## 第66回(令和3年10月) 文章入力スピード認定試験(英語)問題

Berk is the name of an island. A village of viking was located on the remote island. The village was attacked frequently by dragons, which took livestock and damaged property. There lived a boy who was fifteen years old and a son of the village chieftain. But he was awkward. He was also too scrawny and weak to fight the dragons, so he created mechanical devices instead. His inventions often backfired, though. He served on probation under the village blacksmith, his master. During one attack, the son used a bolas launcher to shoot down one dragon. The dangerous and rare dragon was little known. Although no one believed him, he searched for the fallen dragon by himself. He found the dragon in the forest, tangled in his net, and could not make away with it. Instead, he set the dragon free.

The village chieftain, his father, assembled a fleet to find the nest of the dragons, and entered his son in a class for fighting a dragon taught by the master blacksmith, to train while he was away. The son returned to the forest and found the dangerous and rare dragon still there, unable to fly because his bolas tore off half of its tail fin. He befriended the dragon, giving it even the name. Toothless was the name, because it usually hid all the teeth. Feeling guilty for crippling his friend dragon, he designed a harness rig and his hand made fin which allowed it to fly with his controlling the prosthetic.

Stellan, the son, learned about dragon behaviors as he worked with his friend dragon, and was able to nonviolently subdue all the captive dragons during the training, earning him the admiration of his peers. His tough but cute girlfriend Greta in the village, however, became increasingly suspicious of his behavior. Meanwhile, a fleet of a chieftain arrived at home unsuccessful, though he was cheered by an unexpected success of his son in dragon training. The son was judged the winner of his training class, and had to do away with the dragon for the final exam. He tries to run away with his friend dragon Toothless. But he was discovered by his

72

147

220

294

370

444

519

593

669

744

813

884

960

1,035

1, 109

1, 181

1,250

1, 326

1,398

1,437

1,509

1,584

1,657

1,728

1,802

1,875

1,946

2,021

2,094

girlfriend in the forest. He took her for a flight to demonstrate that the dragon was friendly. When she reminded him of the exam, the dragon unexpectedly took the pair to the nest of dragons, where they discovered a gargantuan dragon which ate the smaller dragons unless they constantly brought it food. The two realized that the dragons had been attacking their village under duress. His girlfriend wished to tell the village about their discovery, but he advised against it to protect his dragon.

Back at the village the next day, Stellan faced a captive monstrous dragon in his final exam. Instead of attacking it, however, he subdued it in an attempt to prove that dragons were peaceful. When his father inadvertently angered the dragon into attacking, his friend dragon arrived to protect him, but was captured by the village people in the process. The son accidentally revealed to his father that his friend dragon knew the location of the nest of dragons. Father disowned his son, and set off for the nest with his dragon chained to the lead ship as a guide. After the village people had left, he was devastated, but Greta, his girlfriend, prompted him to come to the realization that he had spared the dragon out of compassion and empathy, not weakness. He then regained his confidence to go after his friend dragon and save him.

The village attackers located and broke open the nest of dragons, causing most of the dragons to fly out, but awakening the large monster at the same time, which soon overwhelmed the attackers. The son, his girlfriend, and their fellow pupils flew in, rode captive training dragons in their village, provided cover fire, and distracted the monstrous one while the son freed his dragon. He almost drowned while doing so, but his father saved them both, reconciling with his son. The son and his dragon destroyed the monstrous one by puncturing its wing membranes and then tricked the beast into making a plunge. The son was injured in the fight, especially in his lower left leg. He awakened back in the village, finding

2.170

2,238

2, 313

2,384

2,455

2,526

2,600

2,669

2,744

2,812

2,887

2,963

3,035

3, 110

3, 183

3, 254

3, 328

3,402

3, 448

3,515

3,590

3,657

3,732

3,804

3,879

3,953

4,023

4,098

4, 174

that his master had dressed his wound. Stellan was admired by all the villagers, especially his girlfriend, who kissed him. The village began a new era, with humans and dragons living in harmony.

It has been five years since Stellan and his friend dragon Toothless successfully united dragons and villagers on the island. Berk island was a much happier place. Instead of stealing the livestock and destroying buildings, dragons lived amongst the villagers as working animals and companions, and even took part in racing sports. While his girlfriend and the rest of the fellow gangs were challenging each other to dragon races enthusiastically. The race was that dragons and their riders compete to catch sheep and dunk them in baskets. The race became the newest and the most favorite contact sport in the island.

On the other hand, the inseparable pair Stellan and Toothless, journey through the skies to explore unmapped territories and new worlds. When one of their adventures led to the discovery of a secret ice cave which was home to hundreds of new wild dragons and the mysterious dragon rider, the two friends find themselves at the very midst of a battle to protect the peace. But they were captured by another skilled dragon rider Valka, who recognized Stellan. She revealed that she was his long-lost mother. She was taken by a dragon when he was a baby. With his mother Stellan returned to warn his father, the village chieftain, about the dragon army. Now it was the time that Stellan and Toothless had to unite to stand up for what they believed. They had the power to change the future of both men and dragons.

4,245

4,320

4,374

4, 444

4,520

4,590

4,660

4,735

4,808

4,881

4,955

5,000

5,072

5, 148

5,220

5, 294

5, 367

5,441

5,515

5, 591

5,665

5,739

5,811

5,819