

《2020年2次口述試験においてESDIC教材からの中したもの》

◎ 10:00～11:00のプレゼンテーマ ワークেশョン

● 英語2次セミナーテキスト(第9版)55ページ プレゼンテーマ ワークেশョン

“Workation” is a mixture of work and vacation, which means that the employee can work at a resort hotel away from office and enjoy weekend excursions to the seaside or hills. The workation concept has been slowly spreading in Japan, which is notorious for its long working hours and employees who leave unused vacation time on the table. Some big companies in Japan have introduced workation to encourage employees to take more time off. The idea is to reduce their stress and raise their productivity. The coronavirus pandemic has shown that it is as easy to work from a nice hotel as from home. The Japanese government, which wants to rebuild Japan’s shattered tourism industry, like the idea. It is necessary for the government to support the Wi-Fi infrastructure so that people can work at hotels, as well as spread out holidays and encourage people to take vacations. Hotel operators are eager to take advantage of the trend. Some Japanese-style hotels have replaced the traditional futon with a desk and a bed in rooms so that guests can work or rest at any time of day.

◎ 11:00～12:00のプレゼンテーマ 鎖国

● 2020年用模擬面接プレゼンテーマ 鎖国

Sakoku is Japan’s isolation policy from the 17th to the mid-19th centuries. During sakoku, the government prevented feudal lords from conducting foreign trade. Only Chinese and Dutch traders were allowed to conduct trade with the government. Nagasaki was the only port open to Chinese and Dutch traders. Also during the sakoku period, the Japanese were prohibited from believing in Christianity because it claims that everyone is equal. This idea was totally opposite to the Edo period’s class system, which ranked people by their roles in society. One result of sakoku was the long period of peace that brought steady economic development. By the late 18th century Edo, the capital, had become the world’s largest city, with a population of roughly one million. The long period of peace also permitted the development of unique Japanese arts such as kabuki, ukiyoe, and bunraku. Sakoku came to an end when Japan concluded the Amity Treaty with the U.S. in 1854. With this treaty, Japan opened the port of Shimoda at the tip of Izu Peninsula and that of Hakodate in Hokkaido.

● 日本事象 ESDIC 280 25 ページ Sakoku

Sakoku is Japan’s isolation policy from the 17th to the mid-19th centuries. During sakoku, the government prevented feudal lords from conducting foreign trade. The Japanese were not allowed to have any interest in Christianity because it claims that everyone is equal. This idea was totally opposite of the Edo period’s class system, which ranked people by their roles in society. One result of sakoku was the long period of peace that permitted the development of unique Japanese arts such as kabuki, ukiyoe, and bunraku.

◎ 13:00～14:00のプレゼンテーマ 梅雨

● 日本事象 ESDIC 280 3 ページ Tsuyu

Tsuyu is the early summer rainy season which begins about the middle of June in the Kanto region and lasts about a month. The weather is usually hot and humid during the season, so it is extremely uncomfortable. In spite of the discomfort, though, everyone hopes that there will be enough rain during the season, which is necessary for rice planting and a good harvest.

◎ 13:00 ～ 14:00 のプレゼンテーマ ラーメン

●英語2次セミナーテキスト (第9版) 44 ページ プレゼンテーマ ラーメン

Ramen is basically noodles in soup. The noodles are made of wheat flour and are placed in various kinds of soups, depending on one's preference. For example, the soup can be flavored with soy sauce, salt, "miso" or fermented soy bean paste, or pork bones. There are various toppings such as slices of roast pork, bean sprouts, Chinese bamboo shoots, soft-boiled eggs, and others. Typical ramen noodles are long and chewy. Some are thin and straight, and others that are thick and wavy. Ramen are inexpensive and delicious, and they have become one of the most popular things to eat in Japan in recent years. Ramen restaurants can be found all over Japan and there are many different variations of ramen depending on the region or shop. There are also instant ramen too. They are inexpensive, quick and easy to make. A wide range of "instant ramen" are sold in cups and packets at supermarkets, convenience stores, and vending machines. The simplest kind only needs hot water, which is provided by stores or vending machines that sell cup ramen. Hotels in Japan almost always provide hot water in their rooms, so guests can make instant ramen easily when they want.

