

SNAPSHOTS OF THE U.S.A

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With

Introduction and Annotated

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はしがき

アメリカの事情を理解しながら英語の力を増していく、そんな教材があればと探していたら、ウィリアム・バルサモ氏のエッセイに触れる機会があった。バルサモ氏に相談すると執筆を快く引き受け、ここに教科書として出版するに至った。バルサモ氏が書いた数多くのエッセイの中から興味が持てそうな物を、そして、アメリカの生活が伝わってくるような物を、本書では24選んである。バルサモ氏は小説やドラマなどを書く、ニューヨーク出身の作家である。

彼のエッセイを読んでいくと、英語にはこんな表現があるのかと、生き生きとした英語の言い回しに眼を白黒させられてしまう。近年、大学の英語の教科書は日本人学生のために、易しく書かれたものが多く、それらの文に慣れてしまうと、生き生きとした英語の表現を忘れがちである。一方、バルサモ氏の英語は江戸っ子の英語である。彼の生きた英語の表現から、生きたアメリカが伝わってくる。

難しい表現や単語もあるが、それらは読者が気軽に読めるようにと、かなり詳しく註釈を付けたつもりである。読者がこの著作により、アメリカへの理解を深め、生きた英語に親しんでいただければ望外の喜びである。

芝 垣 哲 夫

1993年 早春

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学生諸君へ

人生はなかなか巖しいものである。

花咲き乱れる庭や冷たくおいしい水が吹き出るオアシスなど数少ない。

しかしながら、努力すれば運命が開かれてゆくのも確かである。

大学生活とは勉強が中心である。

そのことを心に留め、

意義ある生活を過ごしてもらいたい。

*I see that all is not garden
and cultivated field and crops,
that there are little oases of wildness
in the desert of our civilization,
wild as a square rod
on the moon.*

Henry David Thoreau

From the Journals

1. TOOTH FAIRIES AND VISITS TO SANTA

Among the mythical figures of childhood the two most important perhaps are the tooth fairy and Santa Clause. Both have that power to make wishes come true and help to nurture the world of fantasy and
5 dreams for a child.

It is the custom in America to take a young child's first set of teeth as they fall out and to place them under the pillow when the child goes to sleep. During the night, while the child is sleeping, the
10 parents take away the tooth and replace it with money. The child upon awakening believes that the tooth fairy came during the night and left a monetary reward in exchange for the tooth.

Christmas brings around another character much
15 loved by all children, Santa Clause. During the month which preceeds the holiday, children are taken by their parents to the local department store to visit Santa Clause. The purpose of this visit is to have the children tell Santa Clause what they want for
20 Christmas.

The parents are usually within ear range and make a note of what their child would like from Santa. A

memorial picture with Santa is usually taken at the department store and the ritual is repeated in consecutive years until the age of childhood innocence is lost. In today's world where children seem to know more than their parents, I hope they are still willing to believe that tooth fairies and Santa can make one's wish come true.

25

30

FOOTNOTES

tooth fairies : 歯の妖精

mythical figure : 架空の人物

nurture : 作り上げる

a monetary reward in exchange for the tooth : 抜け落ちた歯の代わりにお金の褒美を持ってくる

bring around : 連れてくる

within ear range : 聞こえる範囲で

make a note of : ~を書き留める

memorial picture : 記念写真

the ritual : (親が子をデパートに連れていく) 儀式

consecutive : 続けて

1. TOOTH FAIRIES AND VISITS TO SANTA

COMPREHENSION

1. What are two mythical figures of an American childhood?
2. What power do both of these figures have for children?
3. Who is the tooth fairy?
4. Where do parents take their children to visit Santa Clause in America?
5. Are children today willing to believe in tooth fairies and Santa Clause? Why or why not?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Santa and the tooth fairy nurture the world of fantasy for children. _____
2. The child's tooth is placed near the bed when he is sleeping. _____
3. Children during the Christmas season visit Santa in order to take pictures with him for memory's sake.
4. Parents try to catch what their children say to Santa, so that they can know what to buy them for Christmas. _____

1. TOOTH FAIRIES AND VISITS TO SANTA

5. Children today believe in Santa just as they did years ago. _____

MEMO

2. FLEA MARKETS AND GARAGE SALES

On any Sunday throughout the year one can spend hours browsing through neighborhood flea markets. Americans love secondhand merchandise which can be bought cheaply and restored to its original use. 5 Many wise collectors often find rare items worth much more than their bargained price. One of the great pleasures of shopping at flea markets is the chance to bargain with the shop owner for a price which one can afford and is willing to pay.

10 Perhaps even more enjoyable are the weekend garage sales which have now become very much a part of American culture. Usually a homeowner decides that he would like to clear his home of accumulated items which are no longer useful to him. More than likely 15 they are in good condition and great buys can be found if one has the time and patience. Books, paintings, bicycles and electrical appliances of every sort appear on a regular basis. If the owner is in a position where he must sell his home or plans to move 20 soon, then he may be forced to practically give things away.

In Japan one finds flea markets at temples and in

parks throughout the year but the concept of the garage sale has not yet caught on. Many foreigners attempting to furnish their apartments wait for the non-burnable garbage day. They get up in the middle of the night to look through the day's items to be disposed. There they will find the pickings of a garage sale with the added advantage that they can lug it home free of charge.

FOOTNOTES

browsing : ぶらぶら見て廻る browse in the library

flea markets : 蚤の市

merchandise : 商品 goods

restore : 修理する

to bargain : 値段を交渉する

garage sales : ガレージセール

accumulated items : 家にたまった品々

great buys : 掘り出し物

appear : 出回る

on a regular basis : 定期的に

catch on : 人気を博する become popular

the non-burnable garbage day : 不燃物のゴミの日

the day's items to be disposed : 捨てられる日用品

the pickings of a garage sale : 探して見付けた品物

the added advantage : もうひとつの楽しみは

lug : 引きずって持ち帰る

free of charge : 無料で

2. FLEA MARKETS AND GARAGE SALES

COMPREHENSION

1. On Sundays in America are there many flea markets?
2. What can many wise collectors find at a flea market?
3. What is one of the great pleasures derived from shopping at flea markets?
4. What are garage sales?
5. What are some of the items found at garage sales?
6. Where do foreigners in Japan go to get secondhand items for their homes?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Americans love to make good use of secondhand merchandise. _____
2. Bargaining with a shopowner is part of the fun of flea markets. _____
3. To go around garage sales requires a lot of patience to find out what one wants to buy. _____
4. Most of what one finds at a flea market has no real value. _____

2. FLEA MARKETS AND GARAGE SALES

5. Whatever is left on garbage days in the non- burnable section can never really be taken home even if it is in good condition. _____

MEMO

3. POPCORN AND POTATO CHIPS

Corn and potatoes are vegetables from the New World. Until the discovery of the Americas the world had not known of these two crops. They were first harvested by the indians who lived on the land and later introduced into Europe by the early explorers. Yet, today they are so much a staple of the American diet that hardly a day passes when one or the other of these foods is not consumed. Not only do they serve to complement the meat or fish portion of a dinner plate, but have been converted into those two most popular of all finger foods, the popcorn and the potato chip.

What American can sit in front of a TV without a bag of chips or a bowl of freshly popped corn covered with butter and seasoned with salt?

Like rice in Japan which is transformed into a myriad of different forms for daily consumption, so too corn finds its way on the table in a variety of offerings. Probably the most popular breakfast food is corn flakes with milk and a sliced banana. Gravies for most meats are made with corn starch and an evening dinner could be complemented with corn

muffins or corn bread.

