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Aomori Prefecture English Education Society

Notice the Difference で学んでみよう

今回のテーマは「Notice the Difference」です。異なる数種類の絵を見比べて、違いを見つけるゲームで、日本語では「まちがいさがし」と呼ばれます。最近思い浮かぶのは菅田将暉さんの歌でしょうか。以下の4種類の英文(文法的な間違いがあるわけではありません)を熟読してみてください。そして、英語にしかけられた形式上の「違い」とそれによって生み出される意味上・機能上の「違い」について、我々もコツをつかみながら、「ひとつずつ探し当てていこう起きがけの子どもみたいに」。

NOTICE THE DIFFERENCE

Most people like solving the 'Notice the Difference' puzzles you sometimes find in magazines. In these puzzles, you have to identify several differences in the two illustrations that are shown. This month, I would like to do the same thing with English. In the following passages, there are several pieces of information. However, the exact information, together with the relationships that are created between the pieces of information, is different for each passage. Read the passages ... think about your understanding of each ... and then 'Notice the Difference.' Here are some hints to help you: look for (1) basic information; (2) event relationships; (3) understanding the situation; (4) the excuse; and (5) the unexpected information.

Passage 1

After I picked her up at her hotel, we stopped to eat lunch at a Chinese restaurant on the way to the museum. I know that she doesn't like Chinese food, but that was the most convenient restaurant on the way. The waiter that served us was from Korea!

Passage 2

I picked her up and then we went for lunch to a Chinese restaurant. It was near the Modern Art Museum. Even though she is not interested in art, there was nothing else to do until the party that evening. The exhibition featured Edo-period paintings!

Passage 3

After I went to get her at her hotel, I took her to the Museum of Modern Art. On the way, we stopped to eat lunch. Even though she doesn't like Chinese food, there were no other restaurants on the way. At the museum, we were able to see a special exhibition of Edo-period paintings.

Passage 4

I got her at the hotel and then we decided to go to the Museum of Modern Art. She was hungry so we had stop to eat lunch—there was a Chinese restaurant. I know that she doesn't like modern art, but that was the only thing to do all afternoon. At the restaurant, we were served by a waiter who was from Korea.

So ... could you 'Notice the Difference'? Let's analyze what is happening in each of the four passages.

Passage 1:

- (1) basic information: picked her up / Chinese restaurant / museum / Korean waiter
- (2) event relationships: After I picked her up ... we stopped on the way
- (3) understanding the situation: I know that she doesn't like Chinese food, but ...
- (4) the excuse: it was the most convenient restaurant on the way
- (5) the unexpected information: it was a Chinese restaurant, but the waiter was from Korea

Passage 2:

- (1) basic information: picked her up / Chinese restaurant / Modern Art Museum / Edo-period paintings
- (2) event relationships: I picked her up and then we went to a restaurant
- (3) understanding the situation: Even though she isn't interested in art,
- (4) the excuse: there was nothing else to do until evening
- (5) the unexpected information: it was a museum of modern art, but the exhibition was Edo-period paintings

Passage 3:

- (1) basic information: went to get her / Museum of Modern Art / Chinese food / Edo-period paintings
- (2) event relationships: After I went to get her ... I took her to ... On the way, we stopped to eat lunch
- (3) understanding the situation: Even though she doesn't like Chinese food,
- (4) the excuse: there were no other restaurants on the way
- (5) the unexpected information: a modern art museum, but we were able to see an Edo-period painting exhibition

Passage 4:

- (1) basic information: got her at the hotel / Museum of Modern Art / hungry=lunch / Korean waiter
- (2) event relationships: got her ... we decided to go ... she was hungry ... had to stop
- (3) understanding the situation: I know she doesn't like modern art, but
- (4) the excuse: it was the only thing to do all afternoon
- (5) the unexpected information: it was a Chinese restaurant, but we were served by a waiter from Korea

Next REAL ENGLISH: APRIL 2024!

◇雪が「青森の冬」の一つの目安だとすれば、今年は冬が行ったり来たり、非常に体調を整えることが難しい冬でした。さていよいよ春ですね。わくわくするような新しい出会いの季節がやってきます。外国語教育においても、新たな視点の獲得の機会になりますね。(文責 伴)

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