

RIPPLE ENGLISH

ACTIVE LEARNING PROGRAM

Workbook for:

“Going to an Art Museum”

問題は解きっぱなしにしないで！

英語資格試験の学習は、解いた後の復習をしなければほとんど効果はありません。答え合わせをしておしまいせず、テキストの音読練習やリスニング、多読学習などのインプット学習を何度も反復して記憶に定着させましょう。ホームページからダウンロードできる音読練習用のテキストをぜひご活用ください。また、数日置いてから再度解き直すのも効果的です。答えを記憶してしまっているかもしれませんが、回答の根拠をなぞりながら繰り返し解くことで有効な復習になります！

Going to an Art Museum

1. When was the last time you visited an art museum? Going through a lot of artwork is a ton of fun, but it is exhausting as well. Half way through the museum, you get exhausted both physically and mentally, but you keep going to the end with a slight sense of obligation, saying “I don’t want to waste the ticket money.” This might be relatable to many people. When we are in an art gallery, we often assume that we have to give a closer look at every single painting, but do we really have to? If you go into a department store to buy a shirt, for example, you will not try on every single shirt. Instead, you will only select the ones you are most interested in. If so, why are we supposed to appreciate all the paintings on the wall? Next time you go into a gallery, why don’t you go quickly, instead of stopping at every one of them? Some works will somehow exceptionally attract you, and some others won’t. Then, you ignore all the others and spend a lot more time enjoying your favorite pieces.

- (1) The word “obligation” in the passage is closest in meaning to
 - A. regret
 - B. duty
 - C. exhaustion
 - D. diligence
- (2) According to paragraph 1, what might enhance your experience when visiting an art gallery?
 - A. Feeling obligated to view every artwork on display.
 - B. Selecting only specific artworks that interest you.
 - C. Purchasing artworks that catch your eye.
 - D. Visiting every section of the gallery.

2. “Girl with a Pearl Earring” by Johannes Vermeer, a 17th-century Dutch painter. The light falling on her face immediately attracts our attention, and the contrast between blue and yellow provides a distinct harmony. It’s fascinating at the very first glance, and yet we never tire of looking at her, perhaps partly because of the conflicted look on her face. It’s hard to tell if she is happy or sad, so you may have second thoughts every time you come back to her. This little ambiguity excites our imagination. Who is she? What does she feel on the inside? What is she looking at? If she is staring at the painter, what did he do to her to make her look like this? **This may not only be a portrait of a girl, but also a portrait of a relationship.** The expression on her face is perhaps reflecting how she feels about him. Then what is that relationship? They could be a father and a daughter, lovers, or possibly a more complicated and intimate relationship. You can forget about seeking the right answer and simply enjoy the freedom of imagination.



- (3) According to paragraph 2, what aspect of "Girl with a Pearl Earring" primarily captivates the viewers?

- A. The precise historical context of the painting.
- B. The clear and joyful expression of the girl.
- C. The ambiguity of the girl’s expression and the possible meanings behind it.
- D. The professional relationship between the artist and the model.

- (4) Which of the following text best express the essential information in the highlighted sentence?

**This may not only be a portrait of a girl,
but also a portrait of a relationship.**

- A. Their relationship must be more than just a father and a daughter.
- B. The painter wanted to have a relationship with the girl.
- C. The expression on her face makes us confused about her feeling.
- D. The look on her face is giving us a clue to speculate on what might be the relationship between the girl and the painter.

3. "The Calling of Saint Matthew" by Caravaggio, 1600. It depicts the moment from the Bible where Jesus Christ calls on the Roman tax collector Matthew to follow him, and is often cited as a defining work of the Baroque movement. Though it's quite famous, there has been an unsolved mystery in this painting. We still don't know which man in the picture is Saint Matthew. Scholars have been discussing this question for ages, but they haven't reached a consensus. So we don't have to stick to getting the right answer. We can enjoy the freedom of various interpretations.
4. Besides, we don't need to appreciate the work in a religious context. You can simply enjoy the dynamic depiction of the movements and the bold contrast between light and dark. Also, you can imagine and construct a completely different story behind this scene. Furthermore, we don't necessarily have to be moved by the painting just because it is considered a masterpiece. If it doesn't pull on your heartstrings, there is no problem with it at all. When engaging with art, you can allow yourself to be more honest with your own feelings.



- (5) According to paragraph 3, what makes "The Calling of Saint Matthew" by Caravaggio particularly intriguing for viewers?
- A. Its clear depiction of historical figures.
 - B. The unresolved mystery of which figure is Saint Matthew.
 - C. Vibrant movements of the people.
 - D. The universal agreement on the painting's interpretation.
- (6) According to paragraph 4, how should one approach viewing "The Calling of Saint Matthew"?
- A. Through personal interpretation and honest emotional response.
 - B. Through the earnest respect to all the honor that it has earned.
 - C. By strictly adhering to its religious significance.
 - D. By understanding the historical context of the painting's creation.