The humble potato also is prepared in a vast array of imaginative dishes. You can have them baked, 25
boiled, fried or mashed. For breakfast what serving of eggs would be complete without a side order of hash browns?

Besides their utilitarian use as a staple of the American diet both corn and potatoes have proven 30
to be high in nutritious value.

FOOTNOTES

the New World : アメリカ

a staple : 主要産物 a staple of American diet : アメリカ人の主要な飲食物 ; the staples of Japan : 日本の主要産物

complement : 補足

the meat portion : 肉の塊

converted into : ~に置き換えられた

finger foods : 手で食べる物

season : 調理する、味を付けた

myriad : 無数の

consumption : 消耗品

so too : 同様に

offerings : 捧げ物、料理されたもの

gravy : グレービーソース、肉じる

corn starch : とうもろこしで出来たでんぷん

muffin : マフィン、円形の軽焼きパン

3. POPCORN AND POTATO CHIPS

humble : 粗末な、質素な、素朴な

masked : 姿形をかえて

hash browns : ハッシュブラウン、細切りにして軽く焦げるぐ
らいにいためたポテト

utilitarian : 実利的な、実用的な

nutritious value : 栄養価

COMPREHENSION

1. Which two vegetables are originally from the New World?
2. Who first harvested these two crops?
3. What popular finger foods have been inspired by corn and potatoes?
4. Describe some of the many uses of corn?
5. Describe the different ways in which potatoes can be prepared?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Corn and potatoes are to Americans what rice is to the Japanese. _____

3. POPCORN AND POTATO CHIPS

2. Popcorn and potato chips can be described as finger foods. _____
3. The most popular breakfast food in America is corn flakes with milk and strawberries. _____
4. Corn starch is also used in making gravies for meat dishes. _____
5. One form of the potato is called hash browns which are usually served at the evening dinner. _____

MEMO

4. BABYSITTERS AND PART-TIME JOBS

As in Japan part-time jobs for American students are very popular but usually begin during their high school days. Besides working in fast food restaurants and small cafeterias, a very popular job for a teenager
5 in America is babysitting. This is very popular among girls and a good babysitter can earn quite a bit if she is reliable, responsible and mature. It often involves working on Friday and Saturday nights when many married couples would like to go out for a
10 night to a movie or the theater and to leave their young children in the care of a dependable teenager. Once the children are asleep, the babysitter is free to watch TV or to listen to music. If she is conscientious about her studies, she will spend some time doing
15 homework.

In Japan I rarely hear of a teenager working as a babysitter. This may be due to the fact that most Japanese husbands work on Saturdays giving them little free time to enjoy a weekend with their wives.
20 Also, most older married women live with their sons or their daughters when they become widowed. They are the ones who take care of the children when the

parents are called away from the home for personal reasons.

While part-time jobs for high school students are frowned upon in Japan, in America they are often seen as an opportunity to teach young people about responsibility and respect for others. They learn how to become part of the adult world and to share in the making of society.

FOOTNOTES

quite a bit : かなり

reliable : たよりになる

responsible : 責任感がある

mature : 成熟した、大人である

leave a child in the care of : 子供を託する

dependable : 信頼出来る

conscientious : 念入りな、誠実な

call away : 呼び立てる

widow(ed) : 未亡人 (となる)

frown : まゆをひそめる

part of : 一部となる

4. BABYSITTERS AND PART-TIME JOBS

COMPREHENSION

1. When do American students begin to take on part-time jobs?
2. What kind of part-time jobs do American teenagers usually prefer?
3. What are the qualities of a good babysitter?
4. Which days of the week are most popular for babysitting?
5. What does a babysitter do when the children are sleeping?
6. Why has babysitting not become popular in Japan?
7. What lessons can be learned from part-time jobs?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Babysitting is the most popular part-time job for students in America. _____
2. Girls make better babysitters than boys. _____
3. The weekends are not a good time for babysitting. _____

4. BABYSITTERS AND PART-TIME JOBS

4. Japanese teenagers are too busy studying for their college entrance exams to become good babysitters.
5. Part-time jobs are good opportunities to learn about responsibility. _____

MEMO

5. SHOPPING MALLS AND MAIL ORDER

Along with the advent of fast foods and suburban living came the necessity for shopping malls. Most Americans prefer to shop at such malls because of their convenience and accessibility. Flanked by huge parking lots the many shops and stores offer a wide variety of merchandise in differently priced categories. Shopping at such places provides a wealth of activities for all members of the family. Special exhibits and contests are periodically held throughout the year and most malls contain movie theaters and restaurants within their complex.

Some Americans who may live in remote areas or who would rather avoid the crowded stores and parking lots, prefer to shop from a catalog. Their every purchase is only a phone call away. Unless, however, they are familiar with the quality of the service, they may be in for a few surprises. The quality and service provided by Mail Orders may vary, but once the consumer's confidence is assured, the service can be very convenient and reliable.

These modern ways of shopping may satisfy the needs of most people today but they do have a draw-

back. In many cities the once popular “mom-and-pop” stores have vanished unable to compete with the services provided by the more popular and larger malls. It’s a bit of a shame because those “mom-and-pop” establishments helped to keep people together and to create communities. Service then was more personal and the occasional favors from shopowners were more appreciated.

FOOTNOTES

advent : 出現 ; the advent of television

suburban : 郊外の

shopping mall : ショッピングセンター、mall(木陰のある遊歩道)

accessibility : 行くのに便利である

flanked by : の側に

categories : 種類

periodically : 定期的に

complex : 総合ビル

a phone call away : 電話一本の呼びたてで

be in for : (罰)などを受けることになっている

drawback : 欠点

mom-and-pop store : 個人経営の小さな店

occasional favors : 時に応じた計らい

COMPREHENSION

1. What brought on the necessity for shopping malls?
2. Why do Americans prefer to shop at such malls?
3. Besides stores for shopping, what else can be found in shopping malls?
4. Where do Americans who live in remote areas of the country prefer to shop?
5. What are "mom-and-pop" stores?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Shopping malls are found only in the suburbs. _____
2. Shopping malls are very convenient but not so accessible. _____
3. In a shopping mall one can combine a movie and dinner along with shopping. _____
4. Shopping from a catalog is even more convenient than shopping at a mall but you're never sure of the quality of the merchandise. _____

5. SHOPPING MALLS AND MALL ORDER SHOPPING

5. “Mom-and-pop” stores are still as popular as ever and help to create a sense of community. _____

MEMO

6. SUMMER BARBECUES AND VEGETARIAN DIETS

America is often seen as a land of cattle ranches and a beefsteak dinner is considered by some to be one of the staple meals of the American diet. If the Japanese are fond of their sushi and raw fish, then perhaps it can be said that most Americans enjoy their meat barbecued. With the coming of summer, the outdoor barbecue picnic is very much a part of American culture. School clubs and church groups often have summer barbecues in the same way the Japanese like to party under the cherry trees in spring. The distinct aroma of barbecued meat whether it be chicken or beef fills the air in summertime and hardly a week may pass without partaking in a barbecue.

It is a fallacy, however, to conclude that every American is a meateater. In recent years there has been a growing trend among younger people to exclude meat from their diets. This is more than just a fad. Such vegetarians may go so far as to eliminate even eggs and dairy products. The growing concern among nutritionists is that too much meat in one's diet is bad for the heart.

