

READING SECTION

All answers must be indicated on the MARK SHEET.

I Read the following magazine article about the history of the book as a medium of communication, and answer the questions below.

- ① My fingers stroke the vellum pages, which, made from calfskin, are smoother than paper, richer, almost oily. The black print is crisp, and every Latin sentence starts with a lush red letter. One of the book's early owners has drawn a hand and index finger which points, like an <sup>1</sup>arrow, to a passage to be remembered.
- ② In 44BC, the last year of his life, Cicero, the Roman Republic's great orator, wrote a book for his son Marcus called *De Officiis* ("On Duties"). It told him how to live a moral life, how to balance rectitude with self-interest, how to have an impact on society. Not all his ideas were new. *De Officiis* draws on the views of various Greek philosophers whose works Cicero could consult in his library, most of which have since been lost. Cicero's works, however, remain. *De Officiis* was read and studied throughout the rise of the Roman Empire and survived its subsequent fall. It shaped the thought of Renaissance thinkers like the Dutch scholar Erasmus early in the sixteenth century; over two hundred years later during the French Enlightenment it was an inspiration to Voltaire, who said: "No one will ever write anything more wise."
- ③ The book's words themselves stay the same; the object that contains them, however, has gone through relentless transformations and reincarnations. Cicero probably dictated *De Officiis* to his freed slave, Tiro, <sup>3</sup>who copied it down on a scroll made from papyrus reed. From this first scroll other hand-written copies were made in turn. Within a few centuries some versions were transferred from scrolls into bound volumes of manuscript pages known as codices. A thousand years later medieval monks meticulously <sup>4</sup>made copies, still by hand and averaging only a few pages a day.
- ④ Then, in the fifteenth century, *De Officiis* was copied by a machine for the first time. The luxurious edition now in my hands — delightfully, and surprisingly, no gloves are needed to handle it — is one of the very first such copies. It was printed in Mainz, Germany, on a printing press owned by Johann Fust, an early partner of Johannes Gutenberg, the pioneer of European printing. It is dated 1466.
- ⑤ More than 500 years after it was printed, this beautiful volume sits in the Huntington Library in San Marino, California, its home since 1916. Few physical volumes survive five centuries. This one should last several more. Built in 1951, the strong-room that holds it and tens of thousands of other precious volumes, was originally meant to double as a nuclear-bomb shelter.
- ⑥ Although this particular copy of *De Officiis* is carefully hidden away, the text itself is freer than ever. In its printed forms it has long been a hardback and, more recently, a paperback. It has been published in all sorts of editions — as a component of a uniform library series, as a classic pitched at an affordable price, as a scholarly, annotated <sup>5</sup>text that only universities buy. And now it is available in all sorts of non-printed forms, too. You can read it free online or download it as an e-book in the original Latin, in English, and in any number of other tongues.
- ⑦ Many are worried about what such technology means for books, with big bookshops closing, new reading devices spreading, amateur authors flooding the market, and an online leviathan known as Amazon growing ever more powerful. Their anxieties cannot simply be written off as a reactionary fear of new technology. More than any development in their history, the digital revolution may well change the way books are written, sold, and read, and that will not be to everyone's advantage. Veterans and revolutionaries alike may go bankrupt; Gutenberg himself died almost penniless, having lost control of his press to Fust and other creditors. <sup>6</sup>
- ⑧ But to see technology purely as a threat to books risks missing a key point. Books are not just "tree flakes encased in dead cow," as they were mockingly described twenty years ago by MIT professor William J. Mitchell, a staunch <sup>7</sup>advocate of digitalization. They are a technology in their own right, one developed and used for the refinement and advancement of thought. And this technology is a powerful, long-lived, and adaptable one. Books like *De Officiis* have not merely survived history; they have helped to shape it.

