

はじめに

本書は2007年に出版された *Life and Society in Modern Britain* の改訂版です。2007年版以後、2012年のロンドンオリンピックを経てイギリスの社会は大きく変わり、そしてまた2016年の EU からの離脱を問う国民投票と2020年の正式な離脱と、政治的にも大きな変化を経験してきました。本書はそうしたイギリスの変わりゆく生々しい姿を紹介した15編のエッセイから成っています。

著者のロザーティ氏はリズムのある達意の英文の書き手であり、同時に日本の大学で長年英語教育に携わってきた経験から日本の学生を熟知しています。したがって、本書は日本の学生の興味を引くような現代イギリスの文化や社会および政治を大学の英語の教科書としてふさわしい良質の英文で紹介したものとなっています。使用されている語彙についても、日本の学生を意識して注意深く選んで使われています。つまり、学生が興味を持つに違いない内容のトピックが、良質の英文で書かれた教科書として実現できたと考えています。

本書では上に述べた特色のみならず、英語教育の観点からリーディングのスキルをも身に付けられるよう設問にも工夫が施されています。

英文を読むには、ただ単に文法に沿って語彙を理解し受動的に情報を受けるだけでないことは、近年のリーディングに関する研究によって明らかです。つまり、書かれた英文を理解するためには、読者がその英文を理解するための知的枠組みを持っており、その知的枠組みを能動的に活用することが必要だというわけです。本書では各章の本文の前に Pre-questions が用意されています。本文を読む前に、この Pre-questions に沿って議論をすることによって、読者は本文を理解するためのいわば知的枠組みを構築することができます。

また、言うまでもないことですが、英文は日本語とは違った論理構成や緩急の付け方を持っています。英文をスムーズに読めるようになるにはそうした英文の持つ特徴を理解しておく必要もあります。

各章の本文の後に用意された Exercises には英文の構成の特徴を意識して、英文を読むためのスキルが身につくよう工夫された設問が用意されています。つまり本文中のどこに文章の要点が書かれていたかを探す「探し読み (scanning)」、全体を把握するための「流し読み (skimming)」等のいわゆるリーディング・スキルを身に付けてもらうことを意識した設問です。

言うまでもないことですが、言語と文化とは不可分です。本書が日本の学生にとって、英語の母国であるイギリスの文化や社会あるいは政治への理解を深め、英文を読みこなすためのスキルの習得の一助となれば喜ばしい限りです。

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近藤久雄

Chapter 1

Class

Pre-questions

How many Japanese people consider themselves middle class?

What does it mean to be middle class?

How do we decide which class someone belongs to?



It is impossible to understand Britain^① and particularly England, without some understanding of class distinctions. Class distinctions are less visible in Wales, where people are more at ease with strangers. There are certainly class distinctions in
5 Scotland, with historically industrial Glasgow^② being very working class, and parts of cultural Edinburgh^③, like Morningside^④, famously middle class; but there is also considerable social solidarity, a feeling of fellow Scottishness^⑤ in relation to the dominant English^⑥. Class distinctions also exist in North-
10 ern Ireland, but they are less important than the division between Protestants and Catholics. In England, however, class differences are a key part of life.

- ① **Britain** : 章末詳注(1)を参照
- ② **Glasgow** : 章末詳注(2)を参照
- ③ **Edinburgh** : 章末詳注(3)を参照
- ④ **Morningside** : 章末詳注(4)を参照
- ⑤ **fellow Scottishness** : 「同胞のスコットランド人であるということ」
- ⑥ **the dominant English** : 章末詳注(5)を参照

Class and Politics

Class is a very visible part of British life. At the top of society, of course, is the royal family, but there also remain many
15 aristocratic land-owning families, some of whom are very rich indeed. The Duke^⑦ of Westminster, for example, owns large parts of central London. The House of Lords^⑧, the upper house

- ⑦ **Duke** : 章末詳注(6)を参照
- ⑧ **The House of Lords** : 章末詳注(7)を参照

in the British Parliament, continues to admit some hereditary peers, men who get an automatic, unelected seat in the House of Lords because they are the eldest son of an aristocrat. The two major political parties in England and Wales have traditionally been class-based: the Conservative Party^① has usually been supported by the upper and middle classes, while the Labour Party^② has attracted working class support. The Conservative Party receives donations from businesses^③, and in exchange tries to create an environment where capitalism can operate freely, and where company managers aim to make as much money as possible for shareholders. The Labour Party has links with trade unions^④ and takes a close interest in the welfare of ordinary workers, for example in establishing a legal minimum wage^⑤.

