

国語

NO. 1

受験番号

氏名

問1 つぎの課題文を50字以内で要約しなさい。

問2 公共の共用トイレ設置について あなたの意見を650字以内で述べなさい。

課題文

駅や商業施設 オフィス 学校など多くの人が利用する公共トイレ。性的少数者LGBTや障害者など誰もが使いやすい機能や構造を模索し、取り入れる動きが広がっている。

昨年11月 東京の渋谷駅東口地下広場に完成した公衆トイレ。男女別 車椅子に対応した多機能トイレに加え 男女共用の「みんなのトイレ」が設置されている。男女別トイレにはベビーベッドや人工肛門利用者向けのオストメイト設備が付いた個室もある。

公共トイレは男女別と多機能トイレを整備するのが一般的だ。しかし、男女別は心と体の性別が一致しないトランスジェンダーの人や、異性の介助者を同伴する人が利用しづらい。多機能トイレは利用対象が多すぎて、順番待ちになりやすいという問題も出てきた。

渋谷区は2018年11月に全国でも珍しい「トイレの基本方針」を策定。「トイレの影響で行動が制限され、社会参画が阻害される状況は大きな損失」として、「多様性を受け入れる」「みんなが選べる」などを柱に掲げた。障害や性差などによる悩みを知ってもらい、それぞれに適したトイレが分散配置されるよう呼び掛けるのが狙いだ。

トイレメーカーの取り組みも進む。TOYO 北九州市は16年からLGBT当事者に聞き取り調査を実施。「周囲の目が気になる」「多機能トイレの利用は気が引ける」など悩んでいることが分かった。そこで、配慮のポイントを紹介した冊子を作り、企業向けセミナーも始めた。広報担当者は「男女共用の個室を増やすのが理想だが、スペースや資金の問題もあり、さまざまな工夫が見られる」と説明する。

例えば、立命館アジア太平洋大 大分県別府市は昨年4月にトイレを改修する際、学生の意見交換会を開いた。男女共用を作るのは構造上難しいため、男女トイレそれぞれの入り口付近に手洗いスペースを備えた個室を整備。男性トイレの小便器には、顔まで隠れる高さの間仕切りを設けた。

職場のトイレ利用を巡っては、戸籍上は男性だが女性として生きる経済産業省の職員に対し、女性トイレの使用を制限した国の対応について、東京地裁が昨年12月、違法とする判決を出した。判決は、自認する性別で社会生活を送ることは重要な法的利益として保護されると明言した。

LIXIL リクシル、コマニト 石川県小松市の2社と金沢大による共同調査では、トランスジェンダーの39%が職場で利用したいトイレを使えていないと判明。性自認に沿ったトイレ使用を非当事者の35%が「抵抗がある」と答え、理由は「何となく」「理解できない」など知識がないことによるものが多かった。

金沢大の岩本健良准教授（ジェンダー学）は「トイレ利用は人間の尊厳に関わる人権問題。利用者の意思に沿う選択肢があり、利用しやすい環境を整えることが重要。ハード面を整備するだけでなく、研修など教育で偏見をなくしていく必要もある」と話す。（新西ましほ）

2024年度 法学部英語運用能力特別入学試験

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Read the following two articles (A & B) on the press in Japan and answer Questions (I) and (II).

Article A

(Abridged from “Why Japan ranks poorly in press freedom,” Deutsche Welle, May 8, 2023)

Japan ranks the lowest among the Group of Seven nations when it comes to media freedom. Journalists’ vulnerability to government and business pressure as well as a culture of self-censorship are to blame, say experts. Japan’s claims to press freedom are weakened in particular by a system of government-approved press clubs and the tendency of the media to self-censor, according to academics and journalists.

In the 2023 World Press Freedom Index, published by Reporters Without Borders (an international non-profit organization), Norway topped the Paris-based organization’s index for the seventh consecutive year, with Ireland in second place. Japan was a lowly 68th of the 180 countries and regions surveyed for the study. That ranks Japan, the world’s third-largest economy, at the bottom of the G7 nations in terms of media freedoms. North Korea was ranked last of the 180 nations, with China in 179th position, down four places from the 2022 report, while Vietnam ranked 178th in the world.

“Japan, a parliamentary democracy, upholds the principles of media and pluralism,” said the study. (a) “However, the weight of traditions, economic interests, political pressure, and gender inequalities prevents journalists from fully exercising their role of holding the government to account.”

“Freedom of speech is guaranteed in Japan under Article 21 of the Constitution, but there are problems — such as the press club system — which is why Japan is ranked so low on the index,” said Renge Jibu, an associate professor at the Tokyo Institute of Technology and a member of the Japan Association of Media, Journalism and Communication Studies.

“Kisha kurabu,” or press clubs, generally comprise exclusively of journalists working at major Japanese media outlets. The members have exclusive access to official sources, and to maintain that access, they are required to comply with the official government line.

The system of kisha clubs effectively gives politicians and bureaucrats the power to scare journalists and media companies with the threat of being banned from briefings if they report negative or unflattering stories, said Jibu.

It is not just politicians and ministries that are able to force the media to obey with threats of exclusion, pointed out Koichi Ishiyama, formerly a journalist for the Associated Press and *The Times* of London before becoming a professor of media studies at Toin University of Yokohama.

“Companies can be just as bad,” he said. “I once had to do an interview with a major Japanese corporation. Their executives made it very clear that they would not cooperate with any request for information or comment because I had written something about the company that they thought was negative.”

