

第1講

比較構文

1 原級を用いた比較

- (1) Your brother is **as old as** my cousin. (あなたの弟は私のいとこと同じ年だ。)
- (2) I can't run **as[so] fast as** Tom. (私はトムほど速く走ることができない。)
- (3) Australia is about twenty **times as large as** Japan.
(オーストラリアは日本の約20倍の大きさである。)

解釈のポイント 2つのものの程度が等しい(A=B)ことを表すには、〈A ... as + 原級 + as B〉を用いる。その否定形〈A ... not as[so] + 原級 + as B〉は「AはBほど～ではない」という意味になる。また、「…のX倍～だ」というときは、〈as ~ as〉の前に倍数表現を置いて表す。

- 〈類例〉
1. Our club has **as many members as** yours.
(私たちのクラブにはあなたたちのクラブと同じくらいの数の部員がいる。)
 2. The level of pollution in this river is **half as high as** ten years ago.
(この川の汚染度は10年前の半分の高さだ。)

2 原級を用いた重要表現

- (1) Read **as many books as possible**. (できるだけたくさんの本を読みなさい。)
- (2) He **cannot so much as** write his own name. (彼は自分の名前さえ書くことができない。)
- (3) Mary is **not so much a pianist as an artist**.
(メアリーはピアニストというよりはむしろ芸術家だ。)

解釈のポイント

- (1) 〈as ~ as possible[one can]〉「できるだけ～」
- (2) 〈not so much as ~〉「～さえしない」(= not even ~)
- (3) 〈not so much A as B〉= 〈not A so much as B〉「AというよりはむしろB」(= B rather than A)

他にも〈as many[much] ~〉「同数[量]の～」, 〈as ~ as any ...〉「どの…にも劣らず～」, 〈as ~ as ever〉「相変わらず～」などがある。

- 〈類例〉
1. She just left **without so much as** saying goodbye.
(彼女はさよならも言わずにただ去っていった。)
 2. He made five mistakes in **as many lines**. (彼は5行のうちに5つの誤りをした。)
 3. The woman is **as great a scholar as any**. (その女性はだれにも劣らず偉大な学者だ。)
 4. He works **as hard as ever**, but he remains poor.
(彼は相変わらず働き者だが、貧しいままである。)

3 比較級を用いた比較

- (1) Water heats **more slowly than** land.
(水は地面より温まるのが遅い。)
- (2) This restaurant is **less popular than** that one.
(このレストランはあのレストランほど人気がない。)
- (3) Tom is **more creative than** strange.
(トムは変わり者というよりはむしろ創造的だ。)

解釈のポイント 2つのものを比べて「(一方が他方)よりも～」(A > B)というときは、〈A ... 比較級 + than B〉の形を用いる。この逆の意味(A < B)は、〈A ... less + 形容詞[副詞]の原級 + than B〉の形で表すことができる。また、同一の人やものの異なる性質を比較するときは〈more + 原級 + than〉の形をとる。

- 〈類例〉 1. The population of Yokohama is **larger than** that of Kyoto.
(横浜の人口は京都の人口より多い。)
2. Instant noodles are **less nutritious than** rice. (インスタント麺は米ほど栄養がない。)
3. His wife is **more thrifty than** stingy. (彼の妻はケチというよりはむしろ儉約家だ。)

4 than ではなく to を用いる比較表現

- (1) He is **superior to** me in learning. (彼は学識では私に勝る。)
- (2) She is two years **senior to** me. (彼女は私より2つ年上だ。)
- (3) I **prefer** playing games **to** watching them. (私は試合を見るよりするほうが好きだ。)

解釈のポイント 比較の意味を含む形容詞や動詞の中には、比較の対象を表すのに than ではなく to を用いるものがある。

- (1) superior[inferior] to ~ 「～より優れて[劣って]」
- (2) senior[junior] to ~ 「～より(地位が)上[下]の、～より年上[年下]の」
- (3) prefer A to B 「BよりAのほうが好きだ」

- 〈類例〉 1. This wine is **inferior to** that in flavor. (このワインはそのワインに比べて味が劣る。)
2. I'm as old as Tom, but **junior to** him at the office.
(私はトムと同年だが、会社では彼の後輩だ。)

5 比較級を用いた重要表現①

- (1) **The higher** we go up, **the colder** it becomes.
(高く登れば登るほど、ますます寒くなる。)
- (2) I like him **all the better** for his faults.
(彼には欠点があるから、私はそれだけいっそう彼が好きだ。)
- (3) He can't even read *hiragana*, **much less** *kanji*.
(彼はひらがなを読むことすらできない、まして漢字を読むことなどできない。)

