

記述問題の解法

① 解答の根拠となる本文の該当箇所を正確に範囲指定

② 問いに対応した答え方で答える。

「どういうこと？」 ⇒ 「～ということ」

「何故？」 ⇒ 「～だから」

③ 代入して意味が通るかどうかを確認する。

① 下線部 (1) の“the new paper”ではどんなことが提唱されていますか。日本語で答えなさい。

Could what we eat shape how we think? A new paper in the journal *Science* by Thomas Talhelm at the University of Virginia and colleagues suggests that agriculture may shape psychology. A bread culture may think differently than a rice-bowl society.

Psychologists have long known that different cultures tend to think differently. In China and Japan, people think more communally, in terms of relationships. By contrast, people are more individualistic in what psychologist Joseph Henrich, in commenting on ⁽¹⁾the new paper, calls “WEIRD cultures.”

weird: strikingly odd or unusual

communal: for or by a group rather than individuals

② 下線部 (2) を, “These differences”がどういう違いか明確にして日本語に訳しなさい。

Psychologists have long known that different cultures tend to think differently. In China and Japan, people think more communally, in terms of relationships. By contrast, people are more individualistic in what psychologist Joseph Henrich, in commenting on ⁽¹⁾the new paper, calls “WEIRD cultures.”

WEIRD stands for Western, educated, industrialized, rich and democratic. Dr. Henrich’s point is that cultures like these are actually a tiny minority of all human societies, both geographically and historically. But almost all psychologists study only these WEIRD folks.

The differences show up in surprisingly varied ways. Suppose I were to ask you to draw a graph of your social network, with you and your friends represented as circles attached by lines. Americans make their own circle a quarter-inch larger than their friends’ circles. In Japan, people make their own circle a bit smaller than the others.

Or you can ask people how much they would reward the honesty of a friend or a stranger and how much they would punish their dishonesty. Most Easterners tend to say they would reward a friend more than a stranger and punish a friend less; Westerners treat friends and strangers more equally.

⁽²⁾These differences show up even in tests that have nothing to do with social relationships.

③ 下線部 (3) に関し、「この中のどれが同じ仲間？」という意味になるように、カッコ内の語を並び替えなさい。ただし、1語だけ使用しない語があります。

(2) These differences show up even in tests that have nothing to do with social relationships. You can give people a “(3) (belong, of, these, things, to, together, which)?” problem, like the old “Sesame Street” song. Say you see a picture of a dog, a rabbit and a carrot. Westerners tend to say the dog and the rabbit go together because they’re both animals — they’re in the same category. Easterners are more likely to say that the rabbit and the carrot go together — because rabbits eat carrots.

None of these questions has a right answer, of course. So why have people in different parts of the world developed such different thinking styles?

You might think that modern, industrial cultures would naturally develop more individualism than agricultural ones. But another possibility is that the kind of agriculture matters. Rice farming, in particular, demands a great deal of coordinated labor. To manage a rice paddy*, a whole village has to cooperate and coordinate irrigation systems. By contrast, a single family can grow wheat.

paddy* 水田

Dr. Talhelm and colleagues used an ingenious design to test these possibilities. They looked at rice-growing regions within China. (The people in these areas had the same language, history and traditions; they just grew different crops.) Then they gave people the psychological tests I just described. The people in wheat-growing areas looked more like WEIRD Westerners, but the rice growers showed the more classically Eastern communal and relational patterns. Most of the people they tested didn't actually grow rice or wheat themselves, but the cultural traditions of rice or wheat seemed to influence their thinking.

This agricultural difference predicted the psychological differences better than modernization did. Even industrialized parts of China with a rice-growing history showed the more communal thinking pattern.

ingenious: clever, original, and inventive

④ 下線部 (4) を日本語に訳しなさい。

The researchers also looked at two measures of what people do outside the lab*: divorces and patents for new inventions.

(4) Conflict-avoiding communal culture tend to have fewer divorces than individualistic ones, but they also create fewer individual innovations.

Once again, wheat-growing areas looked more “WEIRD” than rice-growing ones.

⑤ 下線部 (5) に関し、筆者はなぜこのように考えるのですか。その理由を日本語で説明しなさい。

In fact, Dr. Henrich suggests that rice-growing may have led to the psychological differences, which in turn may have sparked modernization.

(5) Aliens from outer space looking at the Earth in the year 1000 would never have bet that barbarian Northern Europe would become industrialized before civilized Asia. And they would surely never have guessed that eating sandwiches instead of stir-fry* might make the difference.

出典 : Alison Gopnik, "Rice, Wheat and the Values They Sow." *The Wall Street Journal* 30 May 2014 一部改変

stir-fry* さつといためた料理

⑥ 次の文は本文中で言及された Thomas Talhelm の論文の導入部です。本文の内容と照らし合わせて、文中の (イ) (ロ) (ハ) に当てはまる一語を書きなさい。

Cross-cultural psychologists have mostly contrasted East Asia with the West. However, this study shows that there are major psychological differences within (イ). We propose that a history of farming (ロ) makes cultures more interdependent, whereas farming (ハ) makes cultures more independent, and these agricultural legacies continue to affect people in the modern world. We tested 1162 Han Chinese participants in six sites and found that (ロ)-growing southern (イ) is more interdependent and holistic-thinking than the (ハ)-growing north. To control for confounds like climate, we tested people from neighboring counties along the (ロ)-(ハ) border and found differences that were just as large. We also find that modernization and pathogen prevalence theories do not fit the data.

出典 : Science 9 May 2014: Vol.344,p.603

(注) holistic: 全体的な

confounds : 交絡因子

pathogen : 病原体

⑦ 次の文は本文中で言及された Joseph Henrich の論文の導入部です。本文の内容と照らし合わせて、文中の①～⑤に当てはまる1語を書きなさい。

To investigate the individualism and analytical thinking in participants from different agricultural regions in China, Talhelm et al. used three tests. They measure analytical thinking with a series of triads. Participants were given a target object, such as a rabbit, and asked which of two other objects it goes with. Analytic thinkers tend to match on categories, so rabbits and (①) go together. Holistic thinkers tend to match on relationships, so rabbits eat (②). The authors also measured individualism in two ways. First, they asked participants to draw a sociogram, with labeled circles representing themselves and their (③). In this test, individualism is measured implicitly by how much bigger the “self” circle is relative to the average “friends” circle. Second, they assessed the nepotism (in-group loyalty) of participants by asking them about hypothetical scenarios in which they could reward or (④) friends and (⑤) for helpful or harmful action.