

# Grade 2

## 一次試験の出題形式

予想問題に取り組む前に、英検2級の一次試験の形式をよく知っておきましょう。解答しなければならない問題の特徴、解答のために必要な能力を知ることが2級合格への第一歩です。

### 筆記試験の構成

筆記試験は問題1「短文の語句空所補充問題」(20問)、問題2「長文の語句空所補充問題」([A], [B]合わせて6問)、問題3「長文の内容一致選択問題」([A], [B], [C]合わせて12問)、問題4「英作文問題」の4つの問題で構成されています。筆記試験の時間は85分です。

#### 1 短文の語句空所補充問題

全20問。1~2文からなる短い文章、もしくはAとBとの1往復の会話の一部が空所になっており、そこに当てはまる単語もしくは複数の語を4つの選択肢から選択します。形式は20問同じですが、問われる内容は3つに分かれており、毎回ほぼ単語10問、熟語7問、文法3問の内訳で構成されています。

#### 2 長文の語句空所補充問題

[A], [B]の2つの長文に、それぞれ3問の空所補充問題があります。文法的に正解を特定できることはほとんどなく、文章・文脈を理解できるかが最大のポイントです。

#### 3 長文の内容一致選択問題

[A], [B], [C]の3つの長文に、内容に関する問題がそれぞれ3問、4問、5問出題されます。読解力を問う問題ですが、[A]はEメール、[B], [C]は科学的、もしくは社会的記事なので、特にそのような内容の文章を語彙も含めてしっかり理解できるかが問われています。

#### 4 英作文問題

与えられたトピックに対し、80語~100語で英作文を書く問題です。自分の意見をサポートする2つの理由を挙げる必要があります。そのヒントはPOINTSとして提示されています。解答がトピックで示された質問にきちんと対応しているかはもちろん、文法力や語彙力、文章の構成力も評価されます。

### リスニングテストの構成

第1部15問、第2部15問の計30問です。どちらもリスニングテスト共通の項目、すなわち英語の発音が聞き取れるか、2級レベルの難易度・速度の放送文を的確に理解できるかが問われています。それぞれの具体的な形式と、特に問われている項目は次の通りです。

#### 1 会話の内容一致選択問題

放送文はAとBの2人の会話で、通常2往復(A-B-A-B)であることが多いです。最後に質問が読まれ、その答えを問題冊子に印刷されている4つの選択肢から選びます。会話と質問は1度しか読まれません。特に、会話表現を理解しているか、会話の流れを把握できるかが問われています。

#### 2 文の内容一致選択問題

放送文は50語程度の英文です。最後に質問が読まれ、その答えを問題冊子に印刷されている4つの選択肢から選ぶ点、そして英文と質問は1度しか読まれない点は第1部と同じです。アナウンス、個人に関する文章、社会的・科学的なトピックに関する文章が主に出題されます。それぞれを聞いて話の流れ・内容が理解できるかといった「聴解力」を問う問題です。



(第1段落)→「本論」→「結論」(最終段落)の流れです。各段落の構成は、特に「本論」の段落では、最初の文で要旨を述べ、残りの文で具体的に説明するパターンとなっています。

● 本文を先に読むか、設問を先に読むか

まず本文をざっと読んで全体の主旨や流れをとらえ、それから質問と選択肢に目を通し、正解を探すためにもう一度本文をじっくり読むというのが1つの方法です。ただし、これでは時間が足りない、いきなり長文を読んでも全体を把握するのがまだ難しいという人には、まず質問や選択肢にざっと目を通して全体的な流れや読み取りのポイントのヒントを得て、それから長文に当たるやり方もあります。

● 読み返さずに読み下す

日本語の語順にあわせ、視線を右往左往させて訳しながら読むことは、時間がかかるだけではなく、読み落とし、誤解の原因にもなります。文を意味のまとまりごとに区切り、その区切りごとに頭から順に意味をとらえる「読み下し」を普段から心がけましょう。そうすることで日本語に訳さず直接英語が理解できる「直解力」や「速解力」の養成になります。