5. “The Night Watch” by Rembrandt, perhaps the most famous work of his long career. Many of us have probably seen this before, but many of us might have not looked attentively at this painting. As soon as we recognize this picture, we tend to just give it a quick glance and think, “Oh, I have seen it before.”
6. Generally speaking, careful observation is quite difficult. When we classify an object as something we have already known, we tend not to give it a closer look anymore. For example, when we see somebody very familiar to us, our brain soon identifies the person, and we usually do not look further into him or her. Classification is a natural function of our brain to reduce the **cognitive** load. If we gaze at everything in our sight, we will soon be mentally depleted. However, we may overlook subtle yet important changes such as an alteration in her hairstyle, a shift in her mood from the previous day, or signs of poor health.
7. Go back again to the piece by Rembrandt. It is known by the title “The Night Watch,” but is it really a night scene? If you take the time to observe it, you will know that no one in the picture has a torch. The left hand of the man in the middle is casting a vivid shadow. In fact, the dark tone of the painting is due to discoloration with time. Someone called it “The Night Watch,” and it prevailed.



- (7) The word “cognitive” in the passage is closest in meaning to
- A. visible
 - B. emotional
 - C. intellectual
 - D. behavioral
- (8) According to paragraph 6, what is a potential drawback of the brain's tendency to classify familiar objects?
- A. It increases the cognitive load by requiring us to remember details.
 - B. It prevents us from recognizing people we know.
 - C. It may cause us to overlook important changes.
 - D. It makes us mentally exhausted by constant scrutiny.
- (9) According to paragraph 7, why might Rembrandt's "The Night Watch" be mistakenly considered a depiction of a night scene?
- A. It was originally painted with a darker palette.
 - B. It is always displayed under low light in museums.
 - C. Historical documents describe it as a night scene.
 - D. The title and discoloration over time have contributed to the misconception.

8. "The Starry Night" by Vincent van Gogh, **permanently** exhibited at The Museum of Modern Art or MoMA in New York City. Painted in June 1889, it depicts the view from the east-facing window of his hospital room. It is widely regarded as his masterpiece, and considered to be one of the most iconic paintings in Western art. What makes it so captivating?
9. There is an intriguing study from Michigan State University that has shed light on the potential of the arts. The research team shows that the most accomplished scientists, including Nobel Prize winners, were 2.8 times more likely than average to have an artistic hobby. There must be some correlation between intellectual achievements and artistic excellence. What is common to scientists and artists is their curiosity about the cosmos and their perseverance to describe their view of the world in their language. We see the reality not directly but through some human filters and biases. Scientists use mathematical languages to explain the world, while artists express their perception with colors and shapes.
10. **Vincent van Gogh was among one of them.** Shortly before he finished this work, Van Gogh wrote to his sister that he struggled with the night sky. He wanted to communicate how the light and wind looked to his eyes. "The Starry Night" is probably a statement of his world view; a challenge to describe the world in a way that nobody ever could.



- (10) The word "permanently" in the passage is closest in meaning to
- A. forever
 - B. always
 - C. beautifully
 - D. showily
- (11) According to paragraph 9, which of the following is NOT true?
- A. We can't perceive the objective reality as it is.
 - B. Great scientists are more likely to be successful in art.
 - C. Both scientists and artists work on explaining their world view.
 - D. Scientists and artists use their own medium to describe the reality.
- (12) Which of the following text best express the essential information in the highlighted sentence?

Vincent van Gogh was among one of them.

- A. Van Gogh was much more like a scientist than an artist.
- B. Van Gogh was inspired by other artists who had the same motivation.
- C. Like scientists and other artists, Van Gogh wanted to show how he comprehend the world.
- D. Van Gogh's perception of the world was as eccentric as other artists.

Answers

- (1) B
- (2) B
- (3) C
- (4) D
- (5) B
- (6) A
- (7) C
- (8) C
- (9) D
- (10) B
- (11) B
- (12) C

(1) 文中の“obligation（義務）”と意味が最も近いのは

- A. regret（後悔）
- B. duty（義務）**
- C. exhaustion（疲労）
- D. diligence（勤勉さ）

(2) 1段落によると、アート ギャラリーを訪れる際の体験を向上させるものは?

- A. Feeling obligated to view every artwork on display.（展示されているすべての作品を見なければならないという義務感）
- B. Selecting only specific artworks that interest you.（興味のある特定の作品だけを選択すること）**
- C. Purchasing artworks that catch your eye.（目に留まった作品を購入すること）
- D. Visiting every section of the gallery.（ギャラリーのすべてのセクションを訪問すること）

(3) 2段落によると「真珠の耳飾りの少女」の主に視聴者を魅了するのはどのような側面か?

