
"to implement the new law
and permit
coordinated and effective government action
on behalf of the environment".

The EPA consolidates
in a single body
the administration
of all federal environmental legislation,
ranging from the Refuse Control Act of 1899
to the most recent statues
concerning environmental pollution.

The agency monitors environmental quality
and **seeks to control pollution.**

It has established special programs
in air and water pollution,
hazardous wastes,
and toxic chemicals,
and
sponsors research
in the technologies of pollution control.

The agency is responsible for collecting
environmental impact statements;
reports on the probable environmental effects
of proposed projects
which might significantly alter the environment.

全国環境政策法は
初めて議会に提出された
1966年に
そして翌年
環境保護局(EPA)が
設立された
独立の局として
米国政府の重点支局として
「新しい法律を設定するために
および遂行するために
政府の活動を協同的にかつ効果的に
環境のために」。

環境保護局は統合する
単一の機関の中に
行政を
全ての連邦環境立法の
1899年の拒否制御法から
もっとも最近の法律まで
環境汚染に関する。

(環境保護)局は環境品質を監視し
汚染を制御する方法を見つけだす。

局は特別のプログラムを制定した
大気および水の汚染に関する、
危険な廃棄に関する、
毒性の化学品に関する
そして
調査を支援している
汚染制御の技術に関する。

局は集積する責任を持つ
環境に与える影響を記述した;
報告は生じる環境への影響に関する
提案されているプロジェクトの
それは環境を相当に変える惧れがある。

The National Environmental Policy Act, which became effective in 1971, **requires every US government agency** to issue a statement on any project it plans to undertake, regulate, or fund.

From its creation to the present day **the environmental impact statement has been attacked** as a hindrance to economic growth and as too vague to provide a strict standard for environmental control.

The EPA reviews all federal environmental impact statements to ensure that the statements comply with laws.

Litigation may be instigated if environmental considerations conflict with existing zoning or planning laws.

The Endangered Species Act of 1972, which is designed to protect rare animal and plant species, **has been used** to block several projects that might destroy vital wildlife habitats.

全国環境政策法は—それは1971年から有効になった—全ての米国政府の局にたいして求める見解書を提出することを全てのプロジェクトについて実施、規制、補助金を計画している。

その創設から現在まで環境影響に関する見解は攻撃されてきている。経済成長を阻害するものであると、そして極めて漠然としていると、厳密な標準を提供するには環境をコントロールする上で、

環境保護局は見直している。全ての連邦環境影響見解を確認するために(すなわち)見解は法律に従って行なわれていると。

訴訟は奨励されることもある。もし環境上の考慮が衝突するならば、既存の区域制や計画法律と。

1972年の絶滅危険生物に関する法は—それは保護するために計画された希少な動物や植物種を一利用されてきている。幾つかのプロジェクトを阻止するのに、大事な野生動植物を破壊する可能性のある。