◎ 14:00 ～ 15:00 のプレゼンテーマ 高野山

●英語2次セミナーテキスト (第9版) 21 ページ プレゼンテーマ 高野山奥之院

Koya-san is the general name for the mountain range in the northeastern part of Wakayama Prefecture. There is not any mountain called Koya-san in Japan. The Buddhist priest Kukai, or Kobo Daishi, founded Kongobuji Temple on the Koyasan mountain range in the early 9th century. Now there are more than 100 temples around Kongobuji Temple, the head temple in the area, so it is a very religious place. Kongobuji Temple is registered as a World Heritage site. About 1 km east of Koya-san's central crossroads is Okuno-in, or the Inner Sanctuary where the mausoleum of Kukai is located. Okuno-in is Japan's biggest cemetery. For 2 kilometers, along on both sides of the entrance to Okuno-in, there are more than 200,000 tombstones and monuments of all shapes and sizes. You'll also find "jizo" statues, or travelers' guardians, here and there. A large number of historical figures like Toyotomi Hideyoshi, Oda Nobunaga, Akechi Mitsuhide, Takeda Shingen, and Uesugi Kenshin are buried here. They were all powerful warlords during the 16th century. In the Hall of Lanterns, ten thousand oil lamps are kept lit all the time. Okuno-in is regarded not only as the most sacred site on Koya-san but also as a popular pilgrimage spot. It takes a little less than 2 hours from Osaka's Namba Station on the Nankai Line to Koya-san Station.

◎ 14:00 ～ 15:00 のプレゼンテーマ 新しい生活様式

●2020年用模擬面接プレゼンテーマ コロナ禍における生活

With novel coronavirus prevailing, our lifestyle has changed. First of all, when we go out, we always wear masks to prevent droplet infection, and when we return home, it has become one of our habits to wash our hands with soap and water, or hand sanitizer. Also, in the covid-19 pandemic, the way people work has changed. These days because of the pandemic, an increasing number of companies are adopting telecommuting, or remote work. Telecommuting or working at home has become possible because of digital devices such as PC, mobile phones, and the mail exchange. Furthermore, since the time spent at home has been increasing, the number of people who engage in PC games at home has been increasing. For example, "Atsumare Doubutsunomori" or "Animal Crossing," which is video game software developed and sold by Nintendo Co.,Ltd., is very popular, and is called "Atsumori" by the users. Players move as characters to a virtual space village where animals inhabit, and can lead a relaxed life through a communication with the inhabitants. In addition, "Ouchi café," or "Home café," has become popular. It is a phrase that suggests creating an atmosphere where you can feel as if you were in a café, though in fact you are in your house.

◎ 15:30 ～ 16:30 のプレゼンテーマ オンライン飲み会

● 2020 年用模擬面接プレゼンテーマ オンライン飲み会

Many Japanese have been spending a lot more time at home during 2020, due to COVID-19. Drinking parties are increasingly being held online in Japan as more people stay home in self-isolation to prevent the spread of the novel coronavirus and pubs operate for shorter hours at the request of local authorities. Online parties are expected to become a new way of communication for those who want to keep in touch and casually chat with friends. As opportunities to converse with people drastically decrease, many people are trying “online drinking parties” to relieve the stress of not communicating with coworkers and friends face-to-face. You will need drinks and snacks because it’s an online drinking party. But it’s different from a regular party because you prepare your own drinks and snacks. So you can participate freely with your favorite drinks and snacks. Even if you cannot drink any alcohol, it’s no problem to have a soft drink or a coffee. If you want to eat it from the beginning, you can have a big meal. As a result, more and more people are finding it better than real drinking parties. They think much of small talk as an effective way to socialize.

