

## 第72回 (令和5年2月) 文章入力スピード認定試験 (英語) 問題

There is a story how a beckoning cat was born. A cat was kept at a grocery shop at the foot of a mountain. Of all things, that kitten had a face just like an angry human. After a few days, the master of the grocery store felt the kitten made him scary, because it looked like a cat blaming people. He thought it would make his customers scared as well, and kept it away from his store. He decided to leave the cat somewhere behind. He ordered his young clerk to abandon the cat in the temple town where there were many temples around. The young clerk put the cat in his inside pocket and went to the temple town walking by the big pond.

The kitten began crying because it might be hungry. The young man opened his pocket to be strict with the kitten. Then the kitten jumped out from the pocket and placed its tiny mouth in his throat. Actually the kitten was nuzzling the breasts, but he misunderstood the kitten was biting him. He felt scared. He yelled out and casted off the kitten. On listening to the yelling of the clerk, an elderly man of the teahouse by the pond came outside. The man asked the clerk what was going on. As the elderly man of the teahouse heard the story about the kitten from the young clerk, he admonished the clerk that it could not be the reason to abandon that kitten. He felt how poor the kitten was, but he agreed that it had a little different face. When he took a look closely, it was a kind of adorable. Then he told the clerk to leave the kitten, and decided to keep it in the teahouse.

In the meantime, people heard that there was a funny face kitten in the teahouse. More and more people came to visit all the way to the teahouse. The kitten then became a beckoning cat and invited lots of people, and it made the teahouse by the pond very successful.

The next is a teaching. A long time ago, there lived a priest who was called a tale bearer priest among village people in a temple. Since the priest made up stories all the time, no one in the village believed what he

said. One day, an idea came up in his mind to surprise people. He put an announcement by the large pond in front of a gateway of the temple. The next day at noon, a dragon is going up above from this pond. At that time there, the dragon was the master of the pond. The people who saw this announcement were very surprised. People believed the announcement because it was told that a dragon was living in this pond from long time ago. No wonder why everyone was piled around the pond in the next morning. By looking at the scene, the priest laughed delightedly because those village people were completely tricked by his joke. He was planning to go in front of them at noon and tell them it was his joke. He chuckled and could not wait to see their amazed look.

Soon after, noon had come. It was time to go. As the priest was going out, suddenly the sky was getting cloudy and dark. Then a real dragon showed up from the pond before him and vanished into the dark cloud with glittering his silvery scales. The village people were very surprised, but the priest who tricked people was much more surprised. He could not believe a real dragon was actually living in the pond. He was stunned for a while, but soon he ran in front of the village people and said loudly, because he had put the announcement, the dragon made its appearance. But the village people thought there came his lie again. They said that he was taking credit to himself for the appearance of a dragon, but no one believed the priest at all.

Let us get back in modern times. In nineteen eighty-seven, a man was taking part in the world sailing race. Then he noticed an alarming amount of garbage in the oceans. Returning home, he felt he had to do something about it.

He started close to home by organizing a community event called Cleanup day in nineteen eighty-nine. To his surprise, more than forty thousand volunteers came out to clear away garbage. Encouraged by this

success, the man decided to make the cleanup a national event the following 4, 086  
 year. It took off across his country, and an estimated three hundred 4, 156  
 thousand people spent the day working to improve their local environment. 4, 232  
 Cleanup day has been held annually since then, growing bigger every 4, 301  
 year. In nineteen ninety-three, the man started a much more ambitious 4, 372  
 program. With the help of the international organization, he launched 4, 443  
 cleanup the world to support communities around the world in cleaning up 4, 516  
 and conserving the environment. In its first year, more than thirty 4, 585  
 million people in eighty countries participated. Cleanup the world now 4, 657  
 falls on the third weekend of September every year, and it has grown more 4, 731  
 popular as the years go by. 4, 761  
 Today, Cleanup day welcomes more than half a million volunteers who 4, 830  
 help to clear thousands of tons of garbage from beaches, parks, streets, 4, 903  
 and waterways. They pick up used cigarettes, glass and plastic bottles, 4, 976  
 plastic bags, and thousands of snack food wrappers. In recent years, the 5, 050  
 man says there has been an increase in harmful electronic waste, such as 5, 123  
 computers and cell phones, and that electronic waste is accumulating faster 5, 199  
 than other trash. Electronic waste sometimes makes up seventy percent of 5, 273  
 the overall waste found in landfills. He feels that companies need to take 5, 349  
 more responsibility for the cleanup and recycling of their products since 5, 423  
 chemicals from electronic waste can cause health problems if they continue 5, 498  
 to leak into the ground or into the water supply. 5, 550  
 To help deal with electronic waste, he decided to take action. He 5, 618  
 started a program called cleanup cell phones to collect used cell phones 5, 691  
 for reuse and recycling. By starting Cleanup day, he raised awareness of 5, 765  
 how we treat our Earth. What is more, he united millions of people in 5, 836  
 their goal to make the world a cleaner place. Through persistence and hard 5, 912  
 work, he has shown that anyone who puts his or her mind to it can make a 5, 985  
 difference. 5, 996