

また、この季節がやってきました。

今まで蒔いてきた種が芽吹く春を迎えるための、最後の試練の時です。

授業を、映像を、そしてこの文章を通じて出会った貴方に、最高の笑顔の花が咲くことを心より祈りつつ、 最後の力試しの機会を贈りたいと思います。

こんにちは、研伸館英語科の池吉です。今回の問題は、1973 年(昭和 48 年)の京都大学から。出典は Malcolm Bradbury の *The Social Context of Modern English Literature* です。この文章で論じられている のは、恐らく現代文でもお目に掛かるであろう『モダン (modern)』についてです。と言っても、いわゆる ポストモダン (Postmodern) を直球で扱うのではなく、modern という語のもつ意味をより深く考えてみたいと思います。

それでは、解説編で再びお会いしましょう。

問 アンダーラインをほどこした個所(1~3)を和訳せよ。

One of the most important ideas of modern man is his idea of the modern itself. (1) Of course men have always lived in "modern" times, but perhaps they have never been as much impressed by the fact. The word "modern" has not always been a weighty word; (2) but for us it is, and behind it lies a particular idea of history and of our relationship to it. We assume that we live in a world of ceaseless change, and that our problems are persistently novel, and precedent and the past are almost no guides. And so to be modern is not only to live now, but to live now in an unprecedented way. (3) Men in the past also must obviously have had a feeling of the distinction between the lives of their generation and previous ones. Yet nowadays we surely feel the situation in a very different way, both because the speed of change has enormously accelerated, and because we depend on it and, in a sense, make use of it.