It is quite common now in America to find restaurants which serve nothing but vegetarian dinners. They rival in patronage some of the more popular steak houses and their numbers seem to be increasing year by year. Even schools and colleges have become part of this trend by offering a variety of green salads and fresh fruit in addition to the hot dogs and hamburgers. 25

FOOTNOTES

ranch : 牧畜場

distinct : 独特の

aroma : 芳香、かおり

partake : とともにする、飲食をする

fallacy : 虚偽、誤った考え

trend : 傾向

fad : 気紛、流行

dairy products : 酪農産物、乳製品

nutritionist : 栄養学者、栄養士

rival : 競争する ; The two young men rivaled each other in love.

patronage : 支援 ; rival in patronage ~ : ~と人気を得ると
いう点において競争する

6. SUMMER BARBECUES AND VEGETARIAN DIETS

COMPREHENSION

1. What is considered the staple dinner of the American diet?
2. How do many Americans prefer eating their beef?
3. At what time of the year are barbecues most popular?
4. How often do most Americans partake of barbecues?
5. What is a person called who abstains from eating meat?
6. Why do people choose to eliminate meat from their diets?
7. What kind of food is now being frequently offered in college cafeterias?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Many foreigners see America as a land of cattle ranches.
2. Church groups often hold summer barbecues. _____
3. Every American is a meateater. _____
4. True vegetarians eliminate eggs and dairy products from their diets. _____

6. SUMMER BARBECUES AND VEGETARIAN DIETS

5. Vegetarian restaurants, once popular, have now gone into decline and out of fashion. _____

MEMO

7. BARHOPPING AND TEETOTALERS

There is a custom in America of spending the night going from one bar to another drinking with friends and passing the night away. This custom is called barhopping and is popular mostly with younger people
5 in their early twenties. They may visit as many as five or six bars having a few drinks at each and spend an hour or so in each place before moving on to the next "watering hole." It is not done on every occasion but special weekends are usually the best time to
10 barhop.

One would gather from the above that America is a nation of drinkers and alcoholics. Yet, there are many Americans who never touch a drink either for reasons of religion or health. In our nation's history
15 there was a period known as the Prohibition. At that time back in the 1930's the manufacturing and selling of alcohol was forbidden by law. That law has been repealed but the attitude of those who made the law has not. Laws now regulate the advertisement
20 of both cigarette and alcohol commercials preventing them from being shown on TV.

It is also likely at a party that a host may refuse

to offer alcohol to anyone who has a heavy drinking problem, and even today there are places where the sale of alcoholic beverages is carefully regulated by local governments. Some religions like the Mormons and the Jehovah Witnesses actually forbid the members of their congregation to drink. 25

FOOTNOTES

barhopping : はしご酒

teetotaler : 禁酒者

watering hole : 酒場

the Prohibition : 米国の禁酒法時代(1920~23)

manufacturing : 製造

repealed : 法律などを無効にする ; The law was finally repealed.

regulate : 規制する

beverages: 飲物

the Mormons : モルモン教徒

Jehovah's Witnesses : エホバの証人、もみの塔

congregation : 集会、集まり

7. BARHOPPING AND TEETOTALERS

COMPREHENSION

1. What is barhopping?
2. With whom is it popular?
3. When is barhopping most popular?
4. When was the Prohibition in America?
5. What was the Prohibition?
6. Which religious groups in America prohibit the drinking of alcohol?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Barhopping is very popular with middle - aged salarymen. _____
2. Barhopping is saved for special occasions. _____
3. There are many Americans who never touch alcohol. _____
4. Prohibition in America was very successful. _____
5. Laws regulate cigarette and alcohol commercials on TV in America. _____

7. BARHOPPING AND TEETOTALERS

MEMO

8. BIRTHDAY PARTIES AND POTLUCK DINNERS

Americans love parties and there is hardly an event which goes without a celebration. One of the most popular parties is the birthday celebration. This can be an elaborate or simple affair but one which is often a surprise. For children it may involve party hats, balloons, games and prizes and every guest brings a present for the birthday child. For high school students classmates may bring in a cake at lunchtime and girls are sure to get flowers. For adults at the office the birthday would often involve some kind of attention, perhaps a stop at a local pub after work for a brief toast to the event.

Birthdays usually involve cakes with candles on them; for children one candle for every year and for adults one candle for every decade. Before blowing out all the candles a simple wish is made and the candles are to be blown out in one breath for the wish to come true. When this auspicious moment occurs, all the lights in the room are turned off and “Happy Birthday” is cheerfully sung.

If birthday parties can occur only once a year, then potluck parties, another American favorite, can occur

8. BIRTHDAY PARTIES AND POTLUCK DINNERS

almost every weekend or whenever friends decide to come together. At such a party everybody brings one dish to serve the group and friendly conversation takes care of the rest. The advantage of such a party is that cost is kept at a minimum and responsibility for the event is shared. 25

FOOTNOTES

elaborate : 手のこんだ

bring in : 持ち込む

a toast : 乾杯

decade : 10年

auspicious : めでたい、さいさきの良い

potluck party : ありあわせの食物を持ち寄るパーティ ; covered-dish supper, pitch-in dinner ともいう ; Come and take potluck with us. (粗飯をさしあげますからおいでください)

one dish : 料理

8. BIRTHDAY PARTIES AND POTLUCK DINNERS

COMPREHENSION

1. What is a child's birthday party like?
2. How do high school students celebrate birthdays?
3. What do the candles represent on a birthday cake?
4. What is usually done before blowing out all the candles?
5. When is the best time for a potluck dinner?
6. What is the advantage of a potluck party?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Birthday parties in America are usually surprise parties. _____
2. High school students hardly ever celebrate birthdays with a party. _____
3. When adults put a candle on a birthday cake, one candle represents ten years. _____
4. For a wish to come true the candles on the cake must be blown out in one breath. _____

8. BIRTHDAY PARTIES AND POTLUCK DINNERS

5. Potluck parties are more popular than birthday parties and occur with greater frequency. _____



MEMO

9. FAST FOODS AND TV DINNERS

Americans are a very energetic and mobile people, always on the run. They have very little time to spend preparing elaborate every day meals for leisurely consumption. It is no wonder that America has become
5 the birthplace of fast foods. This great transformation occurred after World War II when many women began to work and were spending less time at home. To function well in the capacity of homemaker and career woman it was necessary to make her life easier in
10 the preparation of the family dinner. This was also a time when the focus of home entertainment shifted from the radio to the television. No one wanted to miss their favorite televised program.

The immediate solution was the TV dinner. These
15 were frozen meals which were sectioned off into portions of meat and vegetables. They could easily be popped into an oven and prepared within minutes. The tin trays in which they were served could conveniently be carried into the living room and dinner could be
20 consumed in front of a TV set.

From fast dinners at home the next step was quick eating while on the road. It is not odd that America

saw the beginning of fast food chains. McDonald's paved the way with their variety of burgers and shakes soon to be followed by all kinds of other foods. Chickens, donuts, tacos and pizza all were quickly produced en masse. These establishments sprouted up along the highways and main streets of America and have given shape to a modern lifestyle. 25

FOOTNOTES

on the run : 多忙で、奔走している

elaborate : 苦心して作り上げた

the birthplace of ~ : ~ の発祥の地

transformation : 変容、変質

in the capacity of ~ : ~ として

homemaker : 主婦

shifted : 移行する

sectioned off : 切り離されている

pop into : 放りこむ

eater : 大食家

fast food chains : (ハンバーガーや鳥のフライなどの) 即席料理
専門のレストラン

be paved the way with ~ : ~への道を切り開く

shakes : ミルクセーキ

en masse : 一まとめに

establishment : 企業

sprout : 芽が出る、出現する

give shape to : にかっこうをつける

COMPREHENSION

1. Why has America become the birthplace of fast food restaurants?
2. What happened after World War II which developed the craze for fast foods?
3. What shift took place in home entertainment after World War II?
4. What were TV dinners?
5. What made TV dinners so convenient?
6. What kinds of fast foods are available as you drive along the highways of America?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Americans are so busy they have little time for preparing elaborate meals. _____
2. American women became busier after the War and had little time to spend in the kitchen preparing meals. _____

9. FAST FOODS AND TV DINNERS

3. TV dinners were not popular because they were difficult to prepare. _____
4. M^cDonald's are usually found along American highways. _____
5. Women find fast foods easier to prepare than full course meals. _____

MEMO

10. SENSE OF HUMOR AND PRACTICAL JOKES

As much as Americans enjoy parties they also like to play practical jokes on each other. Often these are harmless pranks to ease tension on the job or to create a relaxed informal atmosphere among people.