#### 4 英作文問題のポイント

● 時間配分は？

試験時間85分の約4分の1にあたる20分をかけるようにしましょう。

● 試験の内容をつかもう

- ・与えられたTOPICについて自分の意見とその理由を2つ書く。
- ・TOPICとともに、理由を書く際の参考となるPOINTSも提示されるが、これらのPOINTS以外の観点から理由を書いてもよい。
- ・語数の目安は80語～100語。

● 解答文のパターンを知ろう

①最初にTOPICについての自分の意見を明確にする。「あなたは…だと思いませんか」という質問に対して、YesまたはNoの立場を明らかにする。

②上の①の意見に対する1つ目の理由、2つ目の理由を提示する。解答文は改行することは求められていないので、つなぎ言葉を用いるなどして論理的に書く。

③最後にTOPICについての意見を再度記す。この際、TOPICの英文や冒頭で書いた文と異なる言い回しを使うとよい。

● 観点別採点とは？

英作文問題では、以下の4つの観点で採点されます。

- 【内容】: 課題で求められている内容が含まれているか。
- 【構成】: 英文の構成や流れがわかりやすく論理的であるか。
- 【語彙】: 課題にふさわしい語彙を正しく使えているか。
- 【文法】: 文構造にバリエーションがあり、それらを正しく使えているか。

## 1st day 筆記試験(1)

1

次の(1)から(20)までの( )に入れるのに最も適切なものを1,2,3,4の中から一つ選び、その番号を解答用紙の所定欄にマークしなさい。

- (1) A: Have you seen Dave and Lisa lately? It seems like they're spending a lot of time together.  
B: I heard a ( ) that they are dating, but I don't know if that's true or not.  
1 proposal    2 question    3 rumor    4 thought
- (2) The recipe called for butter, but I ( ) low-fat margarine because I'm on a diet.  
1 replaced    2 substituted    3 criticized    4 shifted
- (3) Bill's grandmother is a very ( ) person. She always gives Bill and his brothers very expensive presents on their birthdays.  
1 considerate    2 generous    3 eccentric    4 positive
- (4) A: The school's baseball team is so good. How did you guys get so good?  
B: I think one ( ) is the coaching we have. The coaches have helped us so much.  
1 factor    2 position    3 objective    4 compliment
- (5) A: Hi, Bob. Can you ( ) a minute this afternoon? I'd like to have a word with you.  
B: Yes, of course.  
1 gain    2 lose    3 spare    4 consume
- (6) A: How was my science report, Mr. Harris?  
B: It was good, Jane. But there were a lot of spelling mistakes. You have to type more ( ).  
1 neatly    2 accurately    3 rapidly    4 impressively
- (7) Roger's history teacher is not popular because he always ( ) a lot of homework, especially on weekends.  
1 expresses    2 defines    3 implies    4 assigns



- (8) He sent Mary a gift by special ( ) so it would be in time for her birthday.  
1 mailing      2 transfer      3 sending      4 delivery
- (9) One of my cousins always complains that she cannot ( ) to buy a car with her small salary.  
1 afford      2 allow      3 count      4 regard
- (10) A: John, have you found a new job?  
B: No, not yet. I've e-mailed ( ) to seven different companies, though.  
1 positions      2 careers      3 records      4 applications
- (11) Jane was in hospital for two weeks, so she had to work hard to ( ) up with all the class work she missed at school.  
1 catch      2 send      3 push      4 try
- (12) The family was well ( ) because both of the parents were working and earned good salaries.  
1 in      2 off      3 down      4 over
- (13) Lost in the mountains for a week, the party was gradually ( ) short of food supplies.  
1 moving      2 leaving      3 running      4 turning
- (14) It was ( ) to impossible to go out in the terrible weather, so we decided to kill time by watching TV.  
1 free      2 far      3 next      4 similar
- (15) David is still in his early teens, but he has already decided to ( ) in chemistry when he attends university.  
1 major      2 deal      3 participate      4 result
- (16) A: Hi. How was your day? You look tired.  
B: I am. I've been on the ( ) ever since I left the house this morning. I just want to sit down and relax.  
1 go      2 come      3 wake      4 step