① **the Conservative Party** : 「保守党」

② **the Labour Party** : 「労働党」

③ **businesses** : 「企業」
可算名詞

④ **trade unions** : 「労働組合」

⑤ **minimum wage** : 「最低賃金」

15 Class Differences



People are very conscious of class differences. A simple view would be that there are three classes: upper, middle and working. In fact^⑥, though^⑦, many people would make more distinctions, perhaps as follows: upper, upper-middle (senior bankers, top businesspeople, top lawyers), middle, lower-middle (small shopkeepers), skilled working (electricians), unskilled working (cleaners) and an underclass^⑧. Advertising companies classify people in this sort of way when designing advertisements, making different types of advertisements according to the target class. Generally, the lower-middle class is thought to be the most conservative and worried about status.

⑥ **In fact** : 「実は・
もっと言えば」

⑦ **though** : 副詞「だけれども」

⑧ **underclass** : 「最下層階級」

English people are able to classify each other instantly on hearing people speak. How English people speak shows not only where they come from, but also their education and their class. People who went to public school^⑨ speak differently from those who did not. About 7% of people receive a private education; these people, who dominate the country, speak Received Pronunciation (RP)^⑩, the pronunciation they receive at school, while most people do not. This is one reason English people do not much enjoy talking to strangers: if people have

⑨ **public school** : 章末
詳注(8)を参照

⑩ **Received Pronunciation (RP)** : 章末詳注(9)
を参照

the ‘wrong’ accent, they may arouse hostility, ridicule or arrogance. As Bernard Shaw^①, an Irish writer, put it, “It is impossible for an Englishman to open his mouth without making another Englishman hate or despise him”.

5 Class affects all aspects of life. Working class people are shorter and less healthy and die younger. Working class people often do not see^② the value of education, and have tended to leave school^③ as soon as they can, to start earning money. Middle class parents will often struggle hard to get a good education for their children. The clothes people wear, leisure activities, food and drink, greetings, music, television: all have class distinctions. Wine remains middle class, beer working class; middle class children call their grandmother ‘granny’, while working class children call her ‘nan’; the BBC^④ is middle class, ITV^⑤ working class; classical music and theatre are middle class; cricket is middle class, football^⑥ is working class, while horse racing is upper and working, but not middle class. In the army, the officers^⑦ are middle or upper class, while the ordinary soldiers^⑧ are working class.

20 The most difficult area of class division is in the workplace. Managers and workers will often find that they have little in common, having been to different schools, speaking with different accents, liking different sports, drinks and food, and having different leisure activities. They may park their cars in different car parks and eat in different cafeterias. There is often great mistrust between the two groups. In the past, employers could be very uncaring about workers, an attitude that led to terrible mining disasters, for example. Forty or fifty years ago, trade union excesses^⑨, through endless strikes, caused great damage. This all happened long ago, but attitudes continue. Many workers think that managers just want to exploit them. Many managers think workers are lazy and disloyal and will only work when forced to do so. This can greatly weaken companies.

① **Bernard Shaw** : 章末詳注(10)を参照

② **see** : 「認識している・理解している」

③ **leave school** : 「学業を終える」

④ **BBC** : 章末詳注(11)を参照

⑤ **ITV** : 章末詳注(12)を参照

⑥ **football** : 「サッカー」

⑦ **the officers** : 「将校・士官」

⑧ **soldiers** : 「兵士・兵卒」

⑨ **trade union excesses** : 「労働組合の行き過ぎた活動」

Class Mobility



People are conscious of their class. There remains a tendency for working class people to want to stay working class. Ambitious young people may be seen as getting too big for their boots^①, or thinking that their parents are in some way inferior. Family is important in working class life, and this reduces social mobility^②. The middle class often see working people as uneducated, narrow-minded and lacking in culture. Working people see the middle class as snobbish^③, arrogant and selfish: making sure the government gives money for opera but not for football, for example. The upper class are so self-confident that they seem rarely to think of the other classes at all^④.