5 It is very likely that an important public speaker may begin his speech by relating a humorous anecdote.

We often use the word "icebreaker" to refer to those moments when a serious situation is made more informal. Such anecdotes and humorous stories reduce
10 tension.

Americans are so prone to humor that there are two special days when they are given a carte blanche to play the role of the prankster. Almost any joke is acceptable on these days as long as it is in goodtaste
15 and does not offend to the point of embarrassment.

The first of these days is April Fool's Day which occurs on the first day of the fourth month. Everyone is alert to being the object of someone's humor but invariably they are often caught off guard. The office
20 or school are places where one is especially vulnerable. Students in America on this day enjoy playing a joke on their teachers and each other.

The second day when humor has full reign is Halloween. Both children and adults alike enjoy not only the masquerade but also the levity which accompanies the day. At parties held on this day a variety of games and tricks are par for the course. 25

This love for humor extends so wide that every elected official can be sure that his administration and term in office will be subject to satire and public amusement, something which never quite happens in Japan. 30

FOOTNOTES

practical jokes : 口だけでない悪ふざけ、いたずら

pranks : 悪ふざけ、いたずら、冗談

anecdote : 逸話

icebreaker : 砕氷船、タクシーの基本料金

prone : 傾向にある

carte blanche : 白紙 give carte blanche to ~ ; ~ の自由を許す

prankster : いたずら者

in good taste : 趣味がよい

be alert to : ~に注意している

invariably : 常に、一定不変に

be caught off guard : 驚く

vulnerable : 攻撃されやすい

10. SENSE OF HUMOR AND PRACTICAL JOKES

masquerade : 仮面、仮装

levity : 気紛れ、浮かれ気分、軽さ

be par for the course : 一連の中に組み入れられている

elected official : 役人、議員

satire : 皮肉

COMPREHENSION

1. What's another name for practical jokes?
2. How does an important speaker like to begin his speeches?
3. What is meant by an "icebreaker"?
4. At what two special times during the year do Americans often display their sense of humor?
5. On which day do students enjoy playing a joke on their teachers?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Practical jokes help to create a relaxed atmosphere among people. _____
2. When giving speeches on serious topics, public speakers in America never make jokes. _____

10. SENSE OF HUMOR AND PRACTICAL JOKES

3. Americans play the prankster especially on April Fool's Day. _____
4. On April Fool's Day American's enjoy masquerading. _____
5. Public officials are rarely the object of satire in America. _____

MEMO

11. TORNADOES AND HURRICANES

Two of the most dangerous storms which afflict America are tornadoes and hurricanes. They are very much feared by anyone who may live in the path of their destruction.

5 Hurricanes begin over the water usually in the Caribbean Sea and move upwards hitting the mainland of America somewhere in the Gulf of Mexico or the Atlantic Ocean. Once they hit land they carry tremendous power with driving rain and wind. Every
10 year homes are destroyed by their fury and often lives are lost. Most people who may live near the coast are forced to evacuate their homes and to move to safer areas until the storm passes. In Japan a storm similar to the hurricane is called a typhoon.
15 It moves in a similar pattern with equal force and destruction.

 If you should travel inland across the great prairie states of America, you most likely will not encounter a hurricane, but there is another kind of storm in
20 the midwest which is equally feared. It is called a tornado. These storms occur during the summer months and are noticeable by their strong wind and

lack of rain. Like a vacuum cleaner across a rug, they suck up into the air anything which may lie in their path. 25

Both hurricanes and tornadoes cause millions of dollars worth of damage each year. They can be predicted more easily than before, but they cannot be ignored. When they come, they must be endured with the hope that one survive their fury and wrath. 30

FOOTNOTES

the Caribbean Sea : カリブ海

the Gulf of Mexico : メキシコ湾

the Atlantic : 大西洋

fury : 猛威

evacuate : 逃げる

prairie : 大草原

tornado : 旋風、竜巻

noticeable : 顕著な、目立つ

rug : 敷物

be predicted : 予報される

wrath : 激怒

11. TORNADOES AND HURRICANES

COMPREHENSION

1. What are two of the most dangerous storms which afflict America?
2. Where do hurricanes usually begin?
3. What do most people who live near the coast usually do when a hurricane strikes?
4. What is a storm similar to a hurricane called in Japan?
5. Where do tornadoes usually strike in America?
6. What are tornadoes like?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Tornadoes and hurricanes are similar storms. _____
2. Hurricanes carry a lot of rain, whereas Tornadoes do not. _____
3. Tornadoes are found in the Rocky Mountains of America. _____
4. Tornadoes and hurricanes usually appear in the summer months. _____

11. TORNADOES AND HURRICANES

5. Every year billions of dollars worth of damage and destruction is caused by these storms. _____

MEMO

12. DAY NURSERIES AND OLD AGE HOMES

America has always been a very mobile society of working women and busy homes. It favors a youth culture which caters to the youthful energy of people in their prime. Consequently, those who live at the extreme spectrums of society may find themselves placed in the care of day nurseries or old age homes.

Working women often do not have the convenience of an extended family where the mother-in-law can take care of young children until their mother returns from the office or workplace. As a result, pre-school children are often placed in day care centers where they are supervised by trained adults and engaged in a variety of planned activities. While in these centers they are socialized to get along with others their own age and to express themselves creatively through art and music.

At the other end of the age spectrum are the elderly who also need special and professional care. As the lifespan of individuals increases in industrialized countries, people live longer but often find that they can no longer take care of themselves. In many cases the family of the aged for a variety of reasons may

also no longer be able to provide them with the special attention they need. Consequently, senior citizen homes have developed to serve as centers 25 where the older members of society can spend their declining years in relative comfort while being cared for by people especially trained to deal with the unique problems of the aged.

FOOTNOTES

mobile society : (住居や仕事を度々変える) 移動性社会

cater to : 見合うような、供する

youthful : 若々しい、澁刺とした

prime : 全盛期

consequently : その結果として

spectrum : 層 ; the extreme of society ; 老人・乳児などの層

day nursery : 託児所

declining years : 晩年

convenience : 便宜

an extended family : (a nuclear family) 核家族に対する拡大
家族

lifespan : 寿命

COMPREHENSION

1. What kind of society can America be described as?
2. Why do working women place their children in day care centers?
3. Children of what age group are placed in day care centers?
4. What happens in these day care centers?
5. What kinds of homes have been developed to take care of the elderly?
6. Why are senior citizens placed into such homes?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. America is a fast moving society. _____
2. Women place their children in day care centers because they don't want to take care of them. _____
3. In day care centers children are taught how to socialize with one another. _____
4. Because people live longer there is no one to take care of them when they become old. _____

12. DAY NURSERIES AND OLD AGE HOMES

5. In senior citizen homes the staff often is especially well-trained. _____

MEMO

13. VOLUNTEERS AND CHARITABLE COLLECTIONS

It is not uncommon in America for a person to belong to some kind of volunteer group. Donating one's time and services is very much a part of the American way of life. Much of this charitable activity
5 is organized by churches and religious groups around the nation and the helping hand is extended to the poor, the homeless and the underprivileged. Some people work to teach youngsters how to read, others open up soup kitchens to feed the homeless.