- (17) All of John's friends were waiting at the station. John gave the excuse that the train was late because he did not want to ( ) face.  
1 call      2 shove      3 bake      4 lose
- (18) A: Did you go to the movie last night?  
B: No. I would ( ), but I had too much homework to do.  
1 go      2 gone      3 have gone      4 had gone
- (19) Never ( ) away from home, the new students will probably get homesick.  
1 being lived      2 had lived      3 having lived      4 to be lived
- (20) A: Do you know if Aunt Jill is planning to come and stay with us at Christmas this year?  
B: As ( ) as I know, she's coming, but I haven't actually asked her. I'll write to her tomorrow.  
1 long      2 soon      3 far      4 more



## A The Nicest Day on the Calendar

Nobody seems to know for sure who Saint Valentine was or when exactly he lived, and yet we celebrate Valentine's Day in countries as far apart as the U.S. and Japan.

It seems clear that a person by the name of Valentine lived and that ( 21 ) because he was a Christian. The most popular story may be that he was a priest and secretly married Christian couples in ancient Rome. In less well-known stories, he signed his letters from prison "Your Valentine" or "I love you." But in all the legends, he was killed for his beliefs.

In an ancient Roman festival, unmarried girls' names were put into a box and unmarried boys picked them out. The couple was supposed to be together for a year. It is believed that Valentine's Day cards, a big part of the Western celebration, ( 22 ) that those ancient sweethearts wrote to each other.

In America, children celebrate Valentine's Day by exchanging cards and heart-shaped candies. Adults use it as ( 23 ) romantic affection. Common gifts, usually given by a man to a woman, include flowers and chocolates. And every year February 14 is one of the most popular days to get married.

No matter who Saint Valentine may have been, the day named after him is the nicest day on the calendar. What other day do we have that is devoted to love?

- |      |                            |                            |
|------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| (21) | 1 people were impressed    | 2 he was killed            |
|      | 3 it was natural           | 4 he was unfaithful        |
| (22) | 1 resulted in a change     | 2 published the books      |
|      | 3 evolved from the letters | 4 denied the facts         |
| (23) | 1 an opportunity to show   | 2 a reference to determine |
|      | 3 a tool to accept         | 4 a reason to avoid        |

## "Lonesome George"

"Lonesome George" is the name of the world's rarest living animal, a giant tortoise found in 1971 on an island near South America. Why is he so unusual? Because he is the last living member of his particular group of tortoises. When he dies, this group ( 24 ). In order to prevent this, scientists are searching for a female tortoise like him so that he can pass on his genes.

Lonesome George was found on one of the Galapagos Islands, a group of islands about 800 miles off the coast of Ecuador. For a long time, each island in the group had no contact with any of the others and ( 25 ) the animals on each island developed independently. The islands are famous because Charles Darwin visited them in 1835 and by studying the animals there got the idea for his theory of evolution. Like the other animals, the tortoises on each island gradually developed their own special characteristics. It is said that the shell of each group has a unique shape.

Unfortunately, since Darwin's time, the islands have been ( 26 ) human activity. Fishermen hunted the tortoises for food and introduced other animals, such as goats, to the islands. These animals ate the plants the tortoises depended on. Three of the original 14 different groups of tortoises have already died out. On his island, Lonesome George was the only remaining member of his subspecies.

Now a group of scientists has begun searching for the female on the other islands with the closest genes to George's. To their surprise, they have discovered that those most similar to him do not live nearby. In fact, they live on the islands furthest away. By analyzing the DNA of these tortoises, they hope soon to locate a suitable female and to persuade Lonesome George to have some children before it's too late.

