E部門 (A)

() 内は自分で考えて原稿を仕上げてください。

モデルリーディングは Example を読んでいます。

The Perfect Day (修正版)

Do you find it hard to get out of bed? Waking up early is difficult enough without the daily grind of school, clubs, chores, homework and commuting. Sure, the routine of school and other responsibilities helps us form healthy life habits - but have you ever thought what your one perfect day would be?

For me, I'd wake up at (time) in (location). For breakfast I'd have (food) followed by (drink). Then I'd be off to (activity). After a while, it'd be time to (another activity). I like (activity) because (reason). For lunch, I'd have (food) because (reason). In the afternoon I'd like to (activity). (Activity) is (important) because (reason). Getting hungry again, I'd have dinner at (location). I'd like to invite (who) so I could talk to them about (topic). In the evening I would then (activity). I like (activity) because (reason). Bedtime would be around (time) and I'd dream of (what).

How does that sound? What would be your perfect day? Thankfully, we've had a chance to meet today and I hope my thoughts on a good life have inspired you to think about, and of course, enjoy yours.

*4月にアップロードした原稿では、下線部が

(Activity) is important because it makes me (feeling).

となっていました。修正いたします。(修正前の文で原稿を作成され

ても、減点とはなりません)

Example

The Perfect Day

Do you find it hard to get out of bed? Waking up early is difficult enough without the daily grind of school, clubs, chores, homework and commuting. Sure, the routine of school and other responsibilities helps us form healthy life habits - but have you ever thought what your one perfect day would be?

For me, I'd wake up at (9am) in (a yacht by a tropical island). For breakfast I'd have (eggs benedict and pizza) followed by (a mango lassi). Then I'd be off to (explore the rainforest). After a while, it'd be time to (take a swim). I like (swimming) because (it refreshes me). For lunch, I'd have (a beach BBQ) because (I enjoy eating food in nature). In the afternoon I'd like to (go shopping in the old parts of Paris). (Shopping) is (fun) because (I can find interesting things). Getting hungry again, I'd have dinner at (a Mexican restaurant). I'd like to invite (my friends) so I could talk to them about (funny stories). In the evening I would then (go star watching). I like (star watching) because (I can feel the expanse of the universe). Bedtime would be around (11pm) and I'd dream of (living in a very uniquely designed house).

How does that sound? What would be your perfect day? Thankfully, we've had a chance to meet today and I hope my dream day has inspired you to think about, and of course, enjoy yours.

E部門 (B)

() 内は自分で考えて原稿を仕上げてください。

モデルリーディングは Example を読んでいます。

Festivals

Today is the Newton Cup English Speech Contest. It's typically held every year. Lots of other events, too, happen on an annual cycle. The big ones we know of are New Years, Christmas, Halloween and Valentine's. There are many particular to Japan too like Girls' Day in March and Boys' Day in May. There's also the Star Festival in summer where we can make a wish and tie it to some bamboo. One of my favorite Japanese festivals is (name). It celebrates (what). It's held on (date). I like it because (reason).

Why do we have festivals? Most are fun or celebrate a particular event. On a deeper level, they often represent some feature of a culture that's important to remember and replicate. Culture is made up of many shared and continued beliefs and behaviors. These traditions bring people together and create community bonds, especially when passed through generations. However, in Japan, some festivals are getting harder and harder to host. Many festivals are connected to natural cycles. As our lifestyles become more and more urbanized, we are disconnected from these cycles and the need to honor them. There's also less young people in number, and willingness, to prepare and participate in them. The gap between generations is getting dangerously wide for these festivals to disappear.

On a positive note, maybe in the future we'll see new festivals and traditions made. One I would like to suggest is (festival idea). Would you like to join?

(Example)

Festivals

Today is the Newton Cup English Speech Contest. It's typically held every year. Lots of other events, too, happen on an annual cycle. The big ones we know of are New Years, Christmas, Halloween and Valentine's. There are many particular to Japan too like Girls' Day in March and Boys' Day in May. There's also the Star Festival in summer where we can make a wish and tie it to some bamboo. One of my favorite Japanese festivals is (Setsubun). It celebrates (the removal of demons and bad luck from our lives in preparation for spring). It's held on (February 3rd). I like it because (we get to throw beans at demons and eat a delicious long sushi roll).