10 It appears that this willingness to give and share without calculating the cost becomes most evident around the holiday season when a spirit of goodwill extends deep into the hearts of all men.

15 High school students with their sense of idealism are often eager to donate their time seeing such activities as a way of becoming involved in the community. Social action for them becomes as important as their studies.

20 In a like manner throughout the year fund raising drives are conducted by schools and churches to raise money for a designated worthy cause. Dance marathons, raffles and church bazaars help to rally

a group around a needy project to gather funds.

This call to assist those less fortunate than ourselves arises from the humble origins of the American nation. Those who were poor and downtrodden became dependent on the kindness of their neighbors to make a new life for themselves. Idealistic high school students find this also a way to become involved in their communities and are eager to donate their time.

FOOTNOTES

charitable : 慈悲深い

underprivileged : 社会的に恵まれていない

youngsters : 若者

open up : 開く

soup kitchen : スープ接待所、貧困者などに無料でスープやパンを供給するところ

with their sense of idealism : 理想に燃えている

donate : 貢献する

fund raising drives : 基金創設のための運動

drive : 運動 ; a Red Cross Drive 赤十字募金運動

designated : 指定された

raffle : 富みくじ販売、品物の代価をそれぞれが付け、くじで当たった人が自分で付けた値段で買う

rally : 集結する、結束する

humble origin : 恵まれていない人

downtrodden : ふみにじられた、しいたげられた

COMPREHENSION

1. Who organizes volunteer groups in America?
2. What kinds of people are recipients of charitable collections?
3. What is the purpose of a soup kitchen?
4. What is the attitude of many high school students towards volunteer work?
5. What kinds of activities are organized to raise money?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Many Americans belong to volunteer organizations.
2. Soup kitchens are usually organized to feed children who are orphans. _____
3. High school students motivated by idealism are eager to volunteer. _____
4. Dance marathons and raffles are good ways to raise money. _____

13. VOLUNTEERS AND CHARITABLE COLLECTIONS

5. The need for helping others less fortunate can be traced to the humble origins of Americans. _____

MEMO

14. BRIDAL SHOWERS AND STAG PARTIES

Before a young couple proceeds down the aisle to exchange their marriage vows, there are two rituals which are usually performed before the day of the wedding. For girls it is the bridal shower and for
5 her future husband it is the stag party. Both these parties are usually filled with unexpected surprises and occur sometime within the month prior to the actual marriage.

The bridal shower is the more sedate of the two
10 rituals with the bride-to-be as the center of attention. It is customarily organized by her sister or best friend and attended only by women, usually family and friends. Everyone brings along a gift which could be useful in setting up a home; a kitchen
15 appliance, an item for entertaining guests or towels for everyday use are all appropriate gifts. It is an important day for the young lady which prepares her for setting up her own home.

For the man-soon-to-be-married the party may
20 be a bit more animated. His stag party is his last chance to have an all-night out on the town. Only men are invited to this party and rightly so since

some of the pleasures of the evening may offend a female's sense of good taste. In most cases, however, it may be nothing more than a night of barhopping and talking about the good times shared together in the past. 25

FOOTNOTES

aisle : 教会の座席列間の通路

marriage vow : 結婚の誓い ; **baptismal vows** : 洗礼の時の誓約

bridal shower : 花嫁への祝い品贈呈会、**shower party** とも言う

stag party : 結婚する花婿のために結婚前夜に男友達だけが開くパーティ、男だけの集まり(ポルノ映画等を目的とした)男の会

sedate : まじめな、落ち着いた

bride-to-be : 花嫁となる人

appropriate : 適切な

man-soon-to-be-married : 結婚する男性

animated : 生气のある、活気のある

rightly so : しかるべきもの、当然の物

COMPREHENSION

1. What is the party ritual for a girl before her wedding?
2. What is the party ritual for a man before his marriage?
3. Who arranges the bridal shower?
4. What kinds of gifts are given to the bride-to-be?
5. What is a stag party like?
6. Who is invited to a stag party?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Only women attend a bridal shower. _____
2. Bridal showers are always surprise parties. _____
3. Household items make good gifts for bridal showers. _____
4. Stag parties are as noisy as bridal showers. _____
5. Usually women are not invited to a stag party unless they are there to entertain. _____

14. BRIDAL SHOWERS AND STAG PARTIES

MEMO

15. ABORTION AND THE DEATH PENALTY

Two of the most widely discussed moral issues which confront Americans today are abortion and the death penalty. With the advent of the woman's movement came the issue of women's rights over their own body and the debate has centered over the question of human life and at which point in a pregnancy does the fetus exist as a person. Church groups have taken a staunch opposition to abortion while some sociologists have been more tolerant being aware of the effect unwanted pregnancies may have upon society.

The question of the death penalty as punishment for incorrigible criminals and heinous crimes remains equally controversial. Those who favor the death penalty feel that it will discourage crime. Many, however, feel it is barbaric and not worthy of a moral society. Certainly of all developed societies, America is one of the few which not only has the death penalty but has brought many to justice over the years in this way.

Ironically those who seem to be most in favor of the death penalty are the same ones who are most

opposed to abortion. Behind both positions there is a conservative way of thinking which is still found in many of the country. In both these issues can be seen the awesome power to determine the life and death of a person. This is a right which some believe belongs only to God. 25

FOOTNOTES

advocate : 援護者、擁護者

abortion : 人工中絶

the death penalty : 死刑

the advent of ~ : ~の出現

pregnancy : 妊娠

fetus : 胎児

staunch : = stanch ; しっかりした、堅固な

unwanted pregnancies : 望まれていない妊娠

incorrigible : 矯正出来ない、わがままな、手におえない、救い
 難い

criminal : 犯人

heinous : 憎むべき、極悪な(astrocious)、凶悪な

controversial : 激しい論争

discourage : 思いとどまらせる

barbaric : 野蛮な ; **barbarian** : 野蛮人、教養のない人

be not worthy of ~ : ~の価値がない、ふさわしくない

a moral society : 道徳社会

15. ABORTION AND THE DEATH PENALTY

fundamentalist : 正統派キリスト教(聖書の創造説を堅く信じ進化説をまったく排除する)

awesome : 畏敬の念を起こさせる

COMPREHENSION

1. What are two important moral issues in America today?
2. Which groups have taken a staunch opposition to abortion?
3. Why do some people favor the death penalty?
4. Why are some people opposed to the death penalty?
5. What kind of thinking lies behind those in favor of the death penalty and against-abortion?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Abortion and the death penalty are important moral issues in America today. _____
2. With women's rights came a renewed interest in women's privileges in America. _____
3. The question of the death penalty is controversial in America today. _____

15. ABORTION AND THE DEATH PENALTY

4. Those who seem to be in favor of birth control are those who cannot accommodate large families.
5. In birth control there is an awesome power to determine the life and death of an unborn child. _____

MEMO

16. JACKALOPES AND JACK-O'-LANTERNS

Part of any culture is its need for myths and imaginary creatures. In Japan, of course, there is the Kappa, that imaginary being which supposedly inhabits the area near Kamikochi. In America there are such creatures as Jackalopes. These are hares which appear to have grown antlers or horns on their heads similar in shape to those of an antelope. In reality no such animal exists in spite of the many pictures taken by those who believe they really do. The so-called "horns" are nothing more than some viral tumor which grows from the scalp or head of a large jackrabbit.

