

第73回 (令和5年7月) 文章入力スピード認定試験 (英語) 問題

Many travelers feel nervous about going to a new place. If you plan your trip carefully and learn to take cautions in advance, you can relax and enjoy yourself. There are four tips for safe travels.

First, check your paperwork. When you prepare for your departure, make sure your documents are organized. You should check the dates on your passport and visas. Having an important document expired before or during your trip is the last thing you want it to happen. If you plan to drive while you are abroad, you must get a driving license of that country as a matter of course. Also, do some research on the local currency. Some countries use more than one currency, and you should understand which and when you need to use.

Second, mind your health. If you need to take some medicines along, keep them in their original container. If you carry those that your doctor directed for you, bring a letter from your doctor in case customs officials question you at the landing place. You also should make sure that you travel with proper medical insurance so that can get treatment if you are sick or injured while traveling.

Third, pay attention to surroundings. As a tourist, you may stand out on the street. Unlike local people, you would carry guidebooks, refer to maps, take photos, and look up at buildings. Because of these actions, you may appear unguarded. Stay safe by keeping one eye on the amazing sights and the other on your personal items.

When you get into a taxi, make sure there is a meter and that it is turned on. In this case, there is no meter, you need to agree with the driver on a price before starting out. Tour guides recommend you to protect your baggage in busy transport areas by keeping it in front of you or between your legs all the time. If you are also going anywhere that requires buying tickets, be sure to buy them at an authorized spots or places. Never purchase tickets on the street, as these are often

overpriced, fake, or expired. You must be very careful about every kind of tickets. 2,047
2,058

Fourth, learn about the locals. It is always a good idea to buy a guidebook and a map, and read about the local culture of the country you visit. For example, it is important to know that you should use the right hand to eat, or to give and accept things in one country. You also should try to learn a few basic words and phrases of the local language. Do not assume that everyone would speak or understand English. If you have trouble in communicating, look for students or young people who might speak a foreign language. Remember to smile. It is the friendliest and sincerest form of communication, and it is understood everywhere in the world. 2,126
2,199
2,274
2,349
2,423
2,492
2,568
2,635
2,707
2,716

In folklore, a troll was a supernatural creature who lived in caves, undergrounds, or under bridges. Some trolls were portrayed as affable and even risible characters. But most were ravenous predators who lurked in the shadows waiting to pounce on and gobble up children who had been separated from their families and homes. Troll tales from the classical narratives taught children fear. Tales alerted children to the presence of peril and uncertainty in the world. Such stories showed children how to use their own resourcefulness and courage to overcome evil. In other words, trolls were an effective aid to survive. Though they are usually bad, they served a good purpose. 2,786
2,861
2,934
3,003
3,076
3,152
3,225
3,295
3,368
3,403

That is definitely not the case today, not with new breed of troll that also lurks in the shadows, that is, the dark obscurity of the Internet. Active everywhere online, trolls will resort to any hostiles and devious method to provoke anger and cause offense, such as lying, exaggeration, making racist, ageist comments, and even ridiculing suffering, disabilities, and grief. 3,471
3,538
3,614
3,680
3,746
3,784

Consider the reason why some people live like trolls. A recent study 3,855

designed to subtly judge characters anonymously polled over about four hundred people on the Internet averaging twenty-nine years old. The researchers concluded that trolls on the Internet are also trolls in real life. Trolls display what psychologists call the dark tetrad of most negative, and most socially harmful, personality features. First is narcissism, excessive egotism and preoccupation with personal prestige, Machiavellianism or the need to deceive and manipulate others. Second is psychopathy, which is characterized by a total lack of empathy and any kind of inhibition or behavioral control. Third is sadism, the pleasure that people take in inflicting pain or humiliation on others. The researchers found that sadism makes Internet trolls the most salient feature. One researcher told trolls or sadist just want to have fun, and that the Internet is their playground. He added, the Internet is given its anonymity and online disinhibition effect, and perceived freedom from responsibility and punitive consequences, greatly facilitates perverse enjoyment of trolls.

What can we do about the braying cyber mob, the trolls? Many news sites on the Internet have responded by shutting down their reader comment boards. One weekly paper says this could have the effect of neutering the valuable conversation that such news sites comments can help foster. The paper adds it would be a shame if good remarks were lost because of trolls rude and vulgar contributions. Acceptable opinions are the kind from users who feel a sense of kinship and community, the kind that inform readers, correct authors, and provide worthwhile insights in a polite and constructive manner. One broadcasting says technology could also help curb the escalating epidemic of trolls. New algorithms for identifying trolls and cyberbullies have the potential to prevent prolonged abuse. As one country recently did by increasing convicted prison sentences for trolls to two years, making punishments harsher can be another possible solution.