解釈のポイント (1) 〈the + 比較級 ~, the + 比較級 ...〉「～すればするほど、ますます…」

(2) 〈all the + 比較級 + for [because] ...〉「…だからそれだけいっそう～」

(3) 〈否定文, much [still] less ~〉「…でない、まして～でない」

- 〈類例〉 1. **The sooner, the better.**
(早ければ早いほどよい。)
2. I respect him **all the more** because he is honest.
(彼が正直なので、私はいっそう彼を尊敬している。)
3. He can't even afford to pay the rent, **much less** buy a new car.
(彼は家賃を払うだけの余裕もないのに、まして新車を買うことなどできない。)

6 比較級を用いた重要表現②

- (1) You are **no more** to blame **than** I am.
(あなたは私がそうでないように責められるべきでない。)
- (2) His house is **no more than** five minutes' walk from the station.
(彼の家は駅から歩いてわずか5分の距離にある。)

解釈のポイント (1) 〈no more ~ than ...〉「…でないのと同様に～でない」は比べている両者がともに否定の意味になる。比べている両者がともに肯定の意味になる場合は〈no less ~ than ...〉を用いる。

(2) no more than ~ 「たった～しか、～にすぎない」 (= only ~)
他にも、not more than ~ 「せいぜい～」 (= at (the) most), no less than ~ 「～ほども多く」 (= as many [much] as ~), not less than ~ 「少なくとも～」 (= at (the) least) などがある。

- 〈類例〉 1. Drinking too much is **no less** harmful to you **than** smoking.
(飲み過ぎは喫煙同様, 有害である。)
2. I think it will take **not more than** three days to finish the job.
(その仕事を終えるのにかかるのはせいぜい3日だろう。)
3. My grandparents go abroad **not less than** three times a year.
(私の祖父母は少なくとも年3回は海外へ行く。)

7 最上級を用いた比較

- (1) This morning I got up **(the) earliest** in my family. (今朝, 私は家族の中で一番早く起きた。)
- (2) The Tone is **the second longest** river in Japan. (利根川は日本で2番目に長い川である。)
- (3) This lake is **deepest** in the center. (この湖は中央部が一番深い。)

解釈のポイント 3つ以上のものを比べて「…の中で一番～」というときは〈(the+)最上級+of[in] ...〉の形を用いる。2番目以下は, 最上級の前に〈(the+序数詞)〉を置く。また, 同一の人やものの比較には the をつけない。

- 〈類例〉 1. Venice is one of **the most beautiful** cities in the world.
(ベネチアは世界で最も美しい都市の1つである。)
2. Mt. Fuji is **most beautiful** about this time of the year.
(富士山は1年の今頃の時期が一番美しい。)

8 最上級を用いた重要表現

- (1) **The fastest** train would not get to Fukuoka from Tokyo in three hours.
(どんな速い電車でも東京から3時間で福岡には着かないだろう。)
- (2) **To the best of** my knowledge, Mr. Patrick is a great doctor in this town.
(私の知る限り, パトリック氏はこの町で偉大な医者だ。)

解釈のポイント (1) 最上級が even 「どんな～でも」という譲歩の意味を表している。
(2) to the best of ～は「～の限り(では)」の意味を表す。
他にも, at least 「少なくとも」, at one's best 「最良の状態で(の)」, make the most of ～ 「～を最大限に活用する」などがある。

- 〈類例〉 1. **The wisest** man does not know everything.
(最も賢い人でさえ, すべてを知っているわけではない。)
2. She completed the job **to the best of** her ability.
(彼女は力の及ぶ限りでその仕事を仕上げた。)
3. You should **make the most of** your time.
(時間は最大限に活用すべきである。)

9 最上級の意味を表す原級・比較級

- (1) Diamond is **harder than any other** material. (ダイヤモンドは他のどの物質よりも硬い。)
- (2) **No other** material is **as hard as** diamond. (ダイヤモンドほど硬い物質はない。)

解釈のポイント 原級や比較級の文が最上級の内容を表すこともある。
(1) 〈比較級+than any other+単数名詞〉「他のどの…より～」
(2) 〈No other+単数名詞+動詞+as[so]+原級+as[比較級+than] ...〉「…ほど～なものはない」

- 〈類例〉 1. Ben runs **faster than any other** boy in his class.
(ベンはクラスの他のどの少年よりも速く走る。)
2. **No other** city in Australia is **larger than** Sydney.
(シドニーほど大きな都市はオーストラリアにはない。)