In some cases those who claim to have captured a "real" jackalope have merely mounted the horns of a small deer upon the head of a large wild rabbit. Jack-o'-lanterns, on the other hand, are never meant to be real. They are pumpkins at halloween into which a face has been carved. First, the pumpkin is opened at the top and all the seeds which fill up the inside are taken out. Then the eyes, nose and mouth are carved into the side so that a face appears. The face should appear to be grotesque and frightening

but more than likely it seems cheerful and harmless. When it is ready for display, a lighted candle is placed inside so that an eerie glow shines through the openings of its features. It is then placed near a window on halloween night so that all those who pass by can see.

FOOTNOTES

myths : 伝説、作り話

imaginary creature : 想像上の生物

hare : 野兎 as mad as a March hare(3月の交尾期のうさぎの
ように狂気じみた)

antler : しかの枝角 **horn** : 角、しかの角

antelope :(動物)アンテロップ、レイヨウ、アフリカ・アジアに生
息するシカに似たウシ科の動物

attest to : を証明する

contrary : 反対

viral : ウイルス性の

tumor : 腫瘍(しゅよう); a benign (malignant) tumor : 良性
の(悪性の)腫瘍

scalp : 頭皮

jackrabbit : 野うさぎ、耳と後肢がながい

mounted : 据付けた

jack-o-lanterns : 鬼火、狐火、かぼちやのちょうちん

eerie : = eery : 不気味な、気味の悪い

COMPREHENSION

1. Where does the legendary kappa live in Japan?
2. What are jackalopes?
3. Are jackalopes real animals?
4. What are the jackalope's "horns"?
5. What are jack-o'-lanterns?
6. When are they displayed?
7. Where are they displayed?
8. What is put inside of them for illumination?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Some people have actually seen jackalopes. _____
2. Most kappa in Japan live in Kamikochi, but no one has actually seen one. _____
3. Jack-o'-lanterns are used to frighten away evil spirits. _____

16. JACKALOPES AND JACK-O'-LANTERNS

4. Jack-o'-lanterns all have grotesque features. _____

5. Hares which grow horns from the scalp are called jackalopes. _____

MEMO

17. SENIOR PROMS AND SPRING BREAK

One of the most important events of the year for high school students is the senior prom. There is nothing comparable to this in Japan. The seniors prepare all year for this social get-together and
5 farewell. It is perhaps equivalent to the coming-of-age celebration in where the graduates become a part of the Adult world.

The prom is usually well-planned by a committee comprised of students and teacher advisors. A theme
10 is chosen, a hall is rented, a menu is decided upon and a live band is hired for the occasion.

If it is an especially formal affair, girls wear a gown and boys rent a tuxedo. For some reason they often appear ill at ease and awkward in the role of
15 their social debut. A limosene is rented by several couples and there is an aura of elegance and glamor attached to the evening. After the prom many couples continue the celebration by going to night clubs and cabarets. Often they stay out all evening to wait for
20 the sun to arise before returning home.

If the senior prom is the party which initiates them into the grown-up world, then it is the spring

break which gives them their first taste of independent travel. The spring break holiday is neither sponsored nor chaperoned by school or parents. It has been the recent trend along the east coast to descend upon Fort Lauderdale in Florida to spend a week at the beach with classmates in the hope of finding new friends. 25

FOOTNOTES

prom : promenade :(米口語)大学・高校で行なう舞踏会、ダンス

senior prom : 卒業前の生徒が主催するダンス

a coming-of-age celebration : 成人式

initiation : 社会にでる「第一歩」を踏み出す

comprise : から成る

gown : フォーマルなロングドレス

ill at ease : 不安で落ち着かない

awkward : ぎこちない、ぶざまな

debut : デビュー

aura : 特殊な雰囲気

glamour : 不思議な魅力、魔力

descend upon : 出向く

Ft. Lauderdale : フォト・ラウダーデール、フロリダの海岸

chaperon : 若い未婚の婦人が社交界に出るときの付き添い、付き添いをする、監督する

COMPREHENSION

1. What is one of the most important events of the year for high school students in America?
2. What is the Japanese equivalent to the senior prom?
3. Is the prom a formal or an informal affair?
4. What do couples do after the prom?
5. What does the spring break offer to the high school senior?
6. Where do students on the East Coast of America usually go for their spring break?
7. Is the spring break sponsored by school and parents?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. The most important event of the school year for high school students is the senior prom. _____
2. The prom is generally not well planned. _____
3. High school seniors often feel awkward and ill at ease during the prom. _____

17. SENIOR PROMS AND SPRING BREAK

4. After the prom the celebration continues often until dawn. _____
5. The spring break gives the student a chance to find new friends. _____

MEMO

18. APPLE PIE AND YOGHURT

Americans sometimes give the impression that they are either eating to excess or are always on a diet. In truth, they do have a sweet tooth which seems to favor rich desserts especially home made pies with plenty of whipped cream. Among the most popular fruit pies is the apple pie served warm with a hugh scoop of vanilla ice cream on top. This tempting dessert, known as pie a la mode, is hardly what anyone would consider to be a diet food. Yet, if a poll were taken, I would wager a bet that it would rank first among all other desserts.

After the careless indulgence of habitually eating sweet desserts after every main meal, a feeling of guilt emerges. The average American may find himself a bit wide of girth and in need of a change in his eating habits.

With the same eager appetite he may find himself substituting a container of yoghurt in place of his favorite fruit pie. These containers of yoghurt come in a variety of fruity flavors. Yoghurt falls in the category of a health food being low in fat and high in nutrition.

The fad for this health food became so furious a few years back that a soft ice cream made of yoghurt was quite popular and still is. It is served either in a cone or a cup and with its sweetened taste appeases every need for a healthy dessert. Most nutritionists, however, would argue that it may be low in fat but still rather high in calories. 25

FOOTNOTES

to (in) excess : 過度に ; **drink to excess** : 飲み過ぎ

have a sweet tooth : 甘い物好き、甘党

poll : 世論調査

wager : 賭ける

a bet : 賭け

indulgence : 気まま

girth : 胴回りの寸法、肥満

in need of ~ : ~ が必要である

find himself substituting ~ : ~ に置き換えているのに気付く

in place of : 代わりに

come in : 流行る

nutrition : 栄養

fad : 気粉れ、流行

appease : なだめる、食欲を満たす

18. APPLE PIE AND YOGHURT

COMPREHENSION

1. What is a popular dessert in America?
2. How are apple pies sometimes served?
3. What is pie a la mode?
4. What is a popular diet food in America?
5. What kind of ice cream is a popular fad for those who are on a diet and want to avoid fats?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Many Americans have a sweet tooth. _____
2. Apple pie a la mode may well be America's favorite dessert. _____
3. Yoghurt can only be found in vanilla flavor. _____
4. Soft ice creams are served only in cones. _____
5. Yoghurt ice cream may be low in fat but it is still high in calories. _____

18. APPLE PIE AND YOGHURT

MEMO

19. FOOTBALL GAMES

It's a game which never quite caught on with the rest of the world but it is very much a part of the American sport scene. Basketball, tennis and volleyball can all well be considered international sports, but American football is distinctly American in the same way that Sumo is uniquely Japanese.

From all external appearances it is an excessively violent sport in a way in which tennis, for example, is not. To play American football it is necessary to be well protected with a helmet, shoulder pads and knee guards. When fully attired, a football player may well look ready to enter battle or to journey into outer space.

The game is never easy to follow and it is quite easy to lose track of who possesses the ball. In volleyball, for example, the ball is always visible. It can be seen bouncing from one player to the next in full view of the spectators. In football it is another matter. It is often passed secretly from one player to another and after each play there is a heap of jumbled players amassed somewhere on the field.