- |      |                           |                                     |
|------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| (24) | 1 will develop a strategy | 2 may evolve into different species |
|      | 3 will become extinct     | 4 can move to other places          |
| (25) | 1 as a result             | 2 even though                       |
|      | 3 by the way              | 4 in short                          |
| (26) | 1 fully protected from    | 2 carefully restored by             |
|      | 3 less associated with    | 4 greatly damaged by                |



次の英文 A, B, C の内容に関して、(27) から (38) までの質問に対して最も適切なもの、または文を完成させるのに最も適切なものを **1, 2, 3, 4** の中から一つ選び、その番号を解答用紙の所定欄にマークしなさい。

## A

From: David Jones <djones@spotmail.com>  
To: Joan Smith <joansmith@spotmail.com>  
Date: March 5, 2015  
Subject: Private and confidential

Director Smith,

Thank you so much for your message about the possibility of going to China as the head of a new Shanghai office. I discussed the matter with my family last night and their reaction was very positive. Actually, my wife studied Chinese at university and spent one year in Beijing, so she was very excited at the idea of revisiting the country. She wants to brush up her Chinese. My two sons were naturally worried about leaving their friends, but they were also excited by the chance to go abroad.

For me, although I am interested in China, I am even more interested in the job itself. As you know, I have been looking for a chance to take on more responsibility and this seems an ideal opportunity. Also, the question of how to provide advertising that works in a different culture is an increasingly important one. If I go, I would miss all my colleagues here, but I feel that it is time for me to take on a new challenge. So, I would like very much to be considered for the job.

Lastly, I have a few questions. I realize that my salary would increase, but would there also be an allowance for living abroad? Would the rent for housing in Shanghai (which I hear is very expensive) be paid by the company? In addition, would the company cover the children's school fees and also air fares for holidays back home? Although I am very excited about the possibility of moving to China, I am sure that you understand that there are many practical questions that I must also consider. Lastly, though, I would like to express my thanks to everybody for considering me for such an exciting opportunity.

With best wishes,  
David

(27) What is David's family positive about?

- 1 Learning a new language.
- 2 The possibility of a holiday.
- 3 Having a family discussion.
- 4 The chance to live in China.

(28) Why is David interested in the new job?

- 1 He hopes to learn Chinese.
- 2 He wants more responsibility.
- 3 He needs a change from advertising.
- 4 He would like different colleagues.

(29) One thing that David is concerned about is

- 1 who will pay for his children's school.
- 2 where he will be sent in China.
- 3 when the new job will start.
- 4 whether or not he can take his family.

**B**

## A Home from Home?

Probably many of us, when we look up at the night sky, wonder whether there might be somewhere another planet that is just like ours. Now, for the first time, scientists have discovered a planet which makes such an idea much more likely. At first sight, the planet they have found seems very different from the Earth. Yet, closer study has shown it to be the most similar to the Earth of any planet yet discovered.

The planet circles a star that is relatively close to our own sun. The star is called Gliese 581 and lies in the constellation Libra. The planet is one of three that circle the star and has been named Gliese 581c. It is about 1.5 times the size of the Earth and much closer to its star than the Earth is to the Sun. In fact, one year on the planet only lasts 13 days. One might think that it is therefore much hotter than the Earth, but the star has only about half the temperature of the Sun. As a result, temperatures on the planet remain between 0 and 40 degrees centigrade.

It is these conditions that make the planet suitable for life. Scientists have realized for a long time that life could only develop on a planet in what is called the "habitable zone." This means the area that is neither so close to a star that any water on it evaporates\*, nor so far away that it is permanently frozen. In fact, this planet was discovered by searching this "habitable zone" among nearby stars.

