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Chapter 8 ~ Paragraphs

パラグラフ

A paragraph is a group of sentences that relate to a topic. Paragraphs are the basic unit of writing in English and in Japanese. They allow the writer to elaborate on an idea. (English and Japanese paragraphs sometimes have different rules.) パラグラフはあるトピックに関する一連の文のことです。それは英文でも和文でも、作文の基本ユニットであり、それによって筆者はある事柄について、詳しく説明することができます。(英語と日本語のパラグラフは異なるルールで書かれることがあります。)

Exercise 1

Read the following paragraph and answer the questions. 次のパラグラフを読んで質問に答えなさい。

Lee

I'm going to tell you about one of my friends, Lee, from Korea. ²He's a tall, slim, handsome man with a lot of black hair. ³He's about twenty-five years old. ⁴Earlier in his life he spent a lot of time traveling around his country, playing for his supper. ⁵He's also spent a few years in the army. ⁶All young men in his country have to do that. ⁷He enjoys playing music (guitar and piano) and talking to people in pubs. ⁸Now, he wants to become a sound technician. ⁹ He's been a friend of mine for 2 years. (98 words)

The topic of this paragraph is "my friend, Lee, from Korea". It describes him. All the sentences are about him. In this paragraph the first sentence introduces the topic. Sentences 2 - 8 are discussion sentences. The last sentence is a conclusion sentence. Essays and books have an introduction, discussion and conclusion, too. This is useful to remember when you start summarizing later in this book. このパラグラフのトピックは "my friend, Lee, from Korea" で、"Lee" についての描写が全文でなされています。このパラグラフでは、第1文がトピックの導入、第2文～第8文がトピックの展開、最後の文が結論となっています。エッセイや本も導入、展開、結論から成り立っています。このことは、あとでこのテキストで紹介される要約の練習に役に立ちます。

Look at the paragraph about Lee again. There are several topics within it relating to him. もう一度Leeについてのパラグラフを見て下さい。彼に関するトピックがいくつかあります。

Write it Right!

1. Which sentences are about Lee's appearance? _____
2. Which sentences are about what he has done? _____
3. Which sentences are about what he likes to do? _____

Exercise 2

If we elaborate, the topics can be expanded into paragraphs to make an essay. Start new paragraphs on a new line. The first sentence is usually indented. For example: あるトピックについて詳しく述べる場合は、いくつかのパラグラフに展開させて、エッセイにすることが出来ます。以下にその例を示します。最初の文は普通2スペースぐらい空け、新しいパラグラフは改行します。

Lee

I'm going to tell you about my friend, Lee, from Korea. He's a good friend of mine and I think his story is interesting.

He's a tall, slim man with a lot of black hair. He's about twenty-five. He usually wears quite ordinary clothes, but he also wears very large baseball shoes.

He used to travel around Korea a lot when he was younger and play music for people so that he had money and food. He also spent a few years in the army. All young men in his country have to do that.

He enjoys music and plays the piano and the guitar. He also enjoys talking to people in pubs in Australia. Now, he is studying to become a sound technician.

Lee has been a good friend of mine for two years. We met in a pub. Since then I've learned a lot about him and his country. He's always an interesting, amusing person to talk with. (164 words)

1. How many paragraphs are there? _____
2. What does the first one do? _____
3. What's the second one about? _____
4. What's the third one about? _____
5. What's the last paragraph about? _____

Exercise 3

Read the following paragraphs and say which sentences are the introduction, discussion and conclusion. 次のパラグラフを読んで、どの文が導入で、どれがトピックの展開で、どれが結論かを言ってみてください。

Personality

¹A person's personality is their repertoire of behavior. ²It is how they act in different situations. ³For example, some people have a limited repertoire and are quiet and thoughtful. ⁴They may be fairly predictable. ⁵On the other hand, others are loud and out-going. ⁶They have a wide variety of expressions and we sometimes say they have 'a lot of personality'. ⁷You can't always tell how they will react. ⁸Maybe they'll laugh, maybe they'll cry. ⁹A person's personality is often what we remember about them most. (86 words)



repertoire レパートリー thoughtful 思慮深い predictable 予測できる react 反応する

1. Which sentence(s) is the introduction? Numbers _____
2. Which sentence(s) is the discussion? Numbers _____
3. Which sentence(s) is the conclusion? Numbers _____

Vegetable casserole

¹ Everyone knows vegetables are good for you. ² But a recipe that makes them enjoyable to eat is important. ³Vegetable casserole is easy to make if you follow these steps. ⁴First, slice two potatoes, an onion, an egg-plant or mushrooms and some chicken. ⁵Layer them in a oven dish with cheese, salt, pepper, some oregano and butter. ⁶Then cover the dish and bake it for about 15 minutes. ⁷The juices of the vegetables will combine to make a delicious sauce. ⁸In a short time, with very little preparation, you will have a succulent dish of healthy vegetables ready to eat.

(99 words)

Write it Right!

