

Let's Learn English from American Literature IV

[アメリカ文学から英語を学ぼうⅣ]

Washington Irving
Henry David Thoreau
Herman Melville
Theodore Dreiser
Tennessee Williams
Arthur Miller
Flannery O'Connor
Bernard Malamud
Truman Capote
Alice Walker
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EIHŌSHA

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まえがき

『アメリカ文学から英語を学ぼう』の第4弾をお届けします。

「好きこそものの上手なれ」と言われるように、何事も上達するには、それ自体を好きになることにある。英語学習も好きになれば、英語が自ずと上達する。文学作品は、題材に興味を持てれば、どんどん読みたくなるし、登場人物の考え方や生き方について考えたりすることで楽しくもなる。また作品の背景になっている文化や歴史を知るともっと理解が深まる。文学作品は好きになってもらえる要素が豊富にある。あとは、教える側がそれらをどう料理して提供するかにある。

とは言っても、文学作品を学習教材として扱うのは難しい。可能性はあっても教え方に工夫がいる。従来の訳読式では、今の学生には決して振り向いてももらえない。本シリーズは、文学作品のおいしさを知ってもらうにはどのような料理法がいいかを考え、それを具体的な形にして提供したものである。

アメリカ文学を代表する作品の、しかもエッセンスと言える部分を抽出して、それを教材に、基本語彙の確認、内容理解のための TOEIC 形式の設問、熟語・文法確認、そして少し「文学的な問いかけ」を織り込んでいる。つまみ食いでも良いので、原文に触れ、そのエッセンスを味わってもらい、文学作品を読む楽しさを少しでも感じてもらうことのできる教科書にしている。辞書を使わなくても読み進められるように注解をつけ、訳読をしてなくていいように内容確認の設問を作成している。最後に Agree or Disagree 形式で作品解釈につながる「文学的な問いかけ」を用意している。ここで、さまざまな視点から意見を出し合うことで、文学作品を読む楽しさ、奥深さを感じてもらいたい。この活動は、英語実践力の向上にも、役に立つはずである。これらをステップとして、さらに先生方で独自の問いを追加したりして内容を深めてもらえれば、おいしさはさらに増すはずである。

本書を通して、文学作品を読むことが楽しいと、学習者に少しでも思ってもらえたら、编者としては幸いである。注釈や英文に関しては、宮崎国際大学の Anne Howard 教授に細かくチェックをしてもらった。

最後に、本シリーズが第4弾まで来れたのは、本企画に賛同してお使いいただいている先生方と、英宝社の佐々木元社長のご理解と歴代編集長の辛抱強いご支援のおかげである。心より感謝申し上げたい。

2024 年盛夏

編 注 者



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作家を知ろう！ Washington Irving (1783-1859)

ワシントン・アーヴィングは、ニューヨークの裕福な貿易商の家庭に生まれた。法律事務所で見習いをしながら、1802年に兄の主催する雑誌に、ニューヨークを風刺するエッセイを掲載。結核に罹患し、その療養のため、ヨーロッパに2年間滞在。その間の体験は、彼のその後の作品に大きな影響を与えた。

作家としては、『ニューヨークの歴史』(*A History of New York*, 1809)により、本格的なスタートを切った。これは、ディードリッヒ・ニッカボッカー (Diedrich Knickerbocker) による書物という形態をとり、架空の人物を用いて、ニューヨークの歴史をパロディ化しつつ語らせている。『スケッチブック』(*The Sketch Book of Geoffrey Crayon, Gent.*, 1819 ~ 20) は、やはり、架空のキャラクター、ジェフリー・クレヨンによるイギリス旅行記の体裁をとりつつ、実際は「スリーピー・ホローの伝説」(“The Legend of Sleepy Hollow”) や「リップ・ヴァン・ウィンクル」など、民間伝承も取り入れた作品群となっている。アーヴィングはアメリカにおいて、職業的に成功した最初の散文作家である。