Why do we have festivals? Most are fun or celebrate a particular event. On a deeper level, they often represent some feature of a culture that's important to remember and replicate. Culture is made up of many shared and continued beliefs and behaviors. These traditions bring people together and create community bonds, especially when passed through generations. However, in Japan, some festivals are getting harder and harder to host. Many festivals are connected to natural cycles. As our lifestyles become more and more urbanized, we are disconnected from these cycles and the need to honor them. There's also less young people in number, and willingness, to prepare and participate in them. The gap between generations is getting dangerously wide for these festivals to disappear.

On a positive note, maybe in the future we'll see new festivals and traditions made. One I would like to suggest is ("Pikka-cho". It's one day where everyone picks up trash in the town to make it a "Shiny Neighborhood". The trash would be reused to create a character to remind people not to drop trash or create waste). Would you like to join?

Ingenuity

There's an American TV series called MacGyver. In it, a government agent solves cases and escapes impossible situations. He's famous for his quick, clever thinking and using any items at hand to build or make things to succeed. In one episode, to catch a criminal, he makes a lie detector using only a blood pressure machine and alarm clock. Wow. The TV program has been so successful that 'Macgyver' is now a verb in the Oxford Dictionary. This skill of being clever, original, and inventive with what you can find or use is called 'ingenuity'.

Now, where we can find so much information on the internet, or buy almost anything online, our sense of ingenuity is in danger. We don't need to rely on ourselves so much. However, ingenuity is one of the best ways to keep your brain sharp and is great for the environment by being a natural way to encourage reuse and recycling.

Take this example from Australia. Australia is a very large country and to cross the middle, it's a long and hot drive through the desert. It's the perfect conditions for engine cooking. That's right, using the car's engine heat to cook while you drive!

More traditionally, Aboriginal people had an ingenious idea to cook emu — birds that look like an ostrich. They would dig a hole in the ground and fill it with hot rocks. After removing the emu's innards, it was stuffed with grass and buried in the hole. The important part was to leave the emu's long neck and head out of the hole. Why? Well, as the emu's meat cooked from the outside, the inside grass would heat and send smoke up the neck of the emu. When the smoke came out of the mouth like a natural chimney, it was a sign it was ready to eat!

Ingenuity is not only for government agents and cooking food. We can use it communicating; especially when using English. Finding ways to gesture, replacing unknown vocabulary with simple examples or even surviving your way through unfamiliar situations, you can challenge your ingenuity to pull through. In a world where the number of non-native English speakers is more than 4 times the number of native speakers, there has to be ingenuity to keep things going. We need to encourage English using whatever we can, whatever the mistakes, to keep moving on. That's the MacGyver spirit.

E 部門(D)

Stay hungry, stay foolish

Your time is limited, so don't waste it living someone else's life. Don't be trapped by dogma — which is living with the results of other people's thinking. Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition. They somehow already know what you truly want to become. Everything else is secondary.

When I was young, there was an amazing publication called The Whole Earth Catalog, which was one of the bibles of my generation. It was created by a fellow named Stewart Brand not far from here in Menlo Park, and he brought it to life with his poetic touch. This was in the late 1960's, before personal computers and desktop publishing, so it was all made with typewriters, scissors, and polaroid cameras. It was sort of like Google in paperback form, 35 years before Google came along: it was idealistic, and overflowing with neat tools and great notions.

Stewart and his team put out several issues of The Whole Earth Catalog, and then when it had run its course, they put out a final issue. It was the mid-1970s, and I was your age. On the back cover of their final issue was a photograph of an early morning country road, the kind you might find yourself hitchhiking on if you were so adventurous. Beneath it were the words: "Stay Hungry. Stay Foolish." It was their farewell message as they signed off. Stay Hungry. Stay Foolish. And I have always wished that for myself. And now, as you graduate to begin anew, I wish that for you. Stay Hungry. Stay Foolish. Thank you all very much.