As far as games are concerned football also has

perhaps the highest number of casualties among the players with broken bones, dislocated hips and kneecaps, sprained backs and shoulders and twisted ankles. 25

Yet, there is a fanaticism and enthusiasm with each game difficult to describe. There is hardly a major college in America which doesn't have a team, and schools often award scholarships to promising athletes who can enhance the power and prestige of their team. 30

FOOTNOTES

catch on : 流行る

pad : むねあて、パッド

attire(d) : 装う

amassed : 積んだ

dislocated hips and kneecaps : 腰を痛めたりひざの皿を痛めたり

sprained backs : 背中の筋を違える

twisted ankles : 足首の捻挫

fanaticism : 熱狂

promising athletes : 将来有望なスポーツ選手

enhance : 力を高める

COMPREHENSION

1. What can be said of both American football and Japanese Sumo?
2. What must a player wear when he is ready to play football?
3. In what way is football different from volleyball?
4. Are the rules of football easy to follow?
5. What kinds of injuries can occur in a football game?
6. What do schools often award to promising athletes?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Football is uniquely American and is not considered a world sport. _____
2. The sport is not so violent because all the players are well protected with helmets and shoulder pads. _____
3. The rules of the game are very simple and easy to follow. _____
4. Football has a fanatical group of followers among college students. _____

19. FOOTBALL GAMES

5. Colleges offer scholarships to promising athletes who can contribute to the power of their team. _____

MEMO

20. BEAUTY PAGEANTS

America being a land of youth and energy is very much attracted to idealized beauty and feminine charm. The glow of youth which radiates from a nation infatuated with its own adolescence expresses
5 itself most effectively in beauty pageants. These fall into many categories, and almost anyone can be eligible for some beauty contest to suit her age and talent.

The one, however, which captures the attention of
10 all Americans is the Miss America beauty pageant held in the fall every year in Atlantic City. This highly organized, publicized and televised event seeks to find every year the one girl in America who possesses not only beauty, but wit, charm, intelligence,
15 talent and wholesome family values.

Each state in America through a process of elimination presents one candidate to compete for the honorary title. They all converge from the fifty states on Atlantic City to be subjected to a series
20 of competitions and tests. They are usually very young barely out of high school, yet not sufficiently wise in the ways of the world. So, their beauty

combined with innocence attracts the attention of the whole country.

When a winner is chosen, she is crowned with jewels, flowered with bouquets, and a queenly robe is placed on her shoulders to initiate her reign. Amid the flashing bulbs of the press and the accolade of the audience she knows her life may never be the same. The Queen of England may rule for several decades but Miss America can reign for but one year.

FOOTNOTES

beauty pageant : 美人コンテスト

idealized beauty : 理想の美人

feminine charm : 女性的魅力

radiate from : から発する

infatuated with : 夢中になっている

adolescence : 思春期、青春

fall into : 分かれる

categories : 種類

eligible for : 好ましい、適格な

Atlantic City : New Jersey 州の東海岸にある都市、かつては豪華な保養地として有名であった。1967年、カジノの開設が認められ、東の Las Vegas として注目されるようになった。New York からは毎日夜 6 時に直行便がでており、35分で着く。

wholesome : 健康そうな、健全な

family value : 家庭の資質(価値)

20. BEAUTY PAGEANTS

converge : 一点に集まる

be subject to : 受ける

barely : かろうじて ; He barely escaped death. 九死に一生を得た。

flashing bulb : 写真のフラッシュ

accolade : (knight) ナイト爵位授与式

never be the same : 最高のもの

COMPREHENSION

1. What are many Americans attracted to because of their youth and energy?
2. Where is the Miss America pageant held in America?
3. When is the Miss America pageant held?
4. How many girls may be chosen as candidates for this contest?
5. What are some of the qualities of a Miss America candidate?
6. For how long does the winner reign as Miss America?

20. BEAUTY PAGEANTS

TRUE OR FALSE

1. America is still a nation in the adolescence of her growth. _____
2. There are many beauty pageants in America throughout the year. _____
3. The Miss America beauty pageant is never shown on TV. _____
4. There are candidates from every state of the country. _____
5. Miss America can reign for several years. _____

MEMO

21. SALUTING THE FLAG

In Japan there is often controversy concerning the flag. Some Japanese are ashamed to recognize their flag as a symbol of their country. Most Americans, on the other hand, see the flag as a cause for pride and admiration. The “Stars and Stripes” as the flag is commonly called, helps to unite many different people from many different cultures into one united country. The stripes on the flag represent the original thirteen colonies and each star stands for a state.

In schools around the country the day often begins with the pledge of allegiance to the flag. This is often said while the student faces the flag and places his right hand over his heart. There is no classroom in which the flag is not displayed.

Likewise, most school assemblies begin with the same pledge, and this pride in the flag is further recognized by celebrating Flag Day every year in June. On this day the flag is prominently displayed from the porches of homes and from all public buildings. This respect for the flag as a symbol of our nation is further enhanced by the special care which is required in handling it when it is folded

and stored.

When removing the flag from its pole, it is important
 that the flag should not be permitted to touch the 25
 ground. There is such reverence in the handling of
 the flag that a controversy arose several years ago
 concerning the willful burning of the flag as a form
 of protest. Some felt that to burn the flag in certain
 instances was permissible as a symbol of one's freedom, 30
 but most believed that such an act was an offense
 which violated this sacred symbol of unity and identity
 for all Americans.

FOOTNOTES

cause : 理由、原因

pledge : 誓約する

allegiance : 忠誠

Flag Day : 国旗制定記念日、1777年6月14日

stored : 保管して置く

reverence : 尊敬

willful : 故意の

21. SALUTING THE FLAG

COMPREHENSION

1. What feelings do most Americans have towards their flag?
2. What is another name for the American flag?
3. What do the stars and stripes on the flag stand for?
4. How does each student in America begin his school day?
5. What do Americans do on Flag Day?
6. What must not happen when the American flag is removed from its pole?
7. What controversy arose several years ago concerning the American flag?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. All Japanese are proud of their flag as a symbol of their country. _____
2. The stripes on the flag represent the different cultures which make up America. _____

21. SALUTING THE FLAG

3. Students in schools in America begin the day with the pledge of allegiance to the flag. _____
4. The American flag receives special handling when it is removed from its pole. _____
5. Americans would never think of burning their flag. _____

MEMO

22. ETHNIC PARADES

Every American loves a parade and there is hardly an American who hasn't marched in a parade of one kind or another. Whenever the circus comes into town, a menagerie of clowns, acrobats, animals and musicians march down the main avenue announcing its arrival.

A parade is an expression of man's freedom of speech. It's a way of making a public statement about who we are and to which group we identify or pledge our loyalty.

Some parades, of course, are not so serious and exist just for fun. In February the streets of New Orleans are filled with Mardi Gras floats which parade through the French Quarter. In November Fifth Avenue in New York is host for the Thanksgiving Day Parade with its own assortment of marching bands and giant helium balloons.