**作品紹介 “Rip Van Winkle” (1819)**

「リップ・ヴァン・ウィンクル」。リップ・ヴァン・ウィンクルという怠け者で恐妻家は、ある日、犬を連れ、銃を担いで山に猟をしに出掛ける。途中で、古いオランダ風衣装を身に付け、酒樽を担いだ見知らぬ老人に誘われ、リップは共に山を登る。行きついた谷間の円形劇場のような場では、奇妙な服装の一行が楽しくボーリングに似たゲームに興じており、リップは、彼らと酒を酌み交わして楽しく一夜を過ごした。目覚めてみると、銃は錆付き、昨日見た人々の姿もない。妻に怒られることを承知で、彼は村へと戻るが、彼の姿を見た人々は、驚きを隠せない様子であった。そしてその後、彼が一晩と思っていた時間が実は、20年間であったことが判明する。

本章は、その後半部分。リップが目を覚まし、状況の変化を徐々に認識し始める箇所である。

CHECK THE VOCABULARY

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) knoll | • • (a) involving hard or tedious work |
| 2) recall | • • (b) a deep narrow valley with steep sides |
| 3) frolic | • • (c) done without conscious control |
| 4) scramble | • • (d) not close with someone, but having met a few times before |
| 5) toilsome | • • (e) a small round hill |
| 6) ravine | • • (f) extremely hungry |
| 7) precipice | • • (g) a very steep side of a high rock, mountain, or cliff |
| 8) famished | • • (h) to remember something |
| 9) acquainted | • • (i) to move quickly, especially with difficulty, using your hand to help you |
| 10) involuntarily | • • (j) a playful and lively movement or activity |

Reading



On waking, he found himself on the green knoll whence he had first seen the old man of the glen. He rubbed his eyes—it was a bright sunny morning. The birds were hopping and twittering among the bushes, and the eagle was wheeling aloft, and breasting the pure mountain breeze. “Surely,” thought Rip, “I have not slept here all night.” He recalled the occurrences before he fell asleep. The strange man with a keg of liquor—the mountain ravine—the wild retreat among the rocks—the woe-begone party at nine-pins—the flagon—“Oh! that flagon! that wicked flagon!” thought Rip—“what excuse shall I make to Dame Van Winkle?”

He looked round for his gun, but in place of the clean, well-oiled fowling-piece, he found an old firelock lying by him, the barrel incrust with rust, the lock falling off, and the stock worm-eaten. He now suspected that the grave roysterers of the mountain had put a trick upon him, and having dosed him with liquor, had robbed him of his gun. Wolf, too, had disappeared, but he might have strayed away

- 1 **whence** 「(文語的表現) どこ」
- 2 **the old man**: 谷間から酒樽を背負ってあらわれた老人のことを指す。
- 8 **ravine** 「溪谷、山峡」
- 9 **the woe...pins** 「憂い顔でナインピンズ(ボーリングに似たゲーム)をしている一団」
- 10 **flagon** 「大型の酒瓶」
- 13 **fowling-piece** 「鳥撃銃」
- 13 **firelock** 「火縄式銃」
- 14 **incrusted**=*encrust* 「表面を覆う」
- 16 **roysterers**=*roisterers* 「どんちゃん騒ぎをする連中」

after a squirrel or partridge. He whistled after him and shouted his name, but all in vain; the echoes repeated his whistle and shout, but no dog was to be seen.

He determined to revisit the scene of the last evening's gambol, and if he met with any of the party, to demand his dog and gun. As he rose to walk, he found himself stiff in the joints, and wanting in his usual activity. "These mountain beds do not agree with me," thought Rip, "and if this frolic should lay me up with a fit of the rheumatism, I shall have a blessed time with Dame Van Winkle." With some difficulty he got down into the glen: he found the gully up which he and his companion had ascended the preceding evening; but to his astonishment a mountain stream was now foaming down it, leaping from rock to rock, and filling the glen with babbling murmurs. He, however, made shift to scramble up its sides, working his toilsome way through thickets of birch, sassafras, and witch-hazel, and sometimes tripped up or entangled by the wild grape vines that twisted their coils and tendrils from tree to tree, and spread a kind of network in his path.