確 認 問 題

1 次の日本語に合う英文になるように、()に適切な語(句)を選び、記号で答えなさい。

- (1) メアリーは妹と同じくらい上手に歌うことができる。 → **1**
 Mary can sing as () as her sister.
 ア good イ well ウ better エ best
- (2) 彼は私の2倍の数のCDを持っている。 → **1**
 He has () as I do.
 ア twice many CDs イ as twice many CDs
 ウ twice as many CDs エ twice CDs as many
- (3) この質問はあの質問ほど難しくない。 → **3**
 This question is () than that one.
 ア not difficult イ less difficult
 ウ not as difficult エ not less difficult
- (4) 昨夜は涼しいというよりはむしろ寒かった。 → **3**
 It was () than cool last night.
 ア colder イ more colder ウ not cold エ more cold
- (5) 彼は私の父よりも3歳年上だと言った。 → **4**
 He said he was three years senior () my father.
 ア to イ than ウ as エ by
- (6) 私は彼がざっくばらんな性格だからいっそう好きだ。 → **5**
 I like him () better for his frankness.
 ア much イ as much ウ all the エ more
- (7) その年老いた男性は歩くことができず、まして走ることなどできなかった。 → **5**
 The old man couldn't walk, () run.
 ア much more イ much less ウ no more エ no less

2 次の日本語に合う英文になるように、 _____ に適切な語を書きなさい。

- (1) 私のおじは見かけほど若くない。 → **1**
 My uncle is not _____ he looks.
- (2) 彼は選手というよりはむしろ監督である。 → **2**
 He is not _____ a player _____ a manager.
- (3) 太陽が高く昇れば昇るほど、暖かくなった。 → **5**
 _____ the sun rose, _____ it became.
- (4) あなたが怒っているのと同様、私も怒っている。 → **6**
 I'm _____ angry than you are.
- (5) アフリカ大陸は世界で2番目に大きな大陸である。 → **7**
 The African continent is _____ continent in the world.
- (6) できるだけ頻繁に私に手紙をください。 → **2**
 Please write to me _____.
- (7) 彼ほどサッカーが上手な選手はこのチームにいない。 → **9**
 _____ in this team plays soccer better than him.
- (8) 彼がこの研究を始めてから10年も経った。 → **6**
 No _____ ten years have passed since he started this research work.

演 習 問 題 A

1 次の英文の()に適切な語(句)を選び、記号で答えなさい。

- (1) Bill is not () you think.
 ア as silly as イ as silly than ウ silly than エ so silly that
- (2) The population of Italy is about () that of Japan.
 ア half as large as イ half less than
 ウ as half as エ larger half than
- (3) I'm not quite sure, but to the () of my knowledge, his story is true.
 ア most イ best ウ limit エ range
- (4) He is junior () my brother by three years.
 ア to イ in ウ of エ with
- (5) No one in the class arrived at the school gate () than the teacher.
 ア lately イ later ウ latter エ more lately
- (6) She is () than kind.
 ア more gentle イ more gentler ウ gentler エ gentle
- (7) He was () runner of all.
 ア faster イ the faster ウ fastest エ the fastest
- (8) She has three times () books as I do.
 ア more イ as ウ as many エ so many
- (9) I like the child () better for his honesty.
 ア so イ for ウ all the エ as much
- (10) You have only one brother, but I have () nine brothers and sisters.
 ア no less than イ no more than
 ウ no better than エ not more than
- (11) He went out () saying goodbye.
 ア as much as イ much less
 ウ too much for エ without so much as
- (12) Taro is taller than () in his class.
 ア any boys イ any another boy
 ウ any other boy エ any more boys
- (13) It was a beautiful, sunny day. The weather couldn't have been () for a picnic.
 ア worse イ worst ウ better エ best
- (14) The wiser a man becomes, () proud he is.
 ア the better イ the less ウ the smaller エ the worse
- (15) The boy can't even read English, () write it.
 ア little more イ more less ウ much less エ much more
- (16) It rains here () on the plain.
 ア twice as often as イ as often twice as
 ウ as twice often as エ as twice as often
- (17) Which is () of the two?
 ア one more expensive イ more expensive one
 ウ the more expensive エ the most expensive
- (18) We have () snow this year than usual.
 ア no イ less ウ fewer エ a lot

- (19) She is not () an actor as a singer.
ア as beautiful イ so famous ウ as such エ so much

2 次の各組の文がほぼ同じ内容を表すように、 _____ に適切な語を書きなさい。

- (1) I'm not as tall as my father.
I'm _____ than my father.
- (2) This is the tallest building in Osaka.
This is taller than _____ building in Osaka.
- (3) The Shinano is the longest river in Japan.
_____ other river in Japan is as _____ as the Shinano.
- (4) Nothing is as valuable as world peace.
World peace is _____ than _____ else.
- (5) This watch is better than that one.
That watch is _____ to this one.
- (6) This is the worst game that we have ever had.
We have never had _____ a _____ game as this.
- (7) Our town is one-third as populous as your city.
The population of your city is _____ times as _____ as that of our town.

3 日本文に合う英文になるように、語(句)を並べかえなさい。

- (1) ハヤブサより速く飛ぶ鳥はいない。
A falcon (than / bird / faster / any other / flies).