Scientists say that only a planet like Gliese 581c could have life in a similar way to the Earth. Moreover, they say that the discovery of this planet makes it likely that there are many more such planets to be found. Last year, the European Space Agency launched a space telescope which they will use to look for other planets that may support life. They hope to find up to 40 such planets. It may be possible that creatures like us on Gliese 581c are looking up at the sky and wondering whether there are any planets just like their own.

\*evaporate : 蒸発する

- (30) What have scientists recently discovered?
- 1 A new method for searching space.
  - 2 An undiscovered star very near our own sun.
  - 3 A way to examine carefully the night sky.
  - 4 A planet that is similar to the Earth.
- (31) Which of the following is true of Gliese 581c?
- 1 It has a longer year than the Earth.
  - 2 The temperatures on it are similar to those on the Earth.
  - 3 The star it circles is much hotter than the Sun.
  - 4 There are three other planets located near it.
- (32) Why are planets far from a star unsuitable for life?
- 1 They are very difficult to be discovered.
  - 2 Any water on them is absorbed by the air.
  - 3 There are no nearby stars to explore.
  - 4 It is too cold on them for life to develop.
- (33) What do scientists believe about Gliese 581c?
- 1 That people living on it are watching us.
  - 2 That it would make a good site for a telescope.
  - 3 That there are many other planets like it.
  - 4 That it is much hotter than the Earth.



## Eyes and Memory

Scientists have recently been finding out many different ways to improve memory. In fact, various drugs have now been developed that help people who are suffering from memory problems. Although doctors do not recommend that healthy people use these drugs, there is much evidence that they are doing so. In the U.S., for example, many students are said to use drugs that help improve concentration. Now, however, a British scientist has found evidence of a much simpler way to boost your memory.

Dr. Andrew Parker of Manchester Metropolitan University decided to test the effect of moving the eyes on the memory. Parker designed an experiment that would test two different types of memory: recall memory and recognition memory. Recall memory means simply the ability to bring to mind something that you have experienced in the past. Recognition memory, on the other hand, means the ability to recognize exactly where you encountered something. Recognition memory often fails. For example, you might think that you heard a certain word in conversation, when really you read it in the newspaper.

In his experiment, Parker had 102 students listen to a male voice reading out groups of 15 words. He then gave the students lists of words and asked them to mark the ones that had been read out. The lists contained a number of “lure” words—words that had not been read out but were suggested by the ones that had. He then divided the students into three different groups. The first group was told to move their eyes from side to side before listening to the words. The second group was told to move their eyes up and down. The third group was not told to do anything.

The results were impressive. The first group’s results for recall memory were on average 10 percent better and their results for recognition memory were on average 15 percent better. This meant that they were much less likely to be fooled by the “lure” words in the lists. Dr. Parker says that he hopes his research will lead to more results with a practical benefit for people who want to improve their memories.

- (34) What are many people in the U.S. doing against doctors’ advice?
- 1 Looking for new ways to improve the memory.
  - 2 Finding simpler ways to cure their illnesses.
  - 3 Using drugs to help them study more effectively.
  - 4 Concentrating hard to pass memory tests at school.
- (35) “Recognition memory” is the ability to remember
- 1 words that you hear in conversation.
  - 2 where you came across something.
  - 3 the content of what you have read.
  - 4 why you experienced something before.
- (36) What did all the students in the experiment have to do?
- 1 Mark the words that they had just heard.
  - 2 Read out three different lists of words.
  - 3 Move their eyes in different directions.
  - 4 Suggest words that had not been read out.
- (37) What was one of the groups 10 percent better at?
- 1 Finding practical ways to use the new technique.
  - 2 The correct way of moving their eyes.
  - 3 Remembering which words had been read out.
  - 4 Recalling exactly where they first heard a word.
- (38) What is one of the benefits of Dr. Parker’s research?
- 1 It helps people to improve their vocabulary.
  - 2 His method is more effective than earlier ones.
  - 3 Students are less likely to be fooled by false information.
  - 4 People can boost their memories without using drugs.