At length he reached to where the ravine had opened through the cliffs to the amphitheatre; but no traces of such opening remained. The rocks presented a high impenetrable wall, over which the torrent came tumbling in a sheet of feathery foam, and fell into a broad deep basin, black from the shadows of the surrounding forest. Here, then, poor Rip was brought to a stand. He again called and whistled after his dog; he was only answered by the cawing of a flock of idle crows, sporting high in air about a dry tree that overhung a sunny precipice; and who, secure into their elevation, seemed to look down and scoff at the poor man's perplexities. What was to be done? The morning was passing away, and Rip felt famished for want of his breakfast. He grieved to give up his dog and gun; he dreaded to meet his wife; but it would not do to starve among the mountains. He shook his head, shouldered the rusty firelock, and, with a heart full of trouble

1 **partridge** : ヤマウズラ、イワシヤコ属の鴉鳥の総称。

5 **gambol** 「悪ふざけ」

11 **gully** 「小溪谷」

16-17 **thickets**---**hazel**
「樺やサッサfrasやマンサクの茂み」

22 **amphitheatre** 「円形劇場」

22-23 **no traces**---**remained** 「(あったはずの) 出口の痕跡がなくなっている」

24 **tumbling** 「しぶきをあげながら」

and anxiety, turned his steps homeward.

As he approached the village he met a number of people, but none whom he knew, which somewhat surprised him, for he had thought himself acquainted with every one in the country round. Their dress, too, was of a different fashion from that to which he was accustomed. They all stared at him with equal marks of surprise, and whenever they cast their eyes upon him, invariably stroked their chins. The constant recurrence of this gesture, induced Rip, involuntarily, to do the same, when, to his astonishment, he found his beard had grown a foot long!

8-9 The constant...

this gesture: 村人が顎をなでるしぐさを繰り返すことを意味し、その後、リップも真似をしてそれをやってみる。

Exercises

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Rip looked round for his gun and could find the fowling-piece successfully. (T or F)
2. He whistled after the dog, and shouted its name, but no dog was to be seen. (T or F)
3. When he rose to walk to find the place of the last party, he found no problems concerning his body condition. (T or F)
4. Finally he could reach to where the ravine had opened through the cliffs to the amphitheatre. (T or F)
5. As he approached the village, he met a number of people whose dresses were familiar to him. (T or F)

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

1. **When Rip recalled the occurrences before he fell asleep, whom did he remember firstly?**
 - a) A strange woman of the glen.
 - b) A strange boy of the glen.
 - c) A strange old man of the glen.
 - d) A strange young man of the glen.
2. **Why did Rip think that he had to excuse Dame Van Winkle?**
 - a) He couldn't find any games.
 - b) He didn't return home the last night.
 - c) He slept in the forest.
 - d) He drank a lot of sake.
3. **When he found the gully up which he and the party had ascended the preceding night, what did he find?**
 - a) He found a mountain stream was foaming down.
 - b) He found a mountain stream was flowing flatly.
 - c) He found a mounting stream was flowing up.
 - d) He couldn't find a mountain stream.
4. **When he reached to where the ravine had opened to the amphitheatre, he called his dog's name. What answered him then?**
 - a) A flock of birches.
 - b) A flock of crows.
 - c) A flock of wild dogs.
 - d) A group of people.
5. **At the entrance of his village, he met a number of people. When their gestures induced him to do the same, he found his beard had grown a foot long. What did they do?**
 - a) They stroked their beards.
 - b) They stroked their heads.
 - c) They stroked their arms.
 - d) They stroked their chins.

GRAMMAR

1. I () not slept here all night.
a) have b) am c) will d) can
2. He now suspected that the grave roysterers of the mountain had put a trick () him.
a) of b) off c) upon d) at
3. Wolf, too, had disappeared, but he () have strayed away after a squirrel or partridge.
a) may b) would c) did d) might
4. () some difficulty he got down into the glen;
a) On b) By c) With d) In
5. He dreaded to meet his wife; but it () not do to starve among the mountains.
a) will b) would c) is d) has
6. As he approached the village, he met a number of people, but none of () he knew.
a) who b) whom c) what d) which

AGREE OR DISAGREE?

