

<試験官に関して>

試験官は以下 2 名でした。

入室するなり、TG の表情があまりにも厳しく、内心凍りついてしまいましたが、なんとかこの雰囲気崩そうと（まさに break the ice）最初から最後まで椅子から身をのり出すようにして質問を聞き、最大限のスマイルで通しました。

外国人試験官 (NS) : 眼鏡をかけた 30 代白人男性。標準的な米語だが東、とても話すスピードが早かった。声量は普通。雰囲気は優しくも怖くもなく普通。それほどフレンドリーではない（もしアメリカの方だとすると西ではなく東出身な感じ）。6 問全問この方からの質問だった。退室時、「bye-bye」と言っていたのもこの方だった。

通訳ガイド (TG) : こちらも眼鏡をかけた 40 代女性。入室時はかなり厳しい表情で受験者を終始凝視していた。英語は帰国子女と思われる大変綺麗な発音だが、声量がかかなり小さく聞き取りにくかった。イントロダクションの際の氏名・どこから来たかの質問と、途中 Q3 の後のコメントだけ発言された。

<面接試験の実際>

TG	Good morning.(と言っていたが、あまりに遠くではっきり聞こえない。) (窓際の面接席まで 10 歩くらい歩いて試験官の方を向く) Please take your seat.
I	Thank you. (隣席に荷物を置いたが時間がかかったので) Thank you for your patience.
TG	May I have your name and where are you from today?
I	My name is ... and I came from ... today.
NS	OK, I will ask you some questions, firstly. Please tell me Japanese topography?
I	Japan stretches long from the north to south over 3000km, and has high mountain ridges in the mid-land. Also there are small islands (長い、高い、といったアクション付き) .
NS	All right, next. What's bonsai?
I	Oh, bonsai.. Bonsai is dwarfed potted tree. It is popular among elderly people, but now younger generation is also interested in, because it's creative pastime. It requires us attentive care such as pruning, re-potting, and good fertilization (ハサミで切ったり、植え替えなどのアクション付き) .
NS	I see. Thank you. Please imagine, I am a tourist in Japan. Where do you recommend for cherry-blossom viewing?
I	Many people will suggest you the major Ueno park or Kitanomaru-park near the Imperial Palace, but I dare to recommend Meguro river, it's my neighborhood. Along the river, lots of cherry trees stand stretching more than 2km. You can walk along drinking a beer in one hand, and a skewered chicken in the other hand (私が片手に缶ビール、やきとりというアクション付きだったのでここで笑い) .
NS	So, you do like that in every year?
I	Yes, that's my annual event.
NS	Well, let's move on. How old is the retirement age in Japan? And what do they do after retirement?
I	It's 60 or 65. People after retirement spend their time on their pastime such as traveling, mountain hiking. Personally thinking, those are still energetic after retirement, I would like them to work, putting their power to the society.

NS	OK. What is Shi-Chi-Go-San?
I	It has just over this year. It occurs in the middle of November, and is a gala day of children aged 3, 5, 7 years, the 3 and 7 for girls, 5 for boys. A parent who has these children takes them to a shrine for getting purification to pray their happy future and celebrate their growth.
NS	Thank you. Then, I'll ask you your opinion. What do you think about recent economy situation?
I	Bad situation started after Lehman Brother's shock last year, especially lots of banks and security company were hit severely. And the Japanese society has been still sluggish. I think it will take more than a couple of years to get back the former level.
NS	All right. (TG に向かって)Do you have any question?
TG	(小声で) No.
NS	Thank you for today.
I	Thank you. Bye-bye.

<反省点、今後の課題、後輩へのアドバイス等>