The ability they offer to preserve, transmit, and develop ideas was taken to another level by Gutenberg and his colleagues. Being able to study printed material at the same time as others studied it and to exchange ideas about it sparked off the Reformation; it was central to the Enlightenment and the rise of modern science. No army has accomplished more than printed textbooks; no priest has mattered as much as Darwin's *On the Origin of Species*; no prince has influenced hearts and minds as much as the first folio of Shakespeare's plays.

⑨ Books read in electronic form will boast the same powers and some new ones as well. The private joys of the book will remain; new public pleasures are there to be added. The printed book is an excellent means of channeling information from writer to reader; the e-book can send information back as well. Teachers will be able to learn of a pupil's progress and questions; publishers will be able to see which books are gulped down, which sipped slowly. Already readers can see what other readers have thought worthy of note, and seek out like-minded people for further discussion of what they have read. Books will evolve online and off, and the definition of what counts as one will expand; the sense of the book as a fundamental channel of culture, flowing from past to future, will endure. People may no longer try to pass on wisdom to their children through slave-written scrolls, as Cicero did in *De Officiis*. It may even be that Voltaire was right, and that no one will write anything wiser than what was set down over 2000 years ago. But it will not be for want of effort, or of opportunity, or of an audience of future readers ready to seek out wisdom in the books left behind. What is the future of the book? It is much brighter than people think.

[Adapted from "The future of the book," *The Economist*, October 11, 2014]

(1) Choose the best way to complete these sentences about Paragraphs ① to ⑨.

- |                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 In Paragraph ① the writer | 2 In Paragraph ② the writer |
| 3 In Paragraph ③ the writer | 4 In Paragraph ④ the writer |
| 5 In Paragraph ⑤ the writer | 6 In Paragraph ⑥ the writer |
| 7 In Paragraph ⑦ the writer | 8 In Paragraph ⑧ the writer |
| 9 In Paragraph ⑨ the writer |                             |

- A argues that, because they have reached a much wider audience, the evolutionary theories of Darwin have had a far greater impact on intellectual development than the comedies and tragedies of Shakespeare.
- B claims that books will continue to be important media of communication, because electronic books both retain the power of paper books to send information from producer to consumer, and have the added advantage of allowing information to flow in the opposite direction.
- C describes when and where Cicero's *De Officiis* first appeared as a printed book.
- D emphasizes that, over its long history, the adaptations in the format of the physical book also involved changes in how ideas were generated and circulated.
- E explains where a book that is more than five hundred years old has been held over the last century.
- F gives an explanation of why many commentators fear that the digital revolution will have damaging effects on the production, distribution, and consumption of books.
- G introduces the content of a work dating from before the Christian era, covering both the circumstances in which it was initially written and its later intellectual influence.
- H lists the major formats and editions, both analog and digital, in which a work by a great Roman orator has appeared since the invention of Gutenberg's printing press.
- I provides a personal evocation of how the pages of a book produced in the mid-fifteenth century feel and look.
- J rejects the views of a professor at a prestigious American university who argues that electronic books are inferior to physical books in both practical and intellectual terms.
- K runs over the different physical forms in which a work by a Roman orator appeared during the first thousand years and more after it was composed.
- L suggests that translations of Cicero's *De Officiis* into English and other modern languages have badly distorted the argument made in the original version in classical Latin.

(2) Choose the FIVE statements below which DO NOT agree with what is written in the article. You must NOT choose more than FIVE statements.

