

合格例

<試験官に関して>

試験官との距離は2メートル。自分の前にも机が置かれていた。よく声の通る部屋でした。

反省と感想：

①終わったあとに明確なグラマーミスを発見し、気が遠くなりました。パフォーマンスは笑顔炸裂で自分でもびっくりするほどよかったので、落ちるとしたらグラマーミスのせいだと思います。恥ずかしいので秘密にしておきます。

②そこかしこに富士の方がいらして励ましてくださり助かりました。

会場で富士の仲間にあうと緊張がほぐれました。

③コンテンツについては、少々の外れな部分があったかも知れないですが、試験中に沈黙して考え込むよりはいいだろうと思い、頭に浮かんだことを言いました。

④金曜日にがんばって午前・午後と出席したら、夕方には頭が痛くなってきました。土曜日は極力からだを休めることに専念しました。前日はじっくり休んだため、当日はすっきりとした頭で望めたと思います。

⑤準備期間が長いので、体力のみならず気力とやる気を保つことが大切だと思います。

入って左から順番に

TG: 50代の男性。冷たくはないが、少々強面な感じ。リラックスしていらした。紺色のブレザーに水色のシャツ。最後に質問をなさったのでとても驚きました。

NS: 50代の女性。白髪のショートカット、やせ気味の方。笑顔がとてもフレンドリー。とても賢そうでこの方にごまかしは効かないなと思った。黒いニット。

GO: 40代の男性。紺スーツにシャツ、ネクタイ。終始しかめ面。あまり英語を理解していなかった気がする。

TG: Could you tell us your name?

I: Yes! My name is Toko Umezawa.

TG: Where are you from?

I: I am from Setagaya ward.

NS: Where in Setagaya are you from?

I: From Sakura-shinmachi.

NS: Oh, I am living near Simokitazawa.

I: Oh, it's neighborhood. Hi!

NS: I would like to ask you a couple of questions.

I: Okay.

NS: Why do Japanese people clap their hands at some occasions in a particular rhythm?

I: Oh..., clapping hands... I think we clap our hands in the end of drinking opportunities. By doing it, we try to confirm that we are in the same group.

We sometimes drink together with senior people or junior people. So by clapping hands together, we can confirm the unity as a group even with different generations. (pause)

In addition to that, Japanese people believed clapping hands can draw away the evils in the atmosphere. So I think we are praying for the, praying to the gods for our safety on...our way back home, because we are drunk!

NS: (laugh) That's quite interesting. Well, why is David Beckham (?) so popular among Japanese?

I: I, I, I think Japanese people tend to adore western people. That is why we use foreign models in fashion magazines. I think that David Beckham had a good strategy to

become popular. He is not a No.1 soccer player in the west, but he is the most popular soccer player. I think Mr. Nakata who is playing in Italy and Mr. Inamoto who is playing in England have the same strategy. Both of them are very popular.

NS: (looked unsatisfied with my answer) I want to ask you about Obon. What is Obon?

I: Obon is a Buddhist event, which occur in August. It is usually from 13th, 14th, to 15th. At that moment, the spirits of the ancestors are supposed to visit our home own. So, we offer a lot of foods and put some lightning so that the spirits can find our home easily. We also offer dance in public area so that we can make a big noise and the ancestors can find us.

NS: Have you ever danced the Bon odori?

I: Yes. When I was small, I danced a lot. Actually, I do not live with my grandmother, but my grandmother often visited our house. She told me a lot of things. She told me how to make offerings in Obon. We prepared a cucumber and, what is it, an eggplant. We also prepare a chopstick, disposable chopsticks and break it into two parts. And we penetrate the cucumber and the other plants with it. Then it looks like four leg animals. It is so cute. (NS 笑顔。GO も笑顔。少し安心。しかし・・・)

TG: (この子はもしかしたら彼岸とお盆を混同してるかも知れないといたげにでした!) So, could you tell me the difference between the Higan in the Equinox?

I: Okay. I think the basic idea of Obon and Higan is the same. But I visit the graveyard of my grandfather in each Higan. (ここで TG が「そうかな?」という顔をしたので動揺する)

I am not sure if this is always the case with every Japanese, but in my family we always make sure to visit my grandfather's tomb in both spring equinox and autumnal equinox.

NS: All right. My questions are over.

I: (あまりに短いと感じたので) Oh, this is it? Thank you, have a good day.

ドアが重くて開かず、助けを求めようと振り返ったら、TG と NS が何か一生懸命書き込んでいて、とても気になりました。