

3. 物語文

3-1 将来の目標とボランティア活動についての物語

出典：平成30年度 都立高等学校入学者選抜 学力検査問題（分割後期募集・全日制第二次募集）英語 大問4

Shota was a second-year high school student.

He was in the Tennis Club and enjoyed its activities.

One day in June, he had an interview with his homeroom teacher, Ms. Ishii.

She said to him, "I heard that you want to go to university. What do you want to study?"

Shota couldn't answer because he didn't have a clear plan for his future.

Ms. Ishii said, "You have to decide by September. You should think about your future."

Ms. Ishii added, "Time passes very quickly. You should start to do that. I know you practice tennis very hard. Why don't you try doing something else, too?"

Shota said he would, but he didn't know what to do.

One Friday afternoon in July, Kohei, a former captain of the Tennis Club, visited a club practice.

Now he was in his first year at university.

Shota respected Kohei.

Kohei was a great tennis player and very kind to everyone.

After the practice, Shota and Kohei left school together.

Shota told Kohei about the interview with Ms. Ishii.

Kohei said, "How about coming to my university tomorrow? I teach Japanese to students from abroad every Saturday as a volunteer. The students are very interesting. They may give you good ideas about your future."

Shota agreed to do that.

The next Saturday, Shota visited Kohei at his university.

There were about twenty students and twenty volunteer teachers.

Each teacher had one student to teach.

The students there were all students at Kohei's university.

On that day, Kohei's student was Asha, from India.

She was twenty years old.

Shota was with him.

After the class, Shota asked her, "What are you studying now?"

She answered, "Technology. I want to design cars at a Japanese car company."

Shota was surprised to hear such a clear plan.

Shota asked, "When did you start to think about your plan?"

She answered, "When I was fifteen."

Shota was surprised again.

She continued, "We saw many Japanese cars in India. I liked them very much because they looked good and they lasted for a long time. I heard Japanese cars were good for the environment. Then I got interested in Japanese technology and hoped to study in Japan."

Asha said, "I'm really excited to be here in Japan. I hope that in the future people in India will drive cars designed by me. I want people in my country to live more safely and happily."

Shota thought Asha's plan was wonderful.

After the visit, Shota asked, "Why did you start to teach there?"

Kohei answered, "When I was in my second year in high school, I participated in an English speech contest."

"You were busy with club activities every day and also participated in a contest!" said Shota.

Kohei said, "Yes, I did that because I was interested in English. At the contest, one student spoke about teaching Japanese to children from abroad as a volunteer. I became interested in teaching Japanese, and I started to do it."

"I'm surprised," Shota said.

Kohei smiled and said, "I started to teach at my university this April. When I find something interesting to do, I always try it. Participating in the speech contest stimulated me, and I began to think about my future."

He added, "As a volunteer, I have met a lot of people from other countries. I have a plan for the future. Now I want to study how to teach Japanese better, and I want to teach Japanese abroad after graduation from university."

Shota was moved to hear that.

Kohei continued, "It's necessary for you to think about different kinds of activities. One of my classmates in high school told me to do that. She was a member of the School Festival Executive Committee. And she also participated in summer festivals many times as a volunteer in her local area. She wants to do something which will make our society better. Now she is studying political science."

Shota thanked him for his advice.

In August, Shota started to take care of children at a community center near his house as a volunteer.

He enjoyed playing with children and helping them with their homework.

He thought, "I don't have a clear plan for my future yet, but I have taken a first step."

3-2 合唱コンクールでの挑戦と成長の物語

出典：令和5年度 都立高等学校入学者選抜 学力検査問題（分割後期募集・全日制第二次募集）英語 大問4

Sora was a second-year junior high school student.

One day in July, he went to school with Kota, one of his friends.

He said to Kota, "Tomorrow, our class will choose the conductor for the chorus contest at our school. I want to be the conductor."

Kota was surprised to hear that.

He said, "Really? Why?"

Sora said, "At the chorus contest last year, it was the first time for me to see a conductor. A third-year student conducted a chorus very well, and I was moved. I want to be a conductor like him. If I am chosen, conducting the chorus will be something new for me."

Kota said, "That sounds nice! I know you're good at singing. I hope that you will be the conductor."

Sora was happy to hear that.

The next day, the homeroom teacher, Ms. Uchiyama, said, "Is there anyone who wants to be the conductor?"

Five students raised their hands.

She was glad to see that.

She said, "Next week, I'll give you an audition after school. You know the assigned piece, and you can practice conducting it."

That night, Sora was watching a video.

Yui, his sister, a first-year high school student, saw that.

She asked him, "What are you watching?"

He answered, "I'm watching a video that shows how to conduct. Next week, there will be an audition to choose my class's conductor for a chorus contest. I am going to take the audition."

Yui said, "Wonderful! I hope you are chosen."

At the audition, Sora did his best.

He conducted very well, and he was the best of the five students.

His classmates chose him as the conductor for the contest.

Sora was happy.

After the summer vacation, the students in Sora's class continued to practice singing.

But Sora was not happy with his conducting.

He didn't know how to improve the singing.

There were three groups of students: soprano, alto, and tenor.

One day, in September, the first rehearsal was held.

Sora stood in front of his classmates.

He was very nervous.

He looked at them.

They looked very nervous, too.

Then they couldn't sing as well as usual.

After the rehearsal, Erisa, one of Sora's friends, said, "We have been practicing very hard.

But we didn't do well. I don't think that we can improve anymore."

Sora was disappointed to hear that.

Sora said to Kota, "I don't know what to do."

Kota said to Sora, "Don't give up! You were chosen."

After Sora went home, he thought, "What should I do?"

Then he watched a video about a chorus contest of the past.

Many third-year-students appeared in it.

They were practicing singing and talking about it a lot.

A conductor spoke to his classmates in the video.

After watching the video, Sora knew how to improve his classmates' singing.

The next day, before the practice, Sora said, "I think there must be something we can do. I would like to listen to your opinions. Can you give me a suggestion?"

Each of the three groups gave him many good suggestions about different parts of the song.

Erisa said, "Each group should listen more to the singing of the other groups."

Sora wrote all the suggestions down on his score.

After the practice, he added