

平成 27 年度推薦入試 人文学部社会科学科小論文試験の補足説明について

平成 26 年 7 月 16 日

人 文 学 部

平成 27 年度推薦入試における人文学部社会科学科の小論文試験を英語課題文による出題とすることといたしました。このことについて以下の通り補足的な説明をいたします。

- ① 英文課題文を読み、いくつかの日本語による設問に、日本語で解答させます。
- ② 英文課題文の文字数は 400～550 word 程度とします。
- ③ 英文の難易度は中堅教科書レベルとします。難しい英単語等には脚注表記で説明を加えます。
- ④ 次頁に英語課題文の例文を示します。

※例文のレイアウトやフォント等は実際の試験問題とは異なる場合があります。

※この例文は英語課題文のおよその難易度イメージをつかんでいただくためのものであり、例文に対する御意見、御質問等については、今後の問題作成の参考とさせていただきますが、回答はいたしません。

課題文例

The MEXT has proposed a new plan of English teaching which will be put into practice by 2020. The plan involves a curriculum in which Japanese elementary school students begin learning English when they are in the third grade. Third and fourth grade students participate in “foreign language activities”, and fifth and sixth grade students study “foreign language subjects”. (See chart 1.) The plan is based on the idea that an earlier start in learning English enables Japanese students to acquire English communicative competence and to have a potential for playing an active part in the globalized world.

A major trigger for the reform is the rise of the fear that Japan will be isolated in the globalized world. Japan is likely to lose competition in an increasingly globalized economy, and to be isolated in the world, due to the inability to communicate effectively in English. Underlying the fear is a repeatedly mentioned problem with the Japanese way of teaching English. It is argued to be ineffective in that it fails to improve students’ ability to speak English because

it puts a particular focus on reading and writing.

When the plan was released to the media, arguments for and against it arose.

Those who support the MEXT’s newly proposed policy refer to some policies on English teaching in the world as evidence for it. In European nations which do not suffer from any problem in developing English communicative competence, for example, English is seen as an important subject in the elementary school curriculum. There are cases where students begin learning English when they are in the first grade (France) and in the third grade (Germany).

Opponents of the newly proposed plan strongly emphasize the importance of acquiring a native language for children between the ages of six and twelve. They believe that Japanese elementary school students should spend much more time to learn Japanese, their native language, and develop the ability to communicate effectively, and to think logically, in Japanese, before learning English, a foreign language.

chart 1

注

- MEXT: the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (文部科学省) の略記
- competence: 適性、能力