On the other hand, wider opportunities in education have helped reduce class distinctions. The expansion of secondary education^⑤ after the Second World War helped lead^⑥ to an explosion of working-class participation in the 1960s and 1970s in pop music (The Beatles), but also in art, drama, cinema, photography and fashion. For a considerable period^⑦, working class people helped set the tone. Once, in some deprived areas^⑧, nobody ever thought of going to university. Greatly expanded higher education has made that a real possibility. Women have always been able to change class through marriage. Their success in education and growing prominence^⑨ in the workplace, along with their greater flexibility, are a good sign. Traditional working class heavy industries^⑩ have been replaced by new technological ones, which are more open to all.

Then again, many jobs in politics, journalism and the creative industries now require lengthy unpaid internships^⑪, which may not lead to a permanent position. This closes those jobs to people whose parents cannot support them for many months while they earn nothing. In politics there was a long period of Prime Ministers from relatively ordinary backgrounds^⑫, but between 2010 and 2020 the two male Prime Ministers both came from the most elite school in England, Eton College^⑬.

So the picture^⑭ is mixed. Despite the problems, there is considerable class mobility in England, and the class system is not

- ① **getting too big for their boots** : 「うぬぼれる・傲慢になる」
- ② **social mobility** : 「(階級間の)社会的流動性」
- ③ **snobbish** : 「気取り屋の」
- ④ **rarely ... at all** : 「～することなどめったにない」 Cf: not ... at all
- ⑤ **secondary education** : 「中等教育」
- ⑥ **helped lead** : help do= 「～するのに役立つ・～するのを促進する」
- ⑦ **For a considerable period** : 「かなり長い期間に渡って」
- ⑧ **deprived areas** : 「(社会的・経済的に)恵まれない地域・貧しい地域」
- ⑨ **prominence** : 「卓越性・重要性・際立っていること」
- ⑩ **heavy industries** : 「重工業」
- ⑪ **lengthy unpaid internship** : 「長期の無給の研修(期間)」
- ⑫ **from relatively ordinary backgrounds** : 「比較的普通の背景を持った」
- ⑬ **Eton College** : 名門の私立学校(public school)。
- ⑭ **the picture** : 「状況・実情」

a fixed caste system^①. It is not like India, or Edo Period Japan.

① **caste system** : 章末
詳注(13)を参照

Exercises

Introduction and Class & Politics

1. **In which part of the UK is class most important?**
 - a. England
 - b. Northern Ireland
 - c. Scotland
 - d. Wales
2. **Why are class distinctions less important in Scotland?**
 - a. Everyone is working class.
 - b. People are more interested in religious differences.
 - c. People feel that they are all Scottish together.
 - d. Everyone is rich.
3. **How do we know the Duke of Westminster is rich?**
 - a. He is a member of the royal family.
 - b. He is a member of the House of Lords.
 - c. He is an aristocrat.
 - d. Much of central London belongs to him.
4. **Who supports the Conservative Party?**
 - a. Middle class people
 - b. Working class people
 - c. Trade unions
 - d. Ordinary workers
5. **Who supports the Labour Party?**
 - a. Middle class people
 - b. Working class people
 - c. Businesses
 - d. Capitalists



Semi-detached houses, York – middle class housing
Wikimedia Commons
Gordon Hatton

Class Differences

1. **In the simple view, how many classes are there?**
 - a. 2
 - b. 3

- c. 7 d. 10

2. In another view, how many classes are there?

- a. 2 b. 3
- c. 7 d. 10

3. What is not shown by how English people speak?

- a. Their education
- b. Their class
- c. Where they are from
- d. Their way of thinking

4. What does not show people's class origins?

- a. Their height
- b. Their clothes
- c. Their holiday destinations
- d. The sports they like

5. What can we say about managers and workers?

- a. Their relationship is difficult.
- b. They eat at the same tables.
- c. The past does not affect their relationship.
- d. They feel they are part of one team.

