

RIPPLE ENGLISH

ACTIVE LEARNING PROGRAM

Workbook for:
“Visual Art: Going to a Gallery”

問題は解きっぱなしにしないで！

英語資格試験の学習は、**解いた後の復習をしなければほとんど効果はありません。**

答え合わせをしておしまいせず、**テキストの音読練習やリスニング、多読学習などのインプット学習を何度も反復して記憶に定着させましょう。**ホームページからダウンロードできる音読練習用のテキストをぜひご活用ください。

また、数日置いてから再度解き直すのも効果的です。答えを記憶してしまっているかもしれませんが、**回答の根拠をなぞりながら繰り返し解くことで有効な復習になります！**



Visual Art: Going to a Gallery

1. When is the last time you visited an art museum? Going through a lot of artworks is a ton of fun, but it is exhausting as well. After about 20 or 30 minutes, what I want is not another picture that will deplete my energy but a cup of coffee to wake me up. I believe I'm not alone here. When we are in an art gallery, we often assume that we have to give a closer look at every single painting. But do we really have to? If you go into a department store to buy a shirt, are you going to try on every single shirt? No. We select the ones we only get interested in. Then why are we supposed to appreciate all the paintings on the wall? I'd like to suggest a different approach. Next time you go into a gallery, why don't you go quite fast, instead of stopping at every one of them? There must be some works that somehow exceptionally attract you. Then you ignore all the others and spend a lot more time to enjoy your favorite pieces.
 2. When I find my favorite piece of work in an art gallery, then I tell myself a story about it. What is happening here? Who are those people and what is their relationship? What is going to happen to them? This requires a very astute observation.
 3. You may wonder if your interpretations of the work is right or not. But unlike standardized tests, there is no clear answer. Looking at the exact same piece of art, how we feel varies from person to person. You only need to look inside and observe how you feel. You may also want to know the true intention of the artist himself or herself. But you don't need to care that either. For example, when you taste a pudding, the chef's intentions don't affect whether you enjoy its flavor or not. All that matters is, again, how you feel. The artists' interpretation of their work is just one among many other possibilities. Besides, if the artist has his intention and you don't get it, it is partly his fault. He just failed to communicate his message. Why do we have to feel guilt about it?
- (1) According to paragraph 1, we don't have to spend time on every piece of art in a gallery because
 - A. we don't try on every shirt at a department store.
 - B. we may lose time which could be spared for enjoying a cup of coffee.
 - C. we will be too tired to enjoy the museum.
 - D. we have to go through the gallery quite fast.
 - (2) The word "astute" in the passage is closest in meaning to
 - A. scientific
 - B. sharp
 - C. empirical
 - D. hard-working
 - (3) According to paragraph 3, which of the following is NOT true?
 - A. Artists should be ashamed of failing to communicate their messages.
 - B. We could end up having different views on the same piece of art.
 - C. Your interpretation of the work should equally respected as the artist's one.
 - D. There is no single right answer in artistic experiences.

4. “Girl with a Pearl Earring” by Johannes Vermeer, 17th-century Dutch painter. This is one of my favorite paintings. I first saw it when I was 19. I immediately came to like it and went out to get a poster of it. It’s been 30 years and I never tire of looking at her. What made me **obsessed** with this picture is the conflicted look on her face. I can’t tell if she is happy or sad. I have second thoughts every time I come back to her. One day, 16 years after I had this poster in my room, I suddenly thought what the painter did to her to make her look like that. Always before I’d thought of it as a portrait of a girl. **Now I began to think of it as a portrait of a relationship.** The expression on her face is actually reflecting how she feels about him. Then what is that relationship? They could be a father and a daughter, lovers, or possibly more complicated and intimate relationship. How you interpret is up to your own imagination.



Johannes Vermeer “*Girl with a Pearl Earring*” 1665, The Royal Picture Gallery Mauritshuis

- (4) The word “obsessed” in the passage is closest in meaning to
- A. possessed
 - B. tormented
 - C. attracted
 - D. controlled

- (5) Which of the following text best express the essential information in the highlighted sentence?

Now I began to think of it as a portrait of a relationship.