1. この物語は、主人公のリップが怠けてばかりいたために最後に痛いしっぺ返しを食らったという、いわゆる教訓話である。
2. これは、日本の『浦島太郎』とよく似た話であり、世界にはテーマ的によく似た話が存在するということの一例である。

作家を知ろう！ Henry David Thoreau (1817-62)

ソローは、マサチューセッツ州コンコードで生まれ、ハーヴァード大学を卒業後、定職には就かず、私塾で教えたり、測量の仕事をしたりしていたが、その町に住むラルフ・エマソンの家に住み込みで手伝い人として働いたことで、彼が唱えた超絶主義に傾倒する。1845年7月4日に、コンコードのウォルデン湖畔に小屋をたて、「人生の本質的な事実と対峙したい」と文明から離れ、一人2年2か月を自然観察や作物を作ったりして過ごした。その時の記録が代表作『森の生活』(*Walden, or Life in the Woods*, 1854)である。これは、超絶主義の実践的記録としてだけでなく、現在は「ネイチャー・ライティング」の先駆的作品と位置付けられている。他にも、『コンコード川とメリマック川の一週間』



(*A Week on the Concord and the Merrimack Rivers*, 1849)、『メインの森』(*The Maine Woods*, 1864)に代表される多くの自然観察記録がある。

作品紹介 “Civil Disobedience” (1866)

「市民の不服従」。1849年に講演記録として「市民政府への反抗」(*Resistance to Civil Government*)というタイトルで発表し、1866年に「市民の不服従」に改題され論文集に収められた。1846年7月に、実際に人頭税(同額を市民全員に課す税)の長期不払いで投獄された時の経験を綴ったもの。彼が人頭税を払わなかった理由は明確で、当時アメリカは奴隷制を容認し、しかも46年にはメキシコ戦略戦争を始めたからで、税金を払うことはそれを擁護することに他ならないと支払いを拒否し続けた。家族が未払い分の全額を支払ったため一晩で解放されたが、彼の州政府への抗議のやり方は「非暴力主義」として、インド独立の父ガンジーやキング牧師の市民権運動に思想的影響を与えた。本章に取り上げた部分にはソローの多くの名言が散りばめられている。

CHECK THE VOCABULARY

- | | |
|----------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| 1) institution | • • (a) a thing that blocks progress |
| 2) confine | • • (b) keep someone within the limits of space |
| 3) threat | • • (c) an expression of praise |
| 4) compliment | • • (d) give penalty for crimes or sins |
| 5) blunder | • • (e) lacking in strength |
| 6) meditation | • • (f) grow or develop |
| 7) hindrance | • • (g) an established organization; government |
| 8) punish | • • (h) thinking deeply in silence |
| 9) inert | • • (i) a big mistake |
| 10) flourish | • • (j) a statement of an intention to give damage |

Reading



I have paid no poll-tax for six years. I was put into a jail once on this account, for one night; and, as I stood considering the walls of solid stone, two or three feet thick, the door of wood and iron, a foot thick, and the iron grating
 5 which strained the light, I could not help being struck with the foolishness of that institution which treated me as if I were mere flesh and blood and bones, to be locked up. I wondered that it should have concluded at length that this was the best use it could put me to, and had never thought to avail itself
 10 of my services in some way. I saw that, if there was a wall of stone between me and my townsmen, there was a still more difficult one to climb or break through, before they could get to be as free as I was. I did not for a moment feel confined, and the walls seemed a great waste of stone and
 15 mortar. I felt as if I alone of all my townsmen had paid my tax. They plainly did not know how to treat me, but behaved like persons who are underbred. In every threat and in every compliment there was a blunder; for they thought that my chief desire was to stand the other side of that stone wall.

