

英文和訳道場 第38回

組 () 番号 () 氏名 ()

The commonest form of forgetfulness, I suppose, occurs in the matter of posting letters. (1) So common is it that I am always reluctant to trust a departing visitor to post an important letter. (2) So little do I rely on his memory that I put him on his oath before handing the letter to him. As for myself, anyone who asks me to post a letter is a poor judge of character. Even if I carry the letter in my hand I am always past the first pillar-box before I remember that I ought to have posted it. (3) Weary of holding it in my hand, I then put it for safety into one of my pockets and forget all about it. After that, it has an unadventurous life, until a long chain of circumstances leads to a number of embarrassing questions being asked, and I am compelled to produce (4) the evidence of my guilt from my pocket. This, it might be thought, must be due to a lack of interest in other people's letters; but that cannot be the explanation, for I forget to post some even of the few letters that I myself remember to write.

設問1 下線部(1)を和訳しなさい。

設問2 下線部(2)を和訳しなさい。

設問3 下線部(3)を和訳しなさい。

設問4 下線部(4)は具体的には何を表すか。本文中の英語2語で答えよ。

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(1) The commonest form of forgetfulness, I suppose, occurs in the matter of posting letters.

<u><The commonest form>of<forgetfulness></u>	occurs
S	V

- * commonest form of A = Aの最も一般的な型
- * the matter of A = Aの問題

【全訳例】物忘れが一番よく現れるのが手紙を出すときだ。

(2) So common is it that I am always reluctant to trust a departing visitor to post an important letter.

It	is	so common
A	=	B

that I am always reluctant to trust a departing visitor to post an important letter

that	I	am	always reluctant
A	=	B	

- * reluctant to ~ = ししぶししぶする、~するのに気が進まない
- * departing visitor = 帰ろうとしている客
- * trust 人 to ~ = 人に~を任せる・委託する

【全訳例】あまりによく忘れるので、帰ろうとしている客に大切な手紙を出すのを任せる気にはならない。

(3) So little do I rely on his memory that I put him on his oath before handing the letter to him.

I	rely on	his memory	so little
S	V	O	

that I put him on his oath before handing the letter to him

that	I	put	him
S	V	O	

- * put someone on one's oath = 人に誓いを立てさせる、約束させる。ものすごく古い言い方で今では使わない。多分 Dickens の書いたエッセイか何かだろう。

【全訳例】人の記憶力などほとんど信用していないので、僕は手紙を手渡す前に忘れずに投函すると誓いを立てさせるくらいだ。

(4) As for myself, anyone who asks me to post a letter is a poor judge of character.

As for myself

anyone	is	a poor judge of character
A	=	B

who asks me to post a letter

- * as for me = 僕はどうかと言えば
- * a poor judge of character = 人を見る目がない

【全訳例】僕はどうかと言えば、僕に手紙を出すように頼む奴は、人を見る目がない。

(5) Even if I carry the letter in my hand I am always past the first pillar-box before I remember that I ought to have posted it.

Even if	I	carry	the letter	in my hand
	s	V	O	

I	am always	past the first pillar-box
A	=	B

before	I	remember	that I	(ought to) have posted	it
	S	V		O	

- * pillar-box = 郵便ポスト

【全訳例】その手紙を手にとっていても、それを出さなきゃならないことに気づく前に、郵便ポストをいつも通り過ぎてしまうのだ。

(6) Weary of holding it in my hand, I then put it for safety into one of my pockets and forget all about it.

Because	I	am	weary of holding it in my hand
	A	=	B

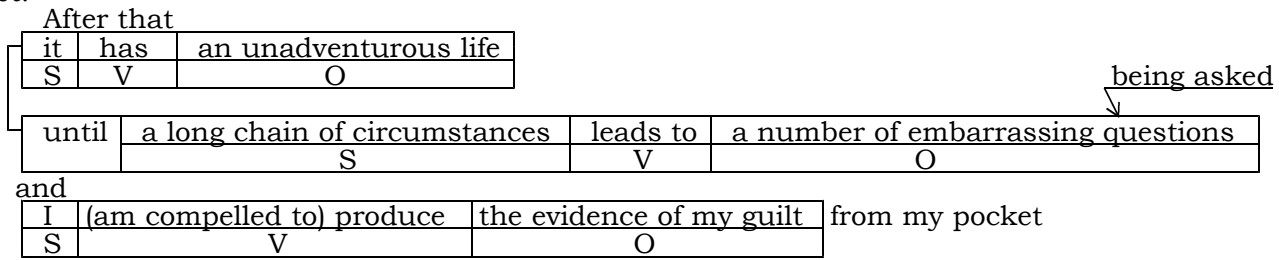
I	put	it	for safety
S	V	O	

and forget all about it into one of my pockets

- * weary of Aing = Aにうんざりしている、飽き飽きしている。分詞構文に注意すること。

【全訳例】手紙を手をしているのが鬱陶しくて、僕は安全を考えてそれをポケットに押し込み、そのことをすっかり忘れてしまう。

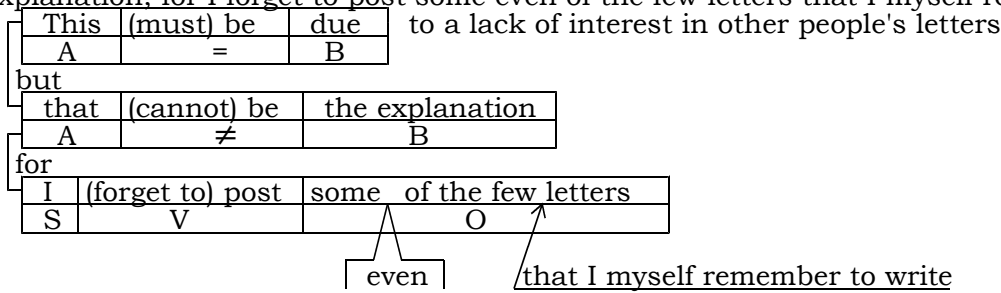
(7)After that, it has an unadventurous life, until a long chain of circumstances leads to a number of embarrassing questions being asked, and I am compelled to produce the evidence of my guilt from my pocket.



- * unadventurous life = 平凡な生活。it は当然手紙。「手紙は平凡な生活を送っている」ではおかしいね。
- * A lead to B = A は B につながる、A は B の原因となる、A は結果として B を引き起こす
- * a long chain of A = 一連の A
- * embarrassing question = 当惑する質問 = 「手紙出してくれた？」という質問
- * be compelled to do = やむを得ず～する、せざるを得ない

【全訳例】一連の状況証拠から今まで何度も人から尋ねられたいやな質問につながるまで、手紙は何事もなくポケットの中におさまっている。そして、僕はやむを得ずポケットの中から僕が罪を犯したという証拠を引っ張り出す。

(8)This, it might be thought, must be due to a lack of interest in other people's letters; but that cannot be the explanation, for I forget to post some even of the few letters that I myself remember to write.



- * A is due to B = A は B が原因である、B のせいで A が起こる cf. A lead to B の逆であることに注意
 - * remember to do = 忘れずに～する
- 【全訳例】これは僕が他人の手紙に対する興味を欠いているせいに違いないのだろうが、それでは説明がつかない。なぜなら僕は自分が忘れずに書こうと思っている手紙さえも、投函するのを忘れてしまうのだから。