- A Because the copy of Cicero's *De Officiis* held in the Huntington Library is over five hundred years old, it cannot be handled without using gloves.
- B Cicero died not long after writing *De Officiis* for the benefit of his son Marcus.
- C Cicero's *De Officiis* was first written down in black and red ink on a scroll of smooth calfskin by one of the author's literate slaves.
- D Cicero's *De Officiis* was originally composed in Latin though it makes use of a number of Greek sources.
- E Despite being the pioneer of printing in Europe, Johannes Gutenberg accumulated a number of debts and died a poor man.
- F Erasmus is mentioned in the article as a Renaissance thinker influenced in the 1500s by Cicero's *De Officiis*.
- G The earliest copies of Cicero's *De Officiis* were stored in scrolls rather than bound volumes.
- H The first mechanical reproductions of Cicero's *De Officiis* were created in Mainz by two pioneering printers in partnership, Johannes Gutenberg and his brother.
- I The hand pointing towards a passage of text was drawn by an early owner of the first medieval manuscript version of Cicero's *De Officiis*.
- J The Huntington Library has held a copy of the first printed edition of Cicero's *De Officiis* since World War I, but has only kept it in its current secure location since after World War II.
- K The phrase "tree flakes encased in dead cow," attacking the physical limitations of books as a medium of communication, was penned by Charles Darwin in the late nineteenth century.
- L Voltaire is mentioned in the article as a French Enlightenment thinker influenced in the 1700s by Cicero's *De Officiis*.

(3) Choose the best way to complete each of these sentences, which refer to the underlined words in the passage.

- 1 Here, lush suggests that the color of the printed letters is
  - A dirty.
  - B fading.
  - C rich.
  - D startling.
  - E unpleasant.
- 2 Here, rectitude refers to behavior that is
  - A arbitrary.
  - B instinctive.
  - C selfish.
  - D thoughtless.
  - E virtuous.
- 3 Here, relentless means without any
  - A authority.
  - B break.
  - C compromise.
  - D meaning.
  - E purpose.
- 4 Here, meticulously suggests that the monks worked
  - A at great cost.
  - B at great speed.
  - C under great pressure.
  - D with great care.
  - E with great ceremony.
- 5 Here, annotated indicates that the editions include
  - A ample space.
  - B colored illustrations.
  - C frequent updating.
  - D multiple errors.
  - E specialist commentary.
- 6 Here, creditors means those to whom someone owes
  - A gratitude.
  - B loyalty.
  - C money.
  - D obedience.
  - E respect.
- 7 Here, staunch means
  - A ignorant.
  - B occasional.
  - C old.
  - D uncompromising.
  - E unreliable.
- 8 Here, sparked off means
  - A abridged.
  - B assisted.
  - C diverted.
  - D initiated.
  - E prevented.
- 9 Here, gulped down suggests that books are read with great
  - A care.
  - B carelessness.
  - C rapidity.
  - D regularity.
  - E stupidity.

(4) Choose the most appropriate alternative title for the article from the list below.

- A From ancient to modern
- B From Athens to California
- C From Erasmus to Darwin
- D From Gutenberg to Google
- E From papyrus to pixels

**II Read the following passage, which is the opening chapter of an American mystery novel set in California, and answer the questions below. The first-person narrator of the story is the private detective Lew Archer.**

It was a Wednesday afternoon and I was flying home from Mazatlán on the Mexican west coast. As we approached Los Angeles, the Mexicana plane dropped low over the sea and I caught my first glimpse of the oil spill.

It lay on the blue water off Pacific Point in a free-form slick that seemed miles wide and many miles long. An offshore oil platform stood up out of its windward end like the metal handle of a dagger that had stabbed the world and made it spill black blood.

The Mexican flight attendant came along the aisle, making sure that we were ready to land. I asked him what had happened. "She blew out Monday." He leaned across me and looked down past the wing. "She's worse today than she was yesterday. Fasten your seat belt, señor. We'll be landing in five minutes."

I bought a paper at International Airport. The oil spill was front-page news. A vice-president of the oil company that owned the offshore platform, a man named Jack Lennox, predicted that the spill would be controlled within twenty-four hours. Jack Lennox was a good-looking man, if you could judge by his picture, but there was no way to know whether he was telling the truth.

Pacific Point was one of my favorite places on the coast. As I made my way out to my car in the airport parking lot, the oil spill threatening the city's beaches floated like a storm cloud just over the horizon of my mind.

\* \* \* \* \*

Instead of driving home to West Los Angeles, I turned south along the coast to Pacific Point. The sun was low when I got there. From the hill above the harbor, I could see the enormous slick spreading like premature night across the sea.