4 **iron grating** 「鉄格子」

5 **strain** 「ねじ曲げる」

8-9 **the best...to** 「私を最大限に利用する方法」

10 **my services** : 服役していることを指す。

17 **underbred** 「礼儀作法をわきまえていない」

I could not but smile to see how industriously they locked the door on my meditations, which followed them out again without let or hindrance, and *they* were really all that was dangerous. As they could not reach me, they had resolved to
 5 punish my body; just as boys, if they cannot come at some person against whom they have a spite, will abuse his dog. I saw that the State was half-witted, that it was timid as a lone woman with her silver spoons, and that it did not know its friends from its foes, and I lost all my remaining respect
 10 for it, and pitied it.

Thus the State never intentionally confronts a man's sense, intellectual or moral, but only his body, his senses. It is not armed with superior wit or honesty, but with superior physical strength. I was not born to be forced. I will breathe
 15 after my own fashion. Let us see who is the strongest. What force has a multitude? They only can force me who obey a higher law than I. They force me to become like themselves. I do not hear of *men* being *forced* to live this way or that by masses of men. What sort of life were that to live? When I
 20 meet a government which says to me, "Your money or your life," why should I be in haste to give it my money? It may be in a great strait, and not know what to do: I cannot help that. It must help itself; do as I do. It is not worth the while to snivel about it. I am not responsible for the successful
 25 working of the machinery of society. I am not the son of the engineer. I perceive that, when an acorn and a chestnut fall side by side, the one does not remain inert to make way for the other, but both obey their own laws, and spring and grow and flourish as best they can, till one, perchance,
 30 overshadows and destroys the other. If a plant cannot live according to its nature, it dies; and so a man.

2 **followed...again**
 「再び彼らの後に続いて外へ出ていった」
 3 **let**「妨害」
 5 **come at—**(熟)「一を威嚇しようと向かっていく」
 6 **spite**「憎しみ」

8 **silver spoons** : 「財産」のこと。高価なものの比喩。

16 **multitude**「群衆」
They: Theyはwhoの先行詞。

19 **were that to live=**
 if that were to live
 「もし生きるとしたら」

22 **strait**「経済的困窮」

24 **snivel**「泣きじゃくる」

29 **perchance=**
 maybe

Exercises

TRUE OR FALSE

1. When Thoreau was put into jail, he felt lonely and afraid. (T or F)
2. Thoreau feels the State confronts a man's body, not his ideas. (T or F)
3. He believes he was not born to be forced by anybody. (T or F)
4. According to Thoreau, when an acorn and a chestnut fall side by side, the one should remain inert to make way for the other. (T or F)
5. His desire was to get out of the jail. (T or F)

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

1. **Why was Thoreau put into jail?**
 - a) Because he said the institution was foolish.
 - b) Because he had paid no poll-tax for six years.
 - c) Because of a matter of his accounts.
 - d) Because he stood considering the walls of solid stone.
2. **What did he feel about the walls and stones of the jail?**
 - a) He felt they seemed a great waste of stone and mortar.
 - b) He felt they were difficult to climb or break through.
 - c) He felt they were two or three feet thick.
 - d) He felt they were hindrances.
3. **What did the State do when they could not reach Thoreau?**
 - a) They treated him like a person.
 - b) They forced him to pay taxes.
 - c) They resolved to punish his body.
 - d) They locked the door.
4. **What is really all that is dangerous, according to Thoreau?**
 - a) Threats and compliments are.

- b) Mediations are.
- c) A higher law is.
- d) Punishment is.

5. What does the phrase “and so a man” (p.15, l.31) mean?

- a) A man also dies if he cannot live according to his nature.
- b) A man cannot live according to his nature, either
- c) A plant is living so much like a man.
- d) A man also lives according to his nature.

GRAMMAR

1. I was put into jail once () this account.
a) on b) with c) for d) in
2. It had never thought to avail itself () my services in some way.
a) for b) with c) to d) of
3. I will breath () my own fashion.
a) in b) after c) with d) out of
4. I do not hear of men () to live this way or that by masses of men.
a) be force b) be forced c) being forced d) forcing
5. It did not know its friends () its foes.
a) out of b) from c) by d) between

AGREE OR DISAGREE?

1. 政府のやり方に抗議をするためとはいえ、税金を払わないという罪を犯すことは問題である。
2. ソローは超絶主義者と言われるが、税金を払わないという行動とは無関係である。