

英語上級者への道～Listen and Speak

第4回 ヨーロッパからの新しい考え

Script

■Dialogue for Introduction

E: Hello, listeners. Another New Year is upon us! As always, people around the world are hopeful for positive change.

T: True. Nothing is permanent. Perhaps we can hope the same is true for problems. I hope the Japanese economy as well as the world economy will revitalize themselves.

E: Ah, you are nostalgic about the good old days of the bubble economy, aren't you?

T: Yes, those days, the 1980s to be specific, the deposit interest rate was 6, or even 7 percent. They coined the term, "the lost 10s", representing the economic slowdown after the bubble burst. And the Lehman Shock nipped recovery in the bud. Now we should say 'the lost 20s.' And it is 2013.

E: Recession, decline in some industries, these economic phenomena show how true the saying is. 'All that prospers must decline.' But there must be some way to revitalize our economy.

T: Looking back along the 20-year history since the end of the bubble economy, we should learn, maybe, it's better integrate projects, such as housing and transit. I mean to say transportation systems and the development and restoration of some industries.

E: Umm...You are right. New ways forward must be found. Look around the world and try to identify successful strategies. Well, this month's passage has a lot to do with these concerns. Let's begin, shall we?

T: Yes, let's.

■Listen to the passage and answer the two questions that follow.

New Ideas from the Old World 【2012-1 1st Part 2, B】

Recession in the U.S. has left industrial cities such as Detroit and Cleveland in decline, resulting in shrinking populations and fewer tax dollars. Civic leaders are turning to Europe for solutions. When it comes to dealing with urban decay, the Europeans have had a head start. During the 1980s and '90s, cities like Leipzig in Germany and Manchester in England experienced serious declines in industry. This led to high unemployment and an exodus of inhabitants. These cities have since been revitalized. In former industrial districts, factories and brick warehouses have been reborn as trendy shops and condominiums.

Civic leaders from several U.S. cities are collaborating in a three-year program to combat

urban decline. This program involves identifying and adapting successful strategies used by European cities. Skeptics, however, doubt whether these tactics will be equally effective in America. European citizens, they say, are more willing to support local government projects. Additionally, Europe's urban projects tend to be integrated: education, recreation, transit, and housing are all planned together. In the U.S., planning in each area is usually carried out independently by separate agencies. Poor coordination between these agencies could severely affect the outcome of attempts to revitalize U.S. cities.

【Questions】

Answer the following 2 questions, spending 30 seconds on each.

No.1 Why are American civic leaders studying some European cities?

No.2 Why do skeptics think European-style revitalization may not work in the U.S.?

■Let's study vocabulary and expressions

Listen to my Japanese and repeat after Edward.

1	衰退する状態にある	in decline
2	税金	tax dollar
3	都市の衰退	urban decay
4	一步早いスタート	head start
5	脱出、移動	exodus
6	新しい活力を与える	revitalize
7	レンガ造りの倉庫	brick warehouse
8	見つける、特定する	identify
9	懐疑派、疑い深い人	skeptic
10	統合する	integrate
11	運輸、交通	transit
12	調整	coordination

■Listen to the passage and once more answer the two questions that follow!

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■Repetition and Interpretation Drill

The passage is read with pauses and Japanese interpretation.

- 1) Repeat during each pause. Practice again and again until your repetition becomes perfect.
- 2) Listen and interpret during the pauses. You should finish your interpretation before the model interpretation starts. Practice again and again.
- 3) Shadowing and interpretation. While listening to English, shadow the part in English. During the pauses, interpret into Japanese.

New Ideas from the Old World

Recession in the U.S. has left industrial cities such as Detroit and Cleveland in decline, /
resulting in shrinking populations and fewer tax dollars.//

Civic leaders are turning to Europe for solutions.//

When it comes to dealing with urban decay, /
the Europeans have had a head start.//

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These cities have since been revitalized./

In former industrial districts, factories and brick warehouses have been reborn/
as trendy shops and condominiums.

