

## 高校生英語 休講期間中の課題⑤～4月17日用～

### ●次の英文を読んで、あとの問いに答えなさい。

Katsura Kaishi is a \*professional *rakugo* \*performer. He performs English *rakugo* in many foreign countries. Three Japanese high school students and their \*ALT are \*interviewing him.

ALT : Why did you start doing English *rakugo*, Kaishi?

Kaishi : Because I want to \*share *rakugo* with people \*all over the world. If you perform *rakugo* only in Japanese, you can share this wonderful part of Japanese culture only with people in Japan.

ALT : I see. How many countries have you performed in?

Kaishi : Well, I have performed English *rakugo* in more than 100 cities in over 20 countries, and the number is \*increasing.

ALT : More than 100 cities? That's \*amazing!

Student 1 : Did you have any trouble when you performed in those foreign countries?

Kaishi : Yes, I did. In New York, I had to sit on a table with only one leg because there was no stage. The performer must sit higher than \*audience in *rakugo*. In \*Chicago, when I said "Hello" as one of the \*characters, the audience thought I was talking to them, and they said "Hello" back to me. They didn't know the performer looks right and left to perform different characters.

Student 1 : That's very funny. Is it difficult for people from foreign countries to understand the \*humor of *rakugo*?

Kaishi : No. *Rakugo* is \*not just short \*jokes but a story, and *rakugo* stories are about our \*everyday life and everyday characters. \*Even if we live in different countries and have different cultures, human \*lifestyles are not so different.

Student 2 : Do you think Japanese people can enjoy English *rakugo*, too?

Kaishi : Yes, I think so. Japanese people get \*nervous if they think it is an English listening test. \*However, *rakugo* is not like that at all. *Rakugo* is an art of words, \*expressions, and \*actions. It is easy to understand. You will laugh \*naturally.

Student 2 : That's good to know. Then, do you think performing English *rakugo* \*helps \*improve your English?

Kaishi : Of course it helps! When you talk to foreign people, you cannot be sure they understand your English. In *rakugo*, however, if the person is laughing, then that means they understood your English. It is a great \*pleasure to \*make yourself understood in English. \*Laughter is the best communication, and enjoying communication helps improve your English.

Student 3 : What did you learn from performing English *rakugo* in foreign countries?

Kaishi : When I performed English *rakugo* in \*India, I told a joke about a cow. However, cows are \*sacred animals in that country, so some people \*got angry at me. Through this experience, I learned that being able to speak English is not enough. \*Respecting the culture of the people you are talking to is also important.

Student 3 : I see. Do you have a message for high school students in Japan?

Kaishi : Sure. I often perform *rakugo* in other countries. I \*realize that many people speak English

as a second or foreign language. That means if you can speak English, you can communicate with people from many different countries. I hope you will enjoy learning English and \*spread your \*wings to travel \*throughout the world!

※ professional 職業の、プロの performer 演技者、名人 perform 行う、演じる

ALT=Assistant Language Teacher(言語指導助手) interview インタビュー(する)

share 共有する share A with A を B と共有する all over the world 世界中 increase ふえる、増加する

amazing 驚くべき、すばらしい audience 聴衆、観客 Chicago シカゴ character 性格、役

humor ユーモア、気分 not A but B A ではなくて B joke 冗談、ジョーク everyday 日常の、毎日の

even if ~ たとえ~だとしても lifestyle 生活様式 nervous 神経質な、いらいらする however しかし

expression 表現 action 行動、演技 naturally 自然に improve 改善(進歩)する

pleasure 楽しみ、喜び laughter 笑い、笑い声 help (to) do 役に立つ

make oneself understood (人の)言葉(考え)をわからせる India インド sacred 神聖な、宗教上の

get angry at A A を怒る respect 尊敬(する) realize (はつきり)理解する spread 広げる

wing 羽 throughout ~じゅう

Q1 Choose the best answer.

① Why does Kaishi perform English *rakugo*?

a To improve his English. b To share *rakugo* with foreigners. c To be a professional performer.

② What has Kaishi learned from performing in foreign countries?

a To laugh naturally. b To respect other cultures. c To understand the humor of *rakugo*.

Q2 Fill in the blanks with the words in the box below, and then choose the correct title for each part.

Part 1 ( I )

Kaishi is a (1 ) *rakugo* performer. When he does his performance in (2 ), he can easily share the culture of *rakugo* with foreign people. He has (3 ) *rakugo* in over 20 countries so far.

Part 2 ( II )

Kaishi experienced difficult times when he performed in (4 ) countries. Foreign people understand the (5 ) of *rakugo* because the stories come from everyday life.

Part 3 ( III )

(6 ) people can enjoy English *rakugo* because it is not like an English listening test at all. Performing *rakugo* in English can help you (7 ) your English.

Part 4 ( IV )

Kaishi finds (8 ) other people's cultures very important. He wants high school students to spread their (9 ).

**Titles** a Performing in Different Countries

b A message to Young People

c How Japanese People Enjoy English *Rakugo*

d Why Kaishi Began English *Rakugo*

**Words**

[ professional / humor / Japanese / English / performed / improve / respecting / wings / foreign ]