

<試験官に関して>

外国人試験官：

20代の若い女性。アメリカ英語。疲れ気味で終始笑顔がなく事務的だった。早口で声も小さく聞きづらかった。ほとんど彼女が質問をした。

通訳ガイド：

40～50代の現役ガイドのようなしっかりした女性。最初に荷物を机において座ってくださいと分かりやすい英語で話した。最後も彼女が英語でありがとうとって最後の合図をした。

<面接試験の実際>

NS	Please tell me your name and where you live?
I	My name is ... I live in ...
NS	I will ask you several questions. How different are the climates in Hokkaido and in Okinawa in winter?
I	The Japanese archipelago stretches from northeast to southwest, so climates are quite different in regions. Hokkaido is located in northern part of Japan, so it is very cold. On the other hand, Okinawa is in southernmost area, so it is quite warm even in winter.
NS	I want to travel with my mother in Okinawa. Where would you recommend me to go?
I	You mean you travel there in winter?
NS	Yes.
I	Well, as I said earlier, it is very warm in winter, so it is nice to walk around in Okinawa. First, I recommend you to visit a castle, Shuri Castle, which is one of important historical sites there. You can also enjoy its traditional music and food. Their culture is quite different from the rest of Japan. You can enjoy different culture there. (海の美しさや琉球王朝の話も入れたほうがよかったと思うが緊張していて余裕がなかった。)
NS	I heard average life expectancy in Okinawa is high. Why is it so?
I	It is because of their diet. They eat a lot of vegetables and pork as meat. Pork is nutritious because it contains a lot of vitamins.
NS	Oh really? I didn't know that. (終始疲れた顔で笑顔がなかったが、ここで初めて意外なほど興味を示したのが印象的だった)
I	Yes. Of course, warm weather throughout a year helps high average expectancy.
NS	I heard you have three different characters in Japanese. What are they?
I	Yes, we use three characters. The first one is Chinese characters which were imported from China. They look similar to Chinese. The second one is called Hiragana, which is a simplified Chinese character to represent sounds of Japanese words. The last one is Katakana, which is used to represent borrowed words from other countries. These days Japan has been so globalized that we have many English words in our daily life. We often use Katakana to describe those words.
NS	OK. When was the last summer Olympic Games hosted by Japan?
I	You mean winter Olympics? (突然話題が変わり聞き逃したので確認した)
NS	No, summer Olympics.

I	It was held in 1962 in Tokyo. (即答したが、後ですぐ 1964 年だったことに気付いた)
NS	OK. Thank you very much. Have a good afternoon.

<反省点、今後の課題、後輩へのアドバイス等>

笑顔は絶やさず身振り手振りで話したが全体に表現力不足だった。3人グループの最後で前の二人がとても長く(10分位)、私は事務的にあっさりと終わった(6分位)という印象だった。

富士では二次試験対策だけを受けましたが、日本事象についてどういうところが問題になるのか焦点を捉えることができました。クラスでの模擬面接は大勢の前だったのでとてもあがってしまいましたが、それが実際の面接の緊張感と似ていて、心の準備になりました。今回の結果はどうなるか分かりませんが、二次対策試験の問題集で取り上げられていた日本社会の特色や問題点など頭の中を整理するのにとても役立ちましたし、自分の表現力や構成力不足など今後の課題が分かりとても役立ちました。