Civic leaders from several U.S. cities are collaborating/
in a three-year program to combat urban decline.//

This program involves identifying and adapting successful strategies/
used by European cities.//

Skeptics, however, doubt whether these tactics will be equally effective in America. //

European citizens, they say, are more willing to support local government projects.//

Additionally, Europe's urban projects tend to be integrated:/

education, recreation, transit, and housing are all planned together. //

In the U.S., planning in each area is usually carried out independently/
by separate agencies.//

Poor coordination between these agencies could severely affect/
the outcome of attempts to revitalize U.S. cities.

■ Model Answers

Listen to the models and compare with your answers.

T: Now Edward, what are your answers? No.1 'Why are American civic leaders studying some European cities?'

E: Because they want to adapt successful strategies used by European cities for revitalization project in their cities.

T: Thank you. How about No.2 'Why do skeptics think European-style revitalization may not work in the U.S.?'

E: There are two reasons. First, people in Europe are more willing to support local government projects than people in the U.S. Second, while projects tend to be integrated in Europe, they are planned and carried out independently and by separate agencies in the United States.

■ Challenge 1

T: Now Edward is going to ask you some questions. Please answer these questions. You should continue to speak for at least 30 seconds.

E: Leipzig in Germany and Manchester in England are quite prosperous industrial cities, aren't they?

E: Model

Now Let's listen to Tets. He will show you a model. Listen and compare with your answer.

T: I should say they were. They once had thriving industries but they had to go through the bitter experience of urban decay as they declined. Now, they have been successfully revitalized. I heard that where there were factories and warehouses there are now trendy shops and condominiums.

■ Challenge 2

T: Please listen. Disagree with the following statement for at least 30 seconds. your statement should include some points introduced in the passage that you have listened to. Ready?

T: Once a city has started showing symptoms of urban decay, it is wise to leave the city and seek another place to live in. Because taxes will be raised or public services will decline due to lower tax income going to the local government. Nobody can stop the exodus of these inhabitants. The population will shrink and any business will lose their market share.

T: Model

Now let's listen to Edward. He is going to show you a model. Listen and compare with your statement.

E: While it might be tempting to desert a city with a troubled economy, European models show that they can be saved. Several such cities utilized urban planning which revitalized declining businesses by re-tasking properties to more successful endeavors. Leipzig and Manchester are both good role models of such change.

■ Closing Dialogue

E: As you said, 'integration is one of the keys to slow or stop urban decay. It is true also here in Japan that plans for housing, transportation and other things have been planned and implemented independently by separate agencies.

T: True. Integration and Cooperation of projects and agencies is essential. As we now have our government refreshed, I hope the central and local governments will implement a more coordinated approach to the infrastructure and the economy.'

E: I hope so too. It is difficult to revitalize a city in decline but it is not impossible.

We have good examples even in Japan.

T: Yes. Have you heard of 'Okage Yoko Cho' in Ise city?

E: Yes. That commercial area once lost its popularity and the number of visitors seriously declined. But they managed to turn it around.

T: That area attracts many visitors to Ise Shrine. I think it is a good idea for everyone to pay a New Year's visit to Ise Shrine and see Okage Yoko Cho, another successful example of revitalization.

E: And on that note, shall we wish everyone a happy 2013?

T: Let's.

E&T: Happy New Year!

以下の URL にぜひ、アクセスしてみてください。今月の passage の内容にあったマンチェスターのことがもっとわかると思いますよ。

●GMCA & AGMA Web Site

<http://www.agma.gov.uk/>

●Daily Yomiuri Online - Revitalizing Japan

<http://www.yomiuri.co.jp/dy/national/T120228005147.htm>

★講師陣プロフィール★

◇中西 哲彦 (Tets Nakanishi)

日本福祉大学国際福祉開発学部准教授、アルファ英語会顧問、NPO 愛知善意ガイドネットワーク理事。

愛知教育大学出身。三重県立高校、大手英語学校を経て、現在、小学生～社会人まで幅広い層を対象に英語を指導している。英検セミナー派遣講師として各地の特別授業や英語教育セミナーにて活躍。2007 年度まで、5 年間にわたって三重県英語教員集中研修講師も務めた。

◇エドワード・スクラグス (Edward Scruggs)

テネシー出身。比較文学の分野で博士号、音楽の分野で修士号。

翻訳、英語教授に大活躍し、現在、椋山女学園大学国際コミュニケーション学部准教授を務めるほかアルファ英語会(津市)アドバイザーとしても活躍中。