Class Mobility

1. What can we say about working class people?

- a. They do not think of their class status.
- b. They look down on their parents.
- c. Family can be more important than ambition.
- d. They like opera more than football.

2. Who goes to the opera?

- a. Working class people
- b. Middle class people
- c. The government
- d. Everyone

3. What is not a factor in women changing class?

- a. Fashion
- b. Education
- c. Marriage
- d. Work

4. Why is it mainly middle class young people who do internships?

- a. Interns often get no money.
- b. Working class people are not interested in the creative industries.
- c. Internships are mainly in London.
- d. Only people with the right accent are accepted.

5. How much class mobility is there in England?

- a. None, as in a caste system
- b. Soon there will be no more class differences.
- c. Less and less
- d. There is some, but not as much as there could be.

General Questions

- 1. Why are class distinctions less important in Wales and in Northern Ireland?
- 2. How can we see class differences in the British Parliament?
- 3. To which class do these people belong? Top lawyers; shopkeepers; electricians; cleaners
- 4. What are some examples of the differences between the middle class and the working class?
- 5. How has education helped working class people?

Further Discussion

How is a caste system different from a class system?

What are some advantages of having wealthy parents in Japan?

Should we consider a woman to belong to the same class as her husband?

Is there a difference between wealth and class?

Notes

- (1) **Britain** : イギリスの正式な国名は the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland であり、イギリスは England, Scotland, Wales そして Northern Ireland の四つの国からなる連合王国である。Britain は地理的には「大ブリテン島 (Great Britain)」の意味であるが、政治的には「連合王国 (the United Kingdom)」全体を指す語である。
- (2) **Glasgow** : 「グラスゴー」スコットランドの工業都市。かつては造船業などで繁栄した。
- (3) **Edinburgh** : 「エディンバラ」スコットランドの首都。
- (4) **Morningside** : 「モーニングサイド」比較的裕福な人々の住むエディンバラの一地域。かつてはこの地域に住む人々は “pan loaf accent” と言われる気取ったしゃべり方をすることで知られていた。
- (5) **the dominant English** : スコットランドとイングランドは1707年に合併を果たすが、1714年ジョージ一世 (George I) が即位しハノーバー王朝 (House of Hanover) になると、スコットランドではスチュアート王朝 (House of Stuart) を復活させようとする動きが活発化し反乱が起こる。1746年反乱軍が大敗したのち、イングランドは政治的・文化的にスコットランドを圧迫し続けた。以後、何かにつけイングランド優位の在り方に対してスコットランドは反発し続けている。
- (6) **Duke** : 「公爵」、貴族の爵位の中で最高の爵位。爵位は上から Duke 「公爵」、Marquess 「侯爵」、Viscount 「伯爵」、Baron/Lord 「男爵」となる。
- (7) **The House of Lords** : 「貴族院」、世襲貴族や一代貴族、日本の最高裁判事に相当する法律貴族、大主教などから成るイギリス議会の上院。
- (8) **public school** : イギリスの私立の名門校。Eton 校、Rugby 校、Harrow 校などは日本でもよく知られている。
- (9) **Received Pronunciation (RP)** : 「容認標準発音」。教育のある人々の発音とされている。以前はパブリックスクールやオックスフォード大学あるいはケンブリッジ大学の出身者の間で使われ、Public School Pronunciation と言われたこともある。現在では標準的な発音として BBC の放送などで使われている。
- (10) **Bernard Shaw** (1856~1950) : バーナード・ショー。アイルランド生まれのイギリスのノーベル賞劇作家。My Fair Lady の元になったとされる芝居 Pygmalion などの作者。
- (11) **BBC** : British Broadcasting Corporation イギリスの放送局。半官半民の経営形態をとっている。
- (12) **ITV** : Independent Television 娯楽番組を中心としたイギリスの民間テレビ放送局。
- (13) **caste system** : 「カースト制度」。固定的な身分制度。ことばの本来の意味は古くからインドに存在したヒンドゥー教にまつわる世襲的身分制度のこと。