The parades, however, which are especially significant in America are the ethnic ones. These are public displays of one's connection to an ethnic group to which one can trace one's ancestors. It is a case for ethnic pride. So, Puerto Ricans, Italians,

Irish and Swedes all have their own day to show forth the dances, foods and traditions of their forefathers. 25

For the Irish, an especially visible minority, there is St. Patrick's Day. This occurs on March 17th and is an especially lively one with marching bands representing all the different counties of Ireland. For the Italians Columbus Day becomes a cause for national pride with a similar parade in New York along Fifth Avenue. 30

The most memorable of all parades, however, are tickertape parades. These are held only on special occasions and to honor special events. They occur for example, when a local team wins a World Series or a special person makes a most honorable contribution to the country. As the parade makes its way down the main street, streams of paper are tossed out of windows creating the atmosphere of a paper blizzard from the sky. 35 40

FOOTNOTES

menagerie : 群れ、巡回動物園

clown : 道化役者

22. ETHNIC PARADES

Mardi Gras : 懺悔火曜日、謝肉祭(CARNIVAL)の最終日で、
Paris, New Orleans 等では特別な祝いをもよおす

Thanksgiving Day : 米国の感謝祭日、11月第4木曜日

assortment : 色々な

show forth : 誇示する

St. Patrick's Day : アイルランドの7守護聖人の一人を祭る日、
3月17日

county : 英国・アイルランドの州を示す

Columbus Day : 米大陸発見を記念するコロンブス記念日、10月12日

ticker-tape parade : 米国 New York 市伝統の紙吹雪(テープ)の舞うパレード

COMPREHENSION

1. What does the circus do when it arrives into town?
2. What is the purpose of a parade?
3. Which famous parade is held in New Orleans?
4. Which parade occurs in New York in November?
5. What is meant by an ethnic parade?
6. Which group of people like to march on St. Patrick's Day?
7. Which group of people claim Columbus Day for their national pride?

22. ETHNIC PARADES

8. What are ticker-tape parades?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Americans in general are not very fond of parades. _____
2. Parades are a cause for national pride. _____
3. The Mardi Gras takes place in New York. _____
4. The Thanksgiving parade is an ethnic parade which celebrates the great diversity of American culture. _____
5. The Irish are the largest minority group in America today. _____
6. Ticker-tape parades are only held on special occasions and for special events. _____

MEMO

23. HOLLYWOOD AND BROADWAY

One of America's greatest exports to the rest of the world has been entertainment. America, a nation of incredible energy and talent, has flooded the world markets with her films, theater and song. In America the two meccas where this talent is most brilliantly essayed are Hollywood and Broadway.

Hollywood still remains the place where dreams are said to come true and fantasies are carefully nurtured. This movie capital of the world, located not far from the center of Los Angeles, is known as one of the few places in the world where epic films can still be made on such a large scale. Ancient Rome, the Pharaoh's Egypt or a science fiction film staged somewhere in the Galaxy are all within the imagination of the filmmakers and the industry they control.

On the East coast of America in New York it is live theater which provides the source of culture and entertainment. Here it is live theater which dominates the cultural scene. Each year dramas, plays and musicals are performed in front of live audiences. On any one night over fifty plays are presented for

those who enjoy going to the theater. No city in the world, with the possible exception of London, can boast of the amount of drama and theater available to the public. 25

The whole world has been influenced by the power of American stage and screen. There is hardly a country which has not been affected by the films and plays emanating from these two meccas. 30

FOOTNOTES

export : 輸出

incredible : 驚くべき、信じられない

mecca : 行ってみたいところ、憧れの的

be essayed : 企てられている

Hollywood : Los Angeles 市郊外の一區画、映画産業の中心地
Hollywood(米俗)派手な、けばけばしい、きざな、気取った、誠意の無い

Broadway : 特に New York 市 Times Square 付近の商業劇場の中心地 俗に the Great White Way ともいう

nurtured : 養成されている

the movie capital : 映画の首都

epic : 勇壮な、歴史的な、叙事詩

in a galaxy : 華やかな集まり the Galaxy : 銀河

boast of : 自慢する

pervasive : 広がる、普及する

emanate : 発する、広める

COMPREHENSION

1. What is one of America's greatest exports to the world?
2. In America where can the two meccas of art and entertainment be found?
3. Where is Hollywood located?
4. What kind of entertainment can be found in New York?
5. About how many live plays are presented a night in New York?
6. Which city perhaps rivals New York in live theater?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. America is not a country of great energy and talent. _____
2. Hollywood, a place where dreams can come true, is the movie capital of the world. _____
3. In New York many dramas and musicals are performed in front of live audiences. _____
4. London also has a very active theater life. _____

23. HOLLYWOOD AND BROADWAY

5. The two meccas of art and entertainment in America are Hollywood and Broadway. _____

MEMO

24. ETHNIC AMERICANS AND HYPHENATED ONES

Americans come from all parts of the world. Perhaps it is safe to say that there is no country in the world which does not have as part of its history some migration to America. This diversity displays a uniqueness found in few societies. Very often you may hear the term "Hyphenated Americans" used. This refers to those millions of Americans who can trace their origins directly back to another country. More than often these Americans may be fluent in the language of their ancestry and make frequent visits back to the "home country".

Americans take great pride in their bicultural status and have a love for the customs and traditions of the old country which in no way diminishes their love for America. This love for the country of their ethnic origins causes them to keep alive the traditions of their parents. Ethnic parades for the Irish such as are held on St. Patrick's Day in March, and Italian festivals such as the famed San Gennaro Festival held in New York in September are conducted by different nationalities throughout the year. They have become very much a part of America's life and

culture.

There is, however, a large group of people who
 are not Hyphenated Americans, and these are those 25
 whose ancestors belonged to the land before the coming
 of the early discoverers and settlers. They are the
 native Americans. In a true sense this land really
 belongs to them. Their history is a tragic one and
 lies in the shadow of shame for the way in which 30
 they were treated. They also are proud of their
 cultural heritage and hope that it will never be
 allowed to die.

FOOTNOTES

ethnic : 人種・民俗・種族的な

hyphenated : ハイフンで結んだ、a hyphenated word ハイフンでつないだ語

Hyphenated Americans : 外国系(帰化)米国人 Japanese-Americans ; German-Americans ; Irish-Americans 等

trace : ~の由来を明らかにする

ancestry :(集合的に)先祖

diversity : 多様性、相違、種々

more than often : more often than not : たいてい

bicultural status : 二つの文化を所有する状態

in no way : 決して~しない not ~ at all

diminish : 減らす、少なくする

24. ETHNIC AMERICANS AND HYPHENATED ONES

St. Patrick's Day : アイルランドの7守護聖人の一人を祭る日
San Gennara Festival : San Gennaro(サン・ジェナロ)はナポリの守護聖人。 ニューヨークのマンハッタンにあるリトル・イタリーでは毎年 9月にお祝いする。

ancestors : 先祖

in the shadow : 日陰の

heritage : 遺産

COMPREHENSION

1. In what sense is America unique from many other societies?
2. What is meant by Hyphenated American?
3. What is meant by an American's "home country"?
4. How do many Americans celebrate their attachment to the country of their ancestors?
5. What can be said of the history of those people who were in America before the arrival of the settlers?

TRUE OR FALSE

1. Americans can trace their history back to almost every country in the world. _____

24. ETHNIC AMERICANS AND HYPHENATED ONES

2. Many Hyphenated Americans can speak the language of their ancestors. _____
3. Many Americans are ashamed of their bicultural status. _____
4. The history of the early discoverers and settlers is filled with shame and dishonor. _____
5. The culture of the American Indian should not be allowed to die. _____

MEMO

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SNAPSHOTS OF THE U. S. A.

検印省略

定価 1,300円

(本体価格 1,263円)

1993年4月1日 初版発行

◎ 著者 ウィリアム・バルサモ

編註者 芝垣哲夫

発行者 尾崎 充

発行所 株式会社 泉屋書店

大阪府吹田市垂水町3丁目16番7号

TEL:06-384-4861 FAX:06-384-4851

印刷 株式会社 アド・プリンティング

大阪市淀川区三津屋南1丁目2番13号

TEL:06-305-3330 FAX:06-304-8488

ISBN4-900448-27-3

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