## 第80回(令和7年2月) 文章入力スピード認定試験(英語)問題

There has long been a tension between privacy levels and safety levels. Both online and offline, it is widely believed that our lives are becoming less and less private. Websites, security cameras, and even our cell phones are among the many factors to blame.

People used to say that everyone wanted their fifteen minutes of prestige. These days, the saying goes that people are worried about having fifteen minutes of privacy. Many details about our lives, from our net purchases to our walks in the park, are more public than ever. In some ways, data gathering and video viewing are turning our lives into open books.

Without question, we live in an information age. When applying for credit cards or visiting a doctor, our personal data is passed from person to person. Sadly, those details are not always safely protected or kept safe. Identity theft is widely spread, as are database thefts. According to one estimate, in the year of two thousand thirteen over eight hundred twenty million personal records are stolen. That almost doubled the record, which was set in two thousand eleven.

Of course, there is the internet. Online retailers, social network sites, and other websites often track our intranet activity. One of limited liability companies has come under fire more than any other enterprises. Through its search engine, mail, and tools like the toolbar, the company can record many of your online moves. That includes searches made, websites visited, and items purchased. Critics says the data is safe, and the company only uses it to improve our online experiences.

In a contemporary society, our privacy is even at risk when we go outside. Security cameras attached to street lamps, traffic lights, and buildings watch our every move. Satellites high above the earth also look down on us. Supporters of the trend say we live in dangerous times, and surveillance makes us safer. Critics say, however, it chips away at our

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freedom. Whoever is right, the video surveillance industry is red hot, worth an estimated fourteen billion dollars in the year of two thousand thirteen.

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When we travel at home or abroad, our privacy is also affected. Cell phones or smart phones can be tracked, letting people with the right equipment know our location. Identifications cards and passports are starting to use computer chips that store personal information. Also, more countries are taking fingerprints and photographs of people when they arrive at airports. Again, that is done for security reasons.

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As our privacy disappears bit by bit, some people are trying to live as simply as possible. By staying offline and limiting the flow of personal data, they are trying to fly under the radar. Others are embracing the situation. They accept that they are public figures and look for ways to turn it to their advantage. To millions of bloggers and other online celebrities, the idea of privacy is a thing of the past.

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The freedom of the net allows anybody to write about topics which interest them. Blogging is one of the most popular means to express yourself. A blog can be anything from a personal diary to a serious news or information outlet.

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Blogs, short for web logs, have grown into one of the most important types of websites on the net. There are now more than one hundred fifty million of them, published by office workers, singers, businesses, and people just like you and me. Blog posts often include links to other blogs, forming strong online communities. The massive collection of these personalized websites is known as the blogosphere.

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Besides being free, blogs are easy to maintain. There are two big reasons for their popularity. Beneath the main banner are entries posted by the blog writer, or blogger. New entries appear at the top, so posts are listed in the order that they were written. Besides text, bloggers can

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問題 その2

add photos, sounds, videos, clips, and web links. Furthermore, blogs usually allow readers to make comments, which can lead to interesting conversations.

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A blog may be about your daily life, job, hobbies, family or any other topic. If you are interested in, for instance, liquid crystal display televisions, you might start a blog about them, posting articles, reviews, and your opinions. Such content rich websites are resources which are informative yet personal. In the Internet age, that is a key combination which attracts readers.

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Blogs are having an impact in some interesting areas. Celebrities use blogs to post news, making traditional press releases less popular than they used to be. Reporters track comments on the blogosphere to measure the reaction by the public to events. And politicians use blogs to voice their ideas. Some blogs have even become major news sources.

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In one country, more than fifty percent of Internet users enjoy reading blogs. Statistics like that have caught the eye of works. companies hire bloggers to write about products. Writers can also make money by hosting advertisements from firms. Programs place advertisements on a blog based on its keywords. Bloggers can even set up deals with companies. For example, a blog about cats might display the banner of a pet food.

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With so much money making opportunities, popular bloggers can earn one thousand dollars per month or more. Some people even make a full time living from their sites. The key is to add new content on a regular basis You want people to know that your page is useful and up to That may mean spending several hours a day creating new content. If the traffic of your blog reaches two thousand visitors every day, it is a sign that you are a big hit in the blogosphere. You may be able to live by your blog.

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