◎ 15:30 ～ 16:30 のプレゼンテーマ 姫路城

● 英語 2 次セミナーテキスト (第 9 版) 12 ページ プレゼンテーマ 姫路城

Himeji Castle is located in Himeji City, Hyogo Prefecture in the western part of Honshu, Japan’s main island. Himeji Castle is also known as Shirasagi Castle, or White Heron Castle because of its elegant, white walls. It is considered the most beautiful castle in Japan. The present moats, thick walls, strong keeps and connecting corridors date from the early 17th century. You take a zigzag path through gates and go past turrets and walls to reach the main keep. The main keep is 46.4 meters tall. It has six floors and a basement. Both the third and fourth floors have platforms, where warriors could observe or throw objects at attackers. These floors have small enclosed rooms also. They are called “warrior hiding places,” where warriors could hide themselves and kill attackers by surprise as they entered the keep. Holes in the shapes of circles, triangles, squares, and rectangles are located in the walls throughout Himeji Castle. They are designed to let warriors shoot guns and arrows at attackers without exposing themselves. Roughly 1,000 such holes exist in the castle buildings. Himeji Castle is designated as a National Treasure, and a World Cultural Heritage site. Himeji is 3 hours from Tokyo, 1 hour and 20 minutes from Nagoya, and 30 minutes from Shin-Osaka by Shinkansen. Himeji Castle can be seen from JR Himeji Station. It takes about 20 minutes on foot from the station to arrive at the castle.

◎ 15:30 ～ 16:30 のプレゼンテーマ 姫路城

● 日本事象 ESDIC 280 15 ページ Himeji Castle

Himeji Castle near Kobe City, Hyogo Prefecture, is one of the most famous castles in Japan. It is known as “White Heron Castle,” because of the white plastered walls and high towers that look like white herons raising their wings to fly. The castle is regarded as the finest surviving example of a typical Japanese castle, and is considered to be one of the most beautiful castles in Japan. It is one of the few castles that still have original parts, since most other castles have been destroyed. It is also a World Cultural Heritage site as well as a national treasure. As usual with many Japanese castles, it sits on a hill and offers an excellent view from the top of the castle tower. It takes about one hour by train from Osaka Station to Himeji Station. And from the station it takes about 15 minutes on foot to get to the castle.

◎ 16:30 ～ 17:30 のプレゼンテーマ 除夜の鐘

●英語2次セミナーテキスト (第9版) 36 ページ プレゼンテーマ 除夜の鐘

“Joya-no-kane” are the 108 sounds of temple bells. In other words, temple bells are rung 108 times around midnight on New Year’s Eve, starting before the New Year and ending after the New Year has started. The sound of the bell rings out the old year and rings in the New Year. In Buddhism, it is believed that everyone has 108 worldly sins such as jealousy, greed, and anger. Ringing the bell 108 times is supposed to release people from these 108 worldly sins. The sound of the bells is a type of purification. Although there are many Buddhist temples in Japan, there are only a few which allow visitors to ring the bells because, in most cases, the Buddhist monks ring the bells. Buddhist temple bells are usually made of copper. They are struck with a heavy, swinging piece of wood. The biggest bell is in Chion-in Temple in Kyoto. It is 2.8 meters in diameter, 3.3 meters in height, and weighs about 70 tons. The large size requires a team of 17 monks to ring the bell. A large number of people come to see and hear the ringing of the bell at Chion-in Temple. It is about a 15-minute walk from Shijo-Kawaramachi Station on the Hankyu Line.

◎ 16:30 ～ 17:30 のプレゼンテーマ 除夜の鐘

●日本事象 ESDIC 280 85 ページ Joya-no-kane

Joya-no-kane are the 108 chimes of the temple bell, which are sounded around midnight on New Year’s Eve, starting before the New Year. The sound of the bell rings out the old year and rings in the new year. In Buddhism, it is believed that everyone has 108 worldly sins such as jealousy, greed, and anger. Ringing the bell 108 times is supposed to release people from these 108 worldly sins.

◎ 16:30 ～ 17:30 のプレゼンテーマ 神輿

●日本事象 ESDIC 280 29 ページ Mikoshi

Mikoshi are portable shrines in which the spirits of the gods temporarily stay during local festivals held in the gods’ honor. They are carried on the shoulders of 20 to 30 people at local festivals, who are wearing happi coats and shouting “wasshoi, wasshoi.” By carrying these portable shrines through the community, the gods are able to visit all the people who live there.