Studying at an American University

VOA Special English Higher Education Report

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本書は、2006年9月6日より約1年間にわたって Voice of America (VOA) が Special English で放送した、Higher Education Report の中の全43回の Foreign Student Series 中から30回分を選定し、関連する2つのレポートで1ユニットを構成する全15ユニットのリスニング用教科書に編集したものです。

Special English は、英語学習者にとっての格好の教材として定評がある。通常の発話スピードの約2/3の速さ、約1,700語にコントロールされた語彙、過去に複雑な構造を使わない文章といった特徴があり、VOAはこの放送が必ずしも英語学習者だけを対象にしたものではないとしているものの、英語を学習する世界中の初級から中級学習者のための聞き取る演習教材として大変貴重な素材となっている。

本書の各ユニットは、Part 1と Part 2から構成される。Part 1は、オーソドックスなリスニング演習である。語彙の確認、大まかなあらすじの聞き取り、個別の情報の確認、レポート細部の語句の正確な聞き取りと順を追ってより正確な聞き取りへの訓練をおこなう。本書では、学習者が自分自身で何度でも聞き返し、これらの作業がおこなえるように、各ユニット Part 1の音声データを、付属の学生用CDに収録している。

Part 2は、リスニング能力の総合的完成を目指す野心的な構成となっている。このパートでは、学習者は、レポートを聞きながらスクリプトを目で追うことが求められる。このような作業の中で学習者が求められることは、レポートを聞きながら、それぞれのセクションがどのようなことを伝えているのかをまとめていくことである。スクリプトという補助的手段を活用することにより、聞きながら内容を大ぐにまとめるというリスニングで最終的に目指す能力の養成を目的としている。また、この演習では、スクリプトの英文を日本語で考えることなく、聴こえてくる順に前から読んでいくことが求められ、いわゆる英文直読直解の演習にも同時になっている。

本書は、Unit 1 ～ 3 を平尾日出夫、Unit 4 ～ 6 を清水裕子、Unit 7 ～ 9 を杉森直樹、Unit 10 ～ 12 を野澤健、Unit 13 ～ 15 を野澤和典が担当した。

本書の編集に当たっては、初稿段階で立命館大学法学部准教授の Lachlan Jackson 氏に原稿全般にわたって校正にご協力をいただいた。また、本書の企画段階から出版にいたるまで、英宝社の宇治正夫氏に大変献身的なご援助をいただいた。ここに執筆者一同を代表し、心より感謝の意を表するものである。

2009年7月31日
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VOA スペシャル・イングリッシュ
— アメリカ留学特集 —
Unit 1

The Start

Part 1

Introduction to Our Foreign Student Series

1. 語句の確認

語句の意味を確認し、次の設問に答えなさい。

① document  ② financial  ③ aid  ④ employment  ⑤ requirement
⑥ threat  ⑦ terrorism  ⑧ government  ⑨ purpose  ⑩ transcript
下の定義に相当する語句を選びなさい。

(a) an object or goal of an action or a plan (①)
(b) help or support (②)
(c) having a job (③)
(d) a typed out content of a lecture, speech or interview (④)
(e) something that endangers or worries you (⑤)
(f) related to money (⑥)
(g) a paper or a set of papers specifying the detailed content of something (⑦)
(h) a body that runs a country, state, prefecture or city (⑧)
(i) something which must be done before doing something else (⑨)
(j) the act of using violence as a way to change the world (⑩)

2. 聞いてみよう 1：トピックの確認

レクチャーを聴いて、下の(a)～(d)のトピックが登場する順にならべなさい。

Start of a new series
(1)
Students’ questions
What will be talked about in this series
(2)
(3)
(4)
Questions welcome
Data available

| (a) Planning important | (b) Influence of terrorism |
| (c) Additional reports | (d) Last series two years ago |

3. 聞いてみよう 2：内容の確認

(1)～(5)の設問を確認しなさい。次にレクチャーを聴きながら、設問に対する最も適切な答を選ぶなさい。設問はレクチャーに登場する順に出題されます。

(1) What is the main topic of this series?

(a) The most current government information.
(b) The process of becoming an international student.
(c) Programs that some universities or colleges offer.
(2) What are foreign students interested in?