At its nearest it was perhaps a thousand yards out, well beyond the dark brown kelp beds which formed a natural barrier<sup>1</sup> offshore. Workboats were moving back and forth, spraying the edges of the spill with chemicals. They were the only boats I could see on the water. A white plastic boom was strung across the harbor entrance<sup>2</sup>, and gulls that looked like white plastic whirled above it.

I made my way down on foot to the public beach and along it to the sandy point which partly enclosed the harbor. A few people, mostly women and girls, were standing at the edge of the water, facing out to sea. They looked as if they were waiting for the end of the world, or as if the end had come and they would never move again.

The surf was rising sluggishly. A blackened bird with a sharp beak was struggling in it. The bird had orange-red eyes, which seemed to be burning with anger, but it was so fouled with oil that at first I didn't recognize it as a swan grebe.

A woman in a white shirt and slacks waded in thigh-deep and picked it up, holding its head so that it wouldn't peck her. I could see as she came back toward me that she was a handsome young woman with dark eyes as angry as the bird's. Her narrow feet left beautifully shaped prints in the wet sand.

I asked her what she was going to do with the grebe.

"Take it home and clean it."

"It probably won't survive, I'm afraid."

"No, but maybe I will."

She walked away, holding the black struggling thing against her white shirt. I walked along behind in her elegant footprints. She became aware of this, and turned to face me.

"What do you want?"

"I should apologize. I didn't mean to be discouraging."

"Forget it," she said. "It's true not many live once they've been oiled. But I saved some in the Santa Barbara spill."

"You must be quite a bird expert."

"I'm getting to be one in self-defense. My family is in the oil business."

She gestured with her head toward the offshore platform. Then she turned and left me abruptly. I stood and watched her hurrying southward along the beach, holding the damaged grebe as if it were her child.

I followed her as far as the wharf which formed the southern boundary of the harbor. One of the workboats had opened the boom and let the other boats in. They were coming alongside the wharf and tying up.

The wind had changed, and I began to smell

the floating oil. It smelled like something that had died but would never go away.

\* \* \* \* \*

There was a restaurant on the wharf, displaying on its roof a neon sign which spelled out "Blanche's Seafood." I was hungry, and went that way. On the far side of the sprawling restaurant building, the wharf was covered with chemical drums, machinery, stacks of oil-well casings. Men were debarking from the workboats at a landing stage.

I went up to an aging laborer with a sun-cracked face under a red hard hat. I asked him what the situation was.

"We ain't supposed to talk about it. The company does the talking."

"Lennox?"

"I guess that's their name."

A burly foreman intervened. He had black oil on his clothes, and his high-heeled Western boots were soaked with it.

"You from the media?"

"No. I'm just a citizen."

He looked me over suspiciously. "Local?"

"L.A."

"You're not supposed to be out here."

He nudged me with his belly. The men around him became suddenly still. They looked rough and tired and disappointed, ready to take their revenge on anything that moved.

I went back toward the restaurant. A man who looked like a fisherman was waiting just around the corner of the building. Under his ribbed wool cap, his face was young-eyed and hairy.

"Don't mess with them," he said.

"I wasn't planning to."

"Half of them came from Texas, inland Texas. They think water is a nuisance because they can't sell it for two or three dollars a barrel. All they care about is the oil they're losing. They don't give a damn about the things that live in the sea or the people that live in the town."

"Is the oil still running?"

"Sure it is. They thought they had it closed down Monday, the day she blew. Before that she was roaring wild, with drilling mud and hydrocarbon mist shooting a hundred feet in the air. They dropped the string in the hole and

closed the blind rams over her, and they thought she was shut down. The main hole was. But then she started to boil up through the water, gas and oil emulsion all around the platform."

"You sound like an eyewitness."

The young man blinked and nodded. "That I was. I took a reporter out there in my boat—man from the local paper named Wilbur Cox. They were evacuating the platform when we got there, the fire hazard was so bad."