- A. The precise historical context of the painting.（絵画の正確な歴史的背景）
- B. The clear and joyful expression of the girl.（少女の澄んだ喜びの表情）
- C. The ambiguity of the girl's expression and the possible meanings behind it.（少女の表情の曖昧さとその背後にある考えられる意味）**
- D. The professional relationship between the artist and the model.（アーティストとモデルの間の職業上の関係）

(4) 次のテキストのうち、ハイライトされた文の重要な情報を最もよく表現しているものはどれですか?

This may not only be a portrait of a girl, but also a portrait of a relationship.
（これは単なる少女の肖像ではなく、人間関係の肖像でもあるのかもしれません）

- A. Their relationship must be more than just a father and a daughter.（彼らの関係は単なる父親と娘以上のものかもしれない）
- B. The painter wanted to have a relationship with the girl.（画家はその少女と関係を持ちたかった）
- C. The expression on her face makes us confused about her feeling.（彼女の顔の表情は、彼女の気持ちについて我々を当惑させる）

D. The look on her face is giving us a clue to speculate on what might be the relationship between the girl and the painter.（彼女の顔の表情は、少女と画家との関係を推測する手がかりを与えている）

(5) 3段落によると、カラヴァッジョの「聖マタイの召命」が視聴者にとって特に興味深いのは何ですか?

- A. Its clear depiction of historical figures.（歴史上の人物の明確な描写）
- B. The unresolved mystery of which figure is Saint Matthew.（どの人物が聖マタイなのかという未解決の謎）**
- C. Vibrant movements of the people.（人々のいきいきとした動き）
- D. The universal agreement on the painting's interpretation.（絵画の解釈に関する世界共通の合意）

(6) 4段落によると、この作品とどのように向き合うのがよいか?

- A. Through personal interpretation and honest emotional response.（個人的な解釈と正直な感情的反応を通じて）**
- B. Through the earnest respect to all the honor that it has earned.（作品が獲得してきた名誉に心からの敬意を表して）
- C. By strictly adhering to its religious significance.（その宗教的重要性を厳密に遵守する）
- D. By understanding the historical context of the painting's creation.（絵画の創作の歴史的背景を理解する）

(7) 文中の“cognitive（認知的な）”と意味が最も近いのは

- A. visible（目に見える）
- B. emotional（感情的な）
- C. intellectual（知的な）**
- D. behavioral（行動に関する）

(8) 8段落によると、馴染みのある物体を分類する脳の傾向の潜在的な欠点は?

- A. It increases the cognitive load by requiring us to remember details.（詳細を記憶する必要があるため、認知的負荷が増加する）
- B. It prevents us from recognizing people we know.（知っている人を認識できなくなる）
- C. It may cause us to overlook important changes.（重要な変化を見落とす可能性がある）**
- D. It makes us mentally exhausted by constant scrutiny.（絶え間ない観察によって精神的に疲れてしまう）

(9) 7段落によると、なぜレンブラントの「夜警」が誤って夜の情景を描いたものとみなされるのか?

- A. It was originally painted with a darker palette.（元々は暗めの色合いで塗られていたから）
- B. It is always displayed under low light in museums.（美術館では常に暗い場所で展示されているから）
- C. Historical documents describe it as a night scene.（史料には夜景として記載されているから）
- D. The title and discoloration over time have contributed to the misconception.（タイトルと経年による変色が誤解を招いているから）**

(10) 文中の“permanently（絶えず）” in the passage is closest in meaning to

- A. forever（永遠に）
- B. always（常に）**

C. beautifully (美しく)

D. showily (目につくように)

permanently自体には「永遠に」という意味もあるが、permanently exhibitedで「常設展示されている」という意味になるのでBが正解。

(11) 9段落の内容に合致しないのは?

A. We can't perceive the objective reality as it is. (私たちは客観的な現実をそのまま認識することはできない)

B. Great scientists are more likely to be successful in art. (偉大な科学者は芸術の分野で成功する可能性が高い)

C. Both scientists and artists work on explaining their world view. (科学者も芸術家も自分たちの世界観を説明することに取り組んでいる)

D. Scientists and artists use their own medium to describe the reality. (科学者や芸術家は、現実を記述するために各々の媒体を使用している)

(12) 次のうち、ハイライトされた文の重要な情報を最もよく表現しているものは?

A. Van Gogh was much more like a scientist than an artist. (ゴッホは芸術家というよりも科学者に近い人物だった)

B. Van Gogh was inspired by other artists who had the same motivation. (ゴッホは、同じ動機を持つ他の芸術家からインスピレーションを受けた)

C. Like scientists and other artists, Van Gogh wanted to show how he comprehend the world. (科学者や他の芸術家と同じように、ゴッホも世界をどのように理解しているかを示したかった)

D. Van Gogh's perception of the world was as eccentric as other artists. (ゴッホの世界認識は、他の芸術家と同様に風変わりだった)