- A. Now I believe that their relationship must be more than just a father and a daughter.
- B. I suspect that the painter wanted to have a relationship with the girl.
- C. The expression on her face makes me confused about her feeling.
- D. Now I think the look on her face is giving us a clue to speculate on what might be the relationship between the girl and the painter.

5. “The Night Watch” by Rembrandt, perhaps the most famous work of his long career. Many of you have probably seen this before. And many of you, I assume, don’t really look attentively at the picture.
6. When we classify an object as something you have already known, we never give it a closer look anymore. For example, we identify an object in a painting as a tree, and we usually do not look further into it. We quit observing it. Classification is a natural function of our brain to reduce the cognitive load. If you gaze at everything in your sight, you will soon be mentally depleted. But, wait. What kind of tree is it? How is it painted? If you like the tree, what makes you like it? You must have missed a couple of things which could have helped you enjoy the work more.
7. Go back again to the piece by Rembrandt. It is known by the title “The Night Watch,” but is it really a night scene? If you stop for a moment, you will know that no one in the picture has a torch. The left hand of the man in the middle is casting a vivid shadow. In fact, the dark tone of the painting is due to discoloration with time. Someone called it “The Night Watch,” and it prevailed.



Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn “The Night Watch” 1642

- (6) According to paragraph 6, we fail to observe the object attentively when
 - A. we are mentally exhausted.
 - B. we recognize the object from our knowledge.
 - C. we lack focus.
 - D. we don’t feel like enjoy the piece of art.
- (7) According to paragraph 7, which of the following is true?
 - A. Some parts of the picture is inconsistent with its familiar title.
 - B. Rembrandt denied that it is a night scene.
 - C. The picture intendedly got discolored.
 - D. Rembrandt meant to emphasize some figures by a sharp contrast of light and dark.

8. “The Starry Night” by Vincent van Gogh, permanently exhibited at The Museum of Modern Art or MoMA in New York City. Painted in June 1889, it depicts the view from the east-facing window of his hospital room. It is widely regarded as his masterpiece, and considered to be one of the most **iconic** paintings in Western art. What makes it so captivating?
9. A study from Michigan State University suggests that arts foster scientific success. The research team shows that the most accomplished scientists, including Noble Prize winners, are 2.8 times more likely than average to have an artistic and crafty hobby. There must be some correlation between intellectual achievements and artistic excellence. What is common to scientists and artists is their curiosity about the cosmos and their perseverance to describe their view of the world with their language. There is certainly an objective reality, but we view it through some human filters. Scientists use mathematical language to explain the reality, while artists express their perception with colors and shapes.
10. **Van Gogh was among one of them.** Shortly before he finished this work, Van Gogh wrote to his sister that he struggled with the night sky. He wanted to communicate how the light and wind looked to him. "The Starry Night" is probably a statement of his world view; a challenge to describe the world in a way that nobody ever could.



Vincent Van Gogh “*The Starry Night*” 1889, The Museum of Modern Art

- (8) The word “iconic” in the passage is closest in meaning to
- A. indispensable
 - B. appreciated
 - C. symbolic
 - D. dynamic
- (9) According to paragraph 9, which of the following is NOT true?
- A. We can’t perceive the objective reality as it is.
 - B. Great scientists are more likely to be successful in art.
 - C. Both scientists and artists work on explaining their world view.
 - D. Scientists and artists use their own medium to describe the reality.
- (10) Which of the following text best express the essential information in the highlighted sentence?
- Van Gogh was among one of them.**
- A. Van Gogh was much more like a scientist than an artist.
 - B. Van Gogh was inspired by other artists who had the same motivation.
 - C. Like scientists and other artists, Van Gogh wanted to show how he comprehend the world.
 - D. Van Gogh’s perception of the world was as eccentric as other artists.

