

出題例

大分県立看護科学大学

小論文

【英文問題】

問題

次の文は島根県隠岐郡海士町について述べている。海士町は離島にある人口2千人あまりの町で、2011年から「ないものはない」というキャッチコピーで知られるようになった。この文を読んで、問1~2に答えなさい。

"Nai-Mono-Wa-Nai": Ama Town's Concept of Sufficiency and Message to the World

(前略)

Nai-Mono-Wa-Nai and Ama Town

Ama town is on the small island with 33.5 square kilometers with beautiful rice paddies and sea. The town is almost self-efficient in staple food, fish and to some extent vegetables. But Ama has no department store, no convenience store, and no movie theater.

There are no fancy bars and clubs for the young people to enjoy in Ama. Thirty years ago, youth group activities became very active because of it. Rather than lamenting about not having something, they said "If there is nothing fun to do here, let's create it." And so they started a series of their own initiatives, like creating their own beer garden and organizing a tug-of-war competition for the whole island and much more! whatever they are lacking.

This means sharing a lot of time together and sharing both the joys and pains. So when they achieve something they have a big sense of achievement, and this fosters solid relationships of mutual trust. This really means good "connections" between people, and those connections are like a platform that leads to tackling the next challenge. It is out of nai-mono-wa-nai that creativity, innovation, and strong connections are born, and these human interactions create a dynamic community without depending on money or external input.

Next example, vending machines: At a typical ferry terminal in Japan, like many train stations, you will see a long line of automatic vending machines selling beverages and other products. But when you arrive in Ama Town by ferry, not a single vending machine is there to greet you.

A new ferry terminal was built in 2002. At the time a decision was made not to install any vending machines. They do offer convenience and efficiency, but Ama was determined to encourage face-to-face sales, which require more effort and interaction.

For the town, it is not "efficiency" that is important, but rather, "interactions" and "encounters" with fellow islanders and island visitors. And that is why there is no vending machine at the ferry terminal. However, it is exactly because of it, there is a lot of talking, smiling, and energy.

(中略)

Nai-Mono-Wa-Nai in Day-to-Day Life

There are also many examples of *nai-mono-wa-nai* in day-to-day life.

- There are no babysitting services, but neighbors will take care of local kids any time.
- There are no "disco" clubs, but all of the townspeople can dance the traditional dance along with the "Kinyamonya" local folk songs.
- There are no security companies, but people do look after each other, so no one worries about that.
- There are no flower shops, but lovely flowers are growing outside many homes.
- There are no movie theaters, but there are many local video nights.

As you know, Japan is facing a sharp population decline and the population of AMA Town dropped from nearly 7,000 in 1950 to below 2,300 today.

But today with these initiatives and development, Ama has become a popular town for young people who want to migrate to this island. The total population is still declining due to natural attrition, but the number of people moving here to live is on the rise.

The secret attraction for these people is the spirit of *nai-mono-wa-nai*.

(後略)

(出典 https://www.japanfs.org/en/news/archives/news_id036106.html より抜粋、一部改変)

注) Ama Town : 海士町

問1 海士町独特の価値観や発想として、本文であげていることを3つ、120～140字で述べなさい。

問2 本文の（前略）という部分で、筆者は「海士町独特の価値観や発想は世界へのメッセージになる」と書いている。世界のどのような傾向に対して、海士町独特の価値観や発想はどのようなメッセージになるのか、本文に即して100～120字で説明しなさい。

【出題の意図】

問1 この町の状況についての本文の説明から、この町独特の考え方や感じ方に相当する部分を的確に抽出する読解力と、これを指定字数でまとめる表現力を問う。

問2 現代の文明・経済に見られる傾向と課題をふまえ、それらをこの町の価値観・発想と比較する思考力と、これを指定字数でまとめる表現力を問う。