

合格例

<試験官に関して>

外国人試験官：

30代半ばくらいの男性。愛想がよく、非常に聞き取りやすい話口調。ほとんどの質問は外国人試験官からだった。

通訳ガイド：

40代半ばの女性。要所、要所で相槌のジェスチャーを入れてくれた。フレンドリーな感じ。最初に住所と名前の質問をしてきた。

人物考査：

50歳前後の男性。面接中は、特段視線を投げかけてこなかった。最後の日本語の質問を担当していた。

<面接試験の実際>

I: Good morning.

NS: Good morning. (笑顔) Please have a seat.

I: (しばらく沈黙があったので) My name is . . . (とほぼ同時に TG から質問が)

TG: Please tell me your full name and address.

I: I'm I live in ... in Tokyo.

NS: Could you tell me about the Japanese climate?

I: The Japanese seasons are basically composed of spring, summer, autumn, and winter. We also have a rainy season which lasts from June to the middle of July. And several typhoons, or tropical storms, hit Japan.

NS: The typhoon season ... ah, is it safe to go out during the typhoon season in Japan?

I: (予期せぬ質問で、少しとまどう) It's not safe. These days the size of typhoons has become larger and larger due to global warming. So it's not a good timing for going out. However, there are a lot of attractions in Japan. It is still worthwhile visiting Japan. (笑顔、しかし心の中では indoor attractions かなと悔やむ)

NS: Then, what is the best season for foreign travelers to visit Japan?

I: (期待どおりの質問) I suggest two seasons ; spring and autumn. In spring, we Japanese throw a party called "ohanami" . People enjoy drinking and eating under the cherry trees. Some people enjoy karaoke, too. Autumn is also a good season. Many Japanese enjoy the changing color of leaves. Many people go to Nikko in Tochigi Prefecture and Hakone in Kanagawa Prefecture to view the autumn leaves.

NS: How about Kyoto? Is it possible to see the changing color of leaves in Kyoto?

I: Yes. There is a mountain named Arashiyama in Kyoto. There are tons of trees there, it's very beautiful. (話しながら、何か関連トピックを思いつこうとするが、特に思いつかずとりあえずジェスチャーだけはおおげさにして) You shouldn't miss it. (笑顔)

NS: What about the winter? Is it cold in Tokyo in wintertime?

I: As far as I know, it's about 10 degrees during the day, and at night it drops to about 0 degrees.

NS: I heard that Sapporo is much colder than in Tokyo. What's the weather like in

Sapporo?

- I: I guess Sapporo is much colder than in Tokyo. The temperature might be about minus 15 degree. (少し適当すぎたかなと思った)
- NS: Is that during the day?
- I: No, I'm talking about nighttime. In the daytime, it's about 0 degree at most. (答えるのに精一杯で、雪祭りなどの話を広げる余裕がなかった)
- NS: Japan has a long history. Who do you think is the most important person in Japanese history?
- I: It's a tough question for me. (こじつけだなと思いつつも) Personally, I believe the former prime minister Mr. Koizumi was one of the greatest leaders in Japanese history. He changed the Japanese politics a lot. He made the politics as transparent as possible. In addition, he successfully improved Japanese economy through the deregulation. He cut down to wasteful costs.
- NS: I see. OK, could you tell me what kind of customs that foreigners should be aware of when visiting Japan?
- I: Well, I can come up with two ideas. One is related to homes. When you enter a Japanese home, you should take off your shoes at the entrance. It's a Japanese custom. And another one is related to baths, or bathtubs. (ああ、何か変な表現と後悔) You should not unplug the bathtub after soaking in it. The same hot water in the bathtub is used by everyone in the family.
- NS: What about when people meet each other? In my country, when people meet, we shake hands. Is this the same in Japan?
- I: Generally, Japanese don't shake hands. Instead, we bow to each other. And if you were a business- person, it is also important to exchange business cards. A business card is a "must" item for every Japanese business person.
- NS: OK. Is it rude if I don't give my business card to a businessman?
- I: To some people, it may be rude. However, most Japanese are aware of western customs and culture, so it shouldn't be a problem at all.
- NS: Thank you.
- I: You are welcome.
- GO: 私からは、日本語で質問を行いますので、どうぞ日本語で回答ください。あなたが、通訳ガイドになられた場合、どのような点に注意してガイドの仕事をされますか?
- I: 大きく2つあります。ひとつは、日本の良さをわかってもらえるように努めていきます。日本の景観、歴史、それぞれの良さをわかってもらえるように、努力していきたいと考えています。
2つ目は、お客様のニーズに対応できるガイドでありたいと考えています。お客様は、ビジネスで来ていたり、スポーツ関係、また旅行の人など、いろいろな方がいらっしゃるかと思います。そのような、お客様のニーズにあわせて、観光コースのアレンジや説明にバリエーションをつけていきたいと思っています。
- GO: ありがとうございます。
- NS, TG: Thank you
- I: Thank you.