

高3東大即応演習 3月 英語

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次の英文の内容を70～80字の日本語に要約せよ。句読点も字数に含める。(25点)

1 Among young Japanese today, the number of NEETs (those not in employment, education or training) and “freeters” (casual workers without regular employment) has sharply increased, indicating that many people have nothing to study or work for. I sometimes wonder whether Japanese by nature have much desire for affluence.

5 Some rich Americans may enjoy the lifestyle of working weekdays in New York and then flying a private jet to Colorado to spend the weekend at a mountain villa, but a similar lifestyle is unheard of in Japan. Perhaps Japanese in general have little interest in a nomadic way of life, or find it impracticable in a small nation.

In Japan, there is little correlation between income/consumption and happiness. An
10 extravagant lifestyle alone does not give people a sense of happiness.

In my view, happiness comes from a sense of social involvement, commitment and sympathy, all deriving from interaction with other people. In other words, happiness stems from feeling a sense of presence in a society.

Happiness also comes from the process of working hard to accomplish a goal. Having
15 a definite goal and trying to accomplish it step by step requires concentration and gives people a reason for living and a sense of happiness. During Japan’s high-growth years, people were happy trying to achieve the national goal of an “affluent society.”

Now, we seem to be tired of seeking “affluence” as defined by per capita GDP. In the
20 21st century, when we can eat all the food we want, we should seek “happiness” as a goal of life.

注：nomadic 遊牧民のようにあちこち旅する

(★およそ 260 words)

“If ‘affluence’ fails to please” by Takamitsu Sawa

(*The Japan Times*: Monday, April 3, 2006)