"Any lives lost?"

"No, sir. That's the one good thing about it." He squinted at me through his hair. "Would you be a reporter?"

"No. I'm just interested. What caused the blowout, do you know?"

"There's quite a few different stories floating around. Inadequate casing is one of them. But there's something the matter with the seabed down there. The structures are all broken up. It's like trying to make a clean hole in a piece of cake and hold water in it. They should never have tried to drill out there."

The oil men from the workboats went by, straggling like the remnants of a defeated army. The fisherman gave them an ironic salute, his teeth gleaming in his beard. They returned pitying looks, as if he was a madman who didn't understand what was important.

\* \* \* \* \*

I went into the restaurant. There were excited voices in the bar but the dining room was almost deserted. It was done in a kind of landbound nautical style, with portholes instead of windows. I made the mistake of ordering fish. It seemed to taste of oil and I left my dinner half eaten.

[Adapted from Ross Macdonald,  
*Sleeping Beauty* (1973), ch. 1]

(1) Choose the one way to complete each of these sentences that DOES NOT agree with what is written in the passage.

1 The narrator

- A is travelling back from Mexico.
- B lives to the north of Los Angeles.
- C picks up his car from the parking lot at International Airport.
- D travels south by car from the airport to Pacific Point.
- E walks down from the hill above the harbor to the public beach.

2 The plane

- A flies from Mazatlán to Los Angeles.
- B flies on a Wednesday afternoon.
- C flies low over the sea as it approaches its destination.
- D has a Mexican flight attendant on board who was also on the flight the previous day.
- E is owned by American Airlines which has its headquarters in Texas.

3 The oil spill

- A begins on a Monday and has still not been contained by the Wednesday.
- B causes oil to foul the beaches south of Los Angeles within 24 hours.
- C is caused by a blowout at an offshore oil platform.
- D occurs off the coast of California near Pacific Point.
- E results in an oil slick that appears many miles long.

4 The narrator

- A asks the flight attendant about the oil spill.
- B buys a newspaper at the airport and reads about the oil spill.
- C discusses the oil spill with a local newspaper reporter named Wilbur Cox.
- D makes an effort to talk to an oil man from one of the workboats about the oil spill.
- E questions a young man who is an eye witness about the oil spill.

5 The woman on the beach

- A belongs to a family involved in the oil industry.
- B is wearing a white shirt and a white skirt.
- C picks up a bird that is covered in oil in order to take it home to clean it.
- D saved some other oiled birds on the occasion of a previous spill.
- E walks along the beach to the wharf after leaving the narrator.

6 The man who looks like a fisherman

- A approaches the narrator to warn him not to have anything to do with the oil men.
- B has a beard and long hair.
- C has a ribbed cap made of wool.
- D is disgusted that most of the oil men are local people.
- E went out to the oil platform with a journalist in his own boat to see what was happening.

7 The man who looks like a fisherman says that

- A many people died when the oil platform caught fire.
- B the oil men do not care about the local environment.
- C the oil men tried unsuccessfully to close down the spill on the day that it started.
- D the oil platform is situated in an area where the seabed is unsuitable for drilling.
- E the only thing the oil men care about is making money.

8 The restaurant

- A has a neon sign displayed on its roof.
- B has several customers in the bar though the dining area is almost empty.
- C is owned by an old woman named Blanche Lennox.
- D is situated on the wharf at the southern end of the harbor at Pacific Point.
- E serves fish and other seafood.

9 The narrator thinks that

- A it was an error to order fish at the restaurant on the wharf.
- B Pacific Point was not a very pleasant place even before the oil spill.
- C the vice-president of the company responsible for the oil platform might not be telling the truth.
- D the woman on the beach carries the oiled bird as if it were her baby.
- E the woman on the beach is beautiful in her anger.