(a) Finding, getting into, and paying for the school.
(b) Getting an airline ticket and getting through immigration.
(c) Finding out about government services and language institutions.

(3) They will talk about the American education system, financial situation, and the information centers outside the United States.

(a) required subjects
(b) English manners
(c) language requirements

(4) What other topics do their reports include?

(a) Reports about those who want to attend the American universities.
(b) Government programs that will help international students.
(c) How to take lectures from distant places.

(5) What did the threat of terrorism cause?

(a) The police had to interview so many students.
(b) Some of the rules were changed.
(c) People in education began to refuse foreign students.

4. 書き取り

レクチャーを繰り返し聴いて、以下の空所に適切な語句を補いなさい。

This week, we begin a series of reports for students (1 ) who are interested in higher education in the United States.

The last time we broadcast our Foreign Student Series was two years ago. Since then we have gotten more requests for information about (2 ) an American college or university.

So we will present new reports in our series with (3 ).

Each week, we will discuss a part of the process for becoming an international student in the United States.

Students have many questions: How do I (4 ) about schools? How do I choose the right one for me? Which tests must I take? What kinds of documents
will I need? And a big question — how much will it all cost?

Listen for answers to these and other questions over the coming weeks.

Our reports will describe the American system of higher education. We will talk about financial aid and rules about employment. We will also discuss (5 ). And we will tell you where to look in other countries for information and advice about studying in the United States.

Our reports will also take you inside some of the colleges and universities in the United States. We will explore programs of study and report on student life. Students who are not able to come to the United States will find out how to take classes (6 ).

In addition, we will examine how (7 ) has changed some of the rules for study in the United States.

In researching our series, we talked to people in education and government and to foreign students.

Planning is important to (8 ) of an educational experience. And that is the purpose of our series — to help you plan.

We would like to hear from anyone who has a general question about studying in the United States. We will answer questions in our reports. And we will try to answer (9 ) as possible during our series. Write to special@voanews.com, or VOA Special English, Washington, D. C., two-zero-two-three-seven U. S. A.

And that’s the VOA Special English Education Report, written by Nancy Steinbach. (10 ) of each report in our Foreign Student Series will appear online at voaspecialenglish.com. I’m Steve Ember.
This is the VOA Special English Education Report.

This week, in our Foreign Student Series, we discuss the first steps to studying in the United States.

Step one is to visit an American educational advising center. There are more than four hundred of these offices around the world. You can find them through the State Department Web site for international students. We will give that address later.

Or you can ask the public affairs office at a United States embassy to tell you where to find the nearest advising center.

Step two is to start gathering information about the different choices in higher education programs in the United States.

Some schools, for example, offer one-year certificate programs. These are in subjects like computer programming, public relations and administrative work.

Junior or community colleges offer a two-year associate degree. These programs can prepare students for skilled jobs. Or, if students want to continue their education, many universities accept this work as the first two years toward a bachelor’s degree.

To get a bachelor’s degree, students traditionally take general subjects during the
first two years. These include areas like history, literature, mathematics and science. After that they take classes in their major area of study.

At the graduate school level, a master’s degree can take up to three years to complete. A doctorate can take four to six years. But some medical specialties, for example, require years more of study.

Whatever you choose, educational advisers say you should begin to plan at least two years before you want to start classes in the United States.

The address of the State Department Web site for international students is educationusa.state.gov.

If you would like to ask us a question about education in the United States, send it to special@voanews.com. We cannot help with individual cases. But we might be able to answer a general question on the air as our Foreign Student Series continues.

And that’s the VOA Special English Education Report, written by Nancy Steinbach. Transcripts and audio files of each report in our series will appear on our Web site, voaspecialenglish.com. Next week, the subject is the difference between a college and a university. I’m Doug Johnson.

* 聴き終わった後で、それぞれのパラグラフの内容についてグループで話し合いなさい。

1. アメリカ留学の第一段階は、____________________________________________________

2. その他の情報源は、_________________________________________________________

3. 第二段階は、______________________________________________________________

—8—
4. サティフィケート・プログラムには、


5. ジュニア・カレッジの学生は、


6. 学士号を取るには、


7. 大学院レベルでは、


8. 留学カウンセラーの助言は、


