

<試験官に関して>

外国人試験官 (NS) : 40代イギリス人男性、小柄で、声は小さいほう、ブリティッシュ・アクセントでした。会話の途中、何度も頷いてくださり、とても話しやすかったです。一度もメモを取ることなく、ずっと視線を感じていました。

通訳ガイド (TG) : 50代の日本人女性、眼鏡をかけていらして、一度もニコリともせず、無表情で、眼鏡の奥の視線がとても怖かったです。

<面接試験の実際>

	廊下の係りの人の合図で、ノックをしてから、Good evening. と言って入室しました。TGがドアの近くまで来ていてくださり、Put your bag on the desk. と言う。Thank you. と言ってから、バックを置いて、椅子の傍に行きました。またTGが Please sit down. と言ったので、Ok. と着席しました。
TG	What's your name?
I	My name is
TG	Where do you live?
I	I live in,.....ward, it's close to here..
TG NS	Oh.
NS	I'm going to ask you questions about Japan.
I	O.k. (O.k.ではなく All right と言おうとずっと思っていたのに何度も O.k と言ってしまいました。)
NS	Tell me about Japanese garden.
I	You mean such as dry landscape garden?
NS	Yes, yes.
I	O.k. (There is (are でしたね) two kinds of garden in Japan. One is dry landscape garden which is often found in temples. Another one is landscape garden which resemble real nature.
NS	And dry landscape garden consists of rocks and sands, no water. Rocks represent mountains
I	
NS	(必死で) Sticky and strog smell, so some people don't like it, though.
I	If you were a tour guide, what else would you recommend? (TG 苦笑。冷や汗。)
NS	Well, Moyashi sprout (bean sprout だっけ?) is very cheap. At a supermarket, you can get a package of Moyashi sprout for 30 yen.
I	Please explain about the Tanabata festival.
NS	In most elementary schools, students celebrate Tanabatawith a bamboo pole...It is decorated with strips of paper...with wishes written on them. People write their wishes on the paper.
I	Why do they celebrate it? (さらにつっこむ)
NS	The history...Chinese history goes like this. In ancient China there were a couple, Kengyu and Syukujo? (Syukujo の間違い!)...sorry, I forgot the name of the other. And

I	it is believed that they were separated but could meet each other only once a year, on July 7th, when Tanabata is celebrated..... So, is this celebration for couples?
NS	No, it is rather for children...It is a bit different from the Christmas, which couples often celebrate. (この辺がからしらどろもどろ)
I	Why don't Japanese people workers take long holidays?
NS	Well, We Japanese people are often said to be workaholic. And the Japanese are group-oriented people. So, partly because people around them don't want to take long holidays.
I	I see. What are shoji and fusuma?
NS	(とっさに思い浮かばず) Well,....Ah...It is a kind of sliding door...with thin paper...put on overall...on the side...It is a kind of sliding door with thin paper put out it. (怪訝な顔をされたと思う) The paper is so thin that it can be easily...worn,...torn away. Shoji sliding door is very convenient, because a large room can be divided into two or three small rooms by it. It is a very versatile device.
I	Do you think tourism will become more important in Japan?
NS	Yes. Japanese government is promoting tourism. And they are trying to increase the number of tour guides who can speak Japanese or other foreign languages.
I	But why are they doing it?
NS	Because we will have more and more opportunities to introduce Japan to foreign people...in this near future. So, more efforts should be made to ...have them understand Japanese people and the culture and the habits in Japan.
I	Rocks represent mountains or island. Sand represent flow of river. On the other hand, landscape garden consists of pond, man-made mountain or forest.
NS	Where do you find those gardens.
I	Rikugien in Bunkyo ward Tokyo is famous for landscape garden. And I recommend Daitokuji temple Daisenin for dry landscape garden.
NS	Where is Daitokuji? Is it easy to get there?
I	Yes, Daitokuji is located in Kyoto and in Kyoto there are many buses available, so it's quite easy to get there.
NS	OK. Then, next question. There are many bicycles around stations or stores, What do you think?
I	I think it's dangerous. I do ride a bicycle by myself and I registered a parking, bicycle parking place nearest station. Nowadays, many local government decided certain places for bicycle.
NS	Oh, you ride a bicycle? I do cycle. Then, which place do you recommend for cycling?
I	mmm...well, that's a good question.
NS	around here....Do you recommend any place?
I	Yes, although there are many people run or jog, but I recommend around Imperial palace. You can enjoy cycling while watching Imperial palace, most at the same time you can enjoy seeing modern Japanese buildings.

NS	Oh, I see. How far.....? (もしかしたら、ここからの距離を聞かれたのかもしれませんが、、が、一週どれ位と聞かれたのだと今まで思いこんでいました)
I	It's about 5km.
NS	Oh is it 5km? That's good. Then next question. Where is the most snow being affected in Japan?
I	There are many places where it snows such as Hokkaido, northern part of Japan, Ishikawa prefecture and Niigata prefecture.
NS	How does snow affect those areas?
I	It causes traffic inconvenience, for example, many trains stop because of snow.
NS	What else?
I	It causes landslide....., but, in those areas many people enjoy skiing.
NS	How about houses?
I	Many houses are affected by snow, but Japanese houses there are generally made from wood, and the roof is strong from snow.
NS	Thank you. It's finished
TG	It's finished.
I	Thank you very much.

<反省点、今後の課題、後輩へのアドバイス等>

今、面接を思い返しながら、あまりに中身がないのと、文法の間違えも多く、『もっと、別の表現があった、あんなことを言えば良かった』等、反省点がいっぱいです。直前に普段苦手な歴史、宗教、政治、それから、通訳ガイドの志望理由や資質等、聞かれたら、こう答えようと必死に口慣らしして行ったのですが、実際には普通の会話の設問でした。やはり、普段から、日本のことを知り、考え、英語で話せるようにしておくことが大切なのだと思います。また、NSは完全なブリティッシュアクセントで、イギリス英語にもっと慣れておく必要もあると実感しました。ただ、NSは常に領いてくださり、面接というよりは、本当に普通の会話という雰囲気面接前より本番のほうが緊張しなかったです。今回は、二次試験、二度目ということで、前回の失敗を教訓に決して、沈黙しない、笑顔とジェスチャーで、本当の案内をしているつもりで、相手に entertain するんだという気持ちで臨みました、、、。結果は、難しいかもしれませんが。でも面接の会話、楽しかったです。