10 The narrator makes a comparison between

- A the smell of the floating oil and that of death and decay.
- B the spilled oil and blood flowing from a gunshot wound.
- C the spreading of the dark oil slick and the early coming of night.
- D the threat to the city's beaches from the oil spill and a dark cloud approaching.
- E those standing on the beach looking out to sea and people expecting the end of the world.

(2) **Choose the FIVE statements below which AGREE with what is written in the passage.**

**You must NOT choose more than FIVE statements.**

- A According to the man who looks like a fisherman, the most likely cause of the oil platform blowout is that the company was employing inadequate casing.
- B According to the picture in the newspaper the narrator buys at the airport, Jack Lennox, a vice-president of the company owning the oil platform, has an ugly face.
- C Both the narrator and the woman he meets on the beach agree that birds that have been covered in oil are likely to survive if treated quickly.
- D By the time the narrator has driven along the coast and arrived at Pacific Point, it is already toward evening.
- E From the hill above the harbor at Pacific Point, the narrator can see that the oil slick is only a couple of hundred yards away from the beach itself.
- F Groups of oil company men try to disperse the spilled oil by spraying chemicals on the edges of the slick from workboats.
- G Most of the people looking out toward the oil spill from the water's edge on the public beach at Pacific Point are oil company employees.
- H The foreman who tries to stop the narrator asking questions about the accident is tall and slim and has oil all over his clothes and boots.
- I The narrator first becomes aware of the oil spill when he sees the giant slick on the water from the plane as it takes off from Los Angeles.
- J The oiled bird which the woman tries to rescue is a swan grebe with a sharp beak and red eyes.
- K The old laborer debarking from one of the oil company workboats is sunburned and wears a red protective helmet.
- L The windows in the restaurant on the wharf are not conventional ones, but round and small like those in the side of a ship.
- M The woman swims out some distance from the shore in order to get hold of the bird that is covered in oil.

(3) Choose the best way to complete each of these sentences, based on the meaning of the underlined words/phrases in the passage.

- 1 Here, kelp refers to a kind of  
A boat. B building. C rock.  
D seaweed. E weapon.
- 2 Here, boom refers to a  
A commercial sign. B floating barrier. C loud noise.  
D small seabird. E triangular flag.
- 3 Here, sluggishly suggests that the rising of the surf was  
A fast and furious. B high and mighty. C loud and long.  
D low and flat. E slow and heavy.
- 4 Here, gestured with her head means that the woman intended to  
A agree. B disagree. C express anger.  
D express doubt. E indicate something.
- 5 Here, sprawling suggests that the restaurant building was  
A closed up. B falling down. C new and clean.  
D old and dirty. E spread over a wide area.
- 6 Here, nudged means  
A pinned. B pulled. C pushed.  
D slapped. E stroked.
- 7 Here, evacuating means  
A closing something. B introducing people. C putting something up.  
D removing people. E taking something down.
- 8 Here, squinted suggests that the man looked at the narrator  
A accusingly. B angrily. C hopelessly.  
D speculatively. E stupidly.
- 9 Here, remnants refers to those who have  
A died. B forgotten. C given up.  
D survived. E won.



GRAMMAR/EXPRESSION SECTION

All answers must be indicated on the MARK SHEET.

III Fill each of the numbered gaps in the following dialogues with phrases from the corresponding list below. Select the one that DOES NOT fit in each case.

**Dialogue (1) : At the airport**

A : Good morning! Where are you flying to today?

B : Seattle.

A : [ 1 ] your passport, please?

B : Here you go.

A : Are you checking any bags?

B : Just this one.

A : [ 2 ], please place it on the scale.

B : I have a stopover in Chicago—do I need to pick up my luggage there?

A : No, it'll go straight through to Seattle. Here are your boarding passes—your flight leaves from gate 12 and it'll begin boarding at 11:20. Your seat number is 32C.

B : Thank you very much.

A : [ 3 ].

[ 1 ] A Can I check

B Could I have

C Do you hold

D May I see

E Would you show me

[ 2 ] A Fine

B Good

C Really

D Right

E OK

[ 3 ] A Best wishes

B Have a good flight

C Have a nice day

D Not at all

E You're welcome

**Dialogue (2) : Two students**

A : Hey! How did your math exam go?