Large companies can exert other pressures on the media, Ishiyama said, as demonstrated by the long-running but largely overlooked scandal surrounding entertainment business king Johnny Kitagawa.

The *Shukan Bunshun* weekly news magazine first reported in 1999 that Kitagawa, the founder of the Johnny & Associates talent agency, had sexually abused aspiring male pop stars. Fearful of losing their chance at fame and fortune, none of the young men were willing to file formal complaints with the police. Kitagawa remained free to abuse more boys until his death in July 2019.

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“The media here needs pop stars and ‘talents’ to appear on their music programs and chat shows, so they never reported about Kitagawa because they feared they would be black-listed,” said Ishiyama. “The business world here is so inter-connected that a report on Kitagawa could mean they would lose advertising, sponsorship, and access to stars, so they kept quiet.”

An American journalist who has worked for a Japanese newspaper for 30 years noted that the Japanese media's culture of self-censorship runs deeper than simply newspapers, TV, and radio stations restraining their reporting on controversial topics. “It's not the sort of official censorship that we see in China, North Korea or the other countries that are at the bottom of the list,” said the reporter, who asked not to be named for fear of losing their job.

“And it's not just self-censorship, which means journalists don't ask the tough questions. It's the atmosphere of social and intellectual freedom that makes it possible for reporters to do their jobs. There is no atmosphere that encourages deliberation of important issues because reporters know that if they ask difficult questions they can be punished,” he said.

The result is a media that reports exactly what the government and big business wants it to report, based on official briefings and a public that is too often kept in the dark, he added. “And that, to me, means the media here is doing a great disservice to the people.”

Article B

(Abridged from “Low ratio of women in Japan media impacts news coverage, work conditions: survey,” Mainichi Japan, March 14, 2020)

Women make up only a small percentage of people working in Japan's media industry, especially in executive positions, a survey conducted by an organization comprising media-related labor unions nationwide has found.

Mass Media Information and Culture (MIC) released the results of its survey on the proportion of women in media. Among 38 newspaper companies, only 7.71% of management positions were filled by women, while only 3.13% of executives were women. At the six Tokyo-based private broadcasters, 8.3% of department heads were women, while there were zero female executives at three of the firms.

Among newspaper companies, 19.92% of all employees and 22.42% of reporters were women. Of those in management positions in the broad sense of the word, including desk editors and others in leadership positions, 8.5% were women. At the six Tokyo-based private broadcasters, the proportion of female employees was in the 20-29% range.

None of the broadcasters had women heading their news, creative, or informational programming departments. The percentage of female executives at the six broadcasters and public broadcaster NHK was 4.8%. There were no women among the executives at the five Osaka-based private broadcasters, and aside from Kansai Television Co., there were no female department chiefs. The proportion of women in management and executive positions was low overall in private companies in Japan, but the percentage tended to be lower at newspaper companies and private broadcasters.

The dearth of women in the newspaper industry has an impact on the working environment and on what is reported. In October 2019, the Japan Federation of Newspaper Workers' Unions conducted a survey of its union members on how they worked and their prospects for the future. Asked whether they felt discrimination in terms of wages, treatment, and otherwise at work, 60.5% of women said they “strongly felt so,” or that they “tended to feel that way.” Among men, the figure was 40.7%.

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At many newspaper companies, there are no differences between genders in regular employees' wage structures or benefits, but 55.3% of men and 44.2% of women said that "The work and the weight of responsibility allotted to men and women differ." Meanwhile, 35% of men and 54.1% of women said that "the speed at which men and women are promoted differs."

To the question, "How does having few women as desk editors and in management positions affect work?" the most common response was, "It affects what kind of news is selected for coverage, and leads to outdated ways of working and evaluation."

More specifically, there were comments such as "we end up creating newspaper pages that are misaligned with readers' actual everyday experiences," and "there is little motivation to put out articles about gender and sexuality." The comment that "it's hard to see into the future in terms of career" was common among women, while men expressed frustrations about "lack of understanding toward parental leave" and "lack of consideration for dual-income households."

To a question asking whether respondents had experienced harassment in the previous three years, 58.4% of female respondents said they had, while 28.9% of male respondents said the same. Among women, sexual harassment topped the list, with 41.3% saying that their "looks and age were made a topic of discussion," and 13.1% saying that they were "asked to engage in sexual relations." Among men, cases of power harassment were more prominent, with 35.8% saying they had been subjected to violence and verbal abuse. Perpetrators of such harassment were more commonly from within companies than without.

(b) Asked for what they believed were reasons for such harassment, 40% or more of women cited "inadequate awareness of human rights," "stress due to labor shortages," and "light punishments for perpetrators, whose actions are not made public." Meanwhile, 48.7% of men cited "labor shortages," while 34.7% cited "light punishments for perpetrators, whose actions are not made public."

A Japan Federation of Newspaper Workers' Unions official said, "From the respondents' answers, we can see that there is a 'negative spiral' in which organizations are unable to deal with the long working hours and labor shortages that lie at the core of harassment problems. An extreme lack of gender consciousness is also clear from the fact that women have experienced harassment at twice the rate as men. Media must take the initiative to make labor reforms and resolve the disparity between men and women."

Questions I & II

(I) Translate into Japanese Part (a) in Article A and Part (b) in Article B.

(II) Write an essay of approximately 250-300 words in which you clearly identify and explain major problems with the media industry in Japan, and conclude with your own opinions and suggestions about what needs to be done to improve journalism in Japan. Use information from the two articles as well as your own experiences with different news media.