- (1) C
- (2) B
- (3) A
- (4) C
- (5) D
- (6) B
- (7) A
- (8) C
- (9) B
- (10) C

(1) 1段落によると、美術館ですべての作品に時間を費やす必要がないのは、次の理由による

- A. we don't try on every shirt at a department store.
 - B. we may lose time which could be spared for enjoying a cup of coffee.
 - C. we will be too tired to enjoy the museum.**
 - D. we have to go through the gallery quite fast.
- すべて丁寧に見て回っていたら疲れてしまうという本文の内容を反映しているCが正解。Aがややこしいが、シャツを買うときの話はあくまで比喩として言っているだけであり、理由や根拠にはなり得ない。

(2) 文中の“astute”に最も意味が近いのは

- A. scientific (科学的な)
- B. sharp (鋭い)**
- C. empirical (実証的な)
- D. hard-working (勤勉な、熱心な)

(3) 3段落の内容に合致しないのは

- A. Artists should be ashamed of failing to communicate their messages.**
 - B. We could end up having different views on the same piece of art.
 - C. Your interpretation of the work should equally respected as the artist's one.
 - D. There is no single right answer in artistic experiences.
- 鑑賞者が作者の意図を解さなかったときに鑑賞者は自分を責める必要はない、とは言っているが、作者がそのことを恥づるべきだ、とまでは言っていない。

(4) 文中の“obsessed”に意味が最も近いのは

- A. possessed (所有された)
- B. tormented (苦しめられている)
- C. attracted (惹きつけられている)**
- D. controlled (支配されている)

(5) 以下の下線部の意図と合致する選択肢はどれか

- Now I began to think of it as a portrait of a relationship.
- A. Now I believe that their relationship must be more than just a father and a daughter. (ただの父と娘以上の関係があると思うようになった)
 - B. I suspect that the painter wanted to have a relationship with the girl. (画家はこの少女と関係を持ちたかったのだと疑っている)
 - C. The expression on her face makes me confused about her feeling. (彼女の表情は、彼女がどんな感情を抱いているのかについての私の解釈を混乱させる)

D. Now I think the look on her face is giving us a clue to speculate on what might be the relationship between the girl and the painter. (彼女の表情は、画家と少女の関係性を推察する上でのヒントを与えていると思うようになった)

Cの内容はたしかに述べられているが、それは「この絵が関係性を写し取ったものだと思うようになる」以前からの話である。

(6) According to paragraph 6, we fail to observe the object attentively when

- A. we are mentally exhausted.
- B. we recognize the object from our knowledge.** (知識から対象を識別する)
- C. we lack focus.
- D. we don't feel like enjoy the piece of art.

目に入ったものがすでに知っているものであることを認識すると、それ以上対象を観察しなくなるという本文内容と合致するのはB。

(7) 7段落の内容として正しいのは

- A. Some parts of the picture is inconsistent with its familiar title.**
 - B. Rembrandt denied that it is a night scene.
 - C. The picture intendedly got discolored.
 - D. Rembrandt meant to emphasize some figures by a sharp contrast of light and dark.
- A; 「絵のいくつかの部分は、よく知られている題名(夜警)と一致しない」という内容が、誰もトーチを持っていないことや、はっきりした影が描かれていることを言及している本文内容と合致する。

(8) 文中の“iconic”と意味が近いのは

- A. indispensable (欠かせない)
- B. appreciated (評価されている)
- C. symbolic (象徴的な)**
- D. dynamic (力強い)

iconic=アイコン的な、ランドマークの、象徴的な、という意味なのでCが正解。

(9) 9段落の内容と合致しないのは

- A. We can't perceive the objective reality as it is.
 - B. Great scientists are more likely to be successful in art.**
 - C. Both scientists and artists work on explaining their world view.
 - D. Scientists and artists use their own medium to describe the reality.
- 科学での偉業とアートの才能に関連性がありそうだが、とは言っているが、偉大な科学者ほどアートでも成功しやすいとまでは言っていないし、どちらかというと逆の因果関係(アートの素質が科学での偉業を生む)ということを示唆しただけである。

(10) Which of the following text best express the essential information in the highlighted sentence?

- Van Gogh was among one of them.
- A. Van Gogh was much more like a scientist than an artist.
 - B. Van Gogh was inspired by other artists who had the same motivation.
 - C. Like scientists and other artists, Van Gogh wanted to show how he comprehended the world.**
 - D. Van Gogh's perception of the world was as eccentric as other artists.
- “how he comprehended the world=彼がどのように世界を理解しているか”

9段落の内容を踏まえつつHe wanted to communicate how the light and wind looked to him.の部分の言い換えになっているCが正解。