B : [ 1 ], in fact. But I'm just glad it's over! [ 2 ]? How was your presentation?

A : Oh, it went really well. Thanks for helping me with it.

B : [ 3 ]. So ... do you feel like studying together tomorrow for the geography exam?

A : Yeah, sure! Come over around nine and we can have breakfast first.

B : All right. I'll bring my textbook and notes.

[ 1 ] A Better than I thought

B Better than nothing

C Not bad

D Not too bad

E Pretty good

[ 2 ] A And you

B And yourself

C For yourself

D How about you

E What about you

[ 3 ] A Don't mention it

B Glad to help

C My pleasure

D Never mind

E No problem

**Dialogue (3) : Making an appointment**

A : Could we meet sometime next week?

B : Are you free on the seventh in the morning?

A : No, I'm afraid not. I have an exam then. How about the afternoon of [ 1 ]?

B : The eighth? No, [ 2 ], I'm out of town all day.

A : Can you make Wednesday?

B : No. I'm busy then too. I'm meeting my father. Are you free on Thursday afternoon?

A : Yes, I think I am. [ 3 ] meet for a late lunch at the restaurant on Station Road?

B : Great idea! Is two o'clock OK?

A : That's perfect. See you there!

[ 1 ] A the day after

B the eighth

C the following day

D the next day

E tomorrow

[ 2 ] A I can't

B I'm not

C I'm sorry

D that's no good

E unfortunately

[ 3 ] A How about

B Shall we

C Why don't we

D Why not

E Would you like to

WRITING SECTION

**All answers must be written clearly within the boxes provided on the ANSWER SHEET.**

**IV Read the following passage and briefly summarize the main points in JAPANESE.**

Article 14 of Japan's Nationality Act stipulates that "a Japanese national having foreign nationality shall choose either of the nationalities before he or she reaches 22 years of age." There are two ways in which a Japanese national with citizenship in another country can select Japanese citizenship. One is to take the necessary measures to renounce foreign citizenship, and, if proof of renunciation can be obtained from the other country, to submit that along with a declaration of loss of foreign nationality to the appropriate administrative office. In the case that proof of renunciation cannot be obtained, submission of a declaration that the person chooses to be a Japanese national and renounces the foreign nationality is considered fulfillment of the obligation to select one nationality, though the person in question is still obligated to make efforts to officially eliminate the other nationality. And if such measures are not carried out by a Japanese national with foreign nationality by age 22, according to Article 15 of the Nationality Law the Minister of Justice may issue a written notice demanding that they select a nationality. It is stated that the person "to whom the notice has been sent shall lose Japanese nationality at the expiration of one month after the day he or she receives the notice, unless he or she chooses Japanese nationality within such a period." However, there have been no cases in which this has happened.

This appears to be tied to the fact that citizenship is handled on a self-reported basis. Atsushi Kondo, a professor at Meijo University who is well-versed in the Nationality Law, explains: "The government does not have a reliable record of which people have dual citizenship. Under circumstances in which accurate numbers cannot be determined, imposing penalties or forcing only those people they know to have dual citizenship to select one would be unfair. There are also countries, such as Brazil, which make it very difficult for their citizens to renounce citizenship. That's why the implementation of the Nationality Act is flexible." Moreover, it is estimated that only around ten percent of the citizens concerned comply with Article 14 on a voluntary basis. Thus the general rule that adult Japanese nationals should not retain a second nationality has become little more than a fiction.

[Adapted from "Is it time for Japan to legally recognize dual citizenship?"

*The Mainichi* (October 16, 2016)]

**V Qualities like mental focus and dexterity are very important in some sports. This has led some people to propose that playing video games should be recognized as an Olympic sport. Write a paragraph in ENGLISH giving your own opinion on this proposal, with appropriate reasons and examples.**

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