- (2) 彼はその晩一晩中、私に話しかけさえしなかった。
He did (as / much / not / so / speak) to me all the evening.

- (3) こうもりが鳥でないのはねずみが鳥でないのと同じだ。
A bat is (a mouse / a bird / no / than / more / is).

- (4) 彼女は、兄に勝るとも劣らぬくらい英語を話すのが得意だった。
She was (at / brother / English / good / her / less / not / speaking / than).

- (5) 最終電車に間に合うように、ヨシオはできるだけ速く歩いた。
Yoshio walked as (fast / to / as / possible / time / for / be / in) the last train.

- (6) 私のおばは相変わらずおしゃべりだ。
My aunt (as / talkative / ever / is / as).

- (7) 学べば学ぶほど、哲学は私たちにとっていっそう大きな意味を持ちうる。
The more we learn about philosophy, (can / for / greater / have / it / meaning / the / us).

- (8) 青少年のころに受けた印象ほど、いつまでも鮮やかに心に残るものはない。
(impression / in / the mind / more / nothing / remains / than the / vividly) we received in our youth.

演習問題 B

1 次の英文を日本語に直しなさい。

- (1) Prices of commodities have risen twice as high as ten years ago.

- (2) My father is a man of common sense rather than a man of culture.

- (3) I remember not so much what he said as the tone in which he spoke.

- (4) Nothing is so essential to self-training as the proper choice of books to read; and nothing is so universally neglected.

- (5) Not everyone, however, is participating in this leisure boom. People in some occupations are finding that work is as demanding as ever.

- (6) The pipes were made almost 2,000 years ago. Lead is a heavy metal. It is eleven times as heavy as water. Lead is a soft metal and it can be hammered into various shapes.

- (7) Curiosity, the desire to know things as they are, is a craving no less native to the being of man, no less universal through mankind, than the craving for food and drink.

- (8) History from the time of the Greeks to the present is a record of the changing conceptions of human nature. It provides us with no less than a universal picture of nature of man, good man and evil man.

- (9) It is not so much what a man wears as the way he wears it that marks the born gentleman. The same thing can be said of girls and women: it is the manner in which their clothes are worn that distinguishes a true lady.

- (10) Nothing appears so strange to us as the philosophical or even the scientific doubt that things may not be what they appear to be. Few thoughts are as disquieting as the notion that the reality which we experience may be the result of social construction.

② 次の英文を読んで、下線部(1), (2)を日本語に直しなさい。

Many people prefer to ride a bike rather than walk when they go out. ⁽¹⁾ Riding a bike is much more efficient than walking, and people often want to get to their destinations as quickly as possible with minimal effort. However, when you aren't in a rush, there are a few reasons to choose walking over biking. Walking may be slower, but it burns more fat than biking.

⁵ ⁽²⁾ Moreover, because walking is not as fast as biking, it gives us more opportunities to notice the world around us. You might discover a new shop or a restaurant that you never knew existed, and that you would just zip past on your bike.

(1) _____

(2) _____

③ 次の英文を読んで、あとの問いに答えなさい。

The Sustainable Development Goals, or SDGs, are a set of 17 goals, each with several smaller targets, that members of the United Nations are trying to meet by the year 2030. Their overall aim is to ensure peace and prosperity for all people and for the planet as well. ⁽¹⁾ Because of this, no single goal is less important than the others. Instead, all 17 of the goals are connected, ⁵ so progress towards one will help to achieve success with the others. For example, some of the goals include ⁽²⁾ eliminating hunger, achieving gender equality, providing quality education to all people, and protecting life both on land and in the oceans.

Unfortunately, ⁽³⁾ progress towards achieving all of the SDGs has been slower than expected. While many countries that are part of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and ¹⁰ Development (OECD), such as Australia, Japan, and the United States, have achieved the goal of eliminating extreme poverty, they are far behind on many others. In fact, as of 2022, the OECD countries had met or were close to achieving only 25 percent of their targets.

Looking at ⁽⁴⁾ data on the goals for protecting the environment is especially worrying. The OECD countries are no closer to decreasing pressures on the environment than in 2015, when ¹⁵ the goals were adopted. Threats to biodiversity are still rising. With that in mind, ⁽⁵⁾ the countries must work as hard as possible to create policies that will create positive change quickly. Otherwise, 2030 is certain to be a year of disappointment for many, especially those whose lives are the most affected by the failure to act.

(1) 下線部①, ③, ⑤を日本語に直しなさい。

① _____

③ _____

⑤ _____

(2) 下線部②の eliminating とほぼ同じ意味を表す語を次から選び、記号で答えなさい。

ア developing イ disappearing ウ concealing エ removing

オ disagreeing

(3) 下線部④について筆者が心配に思う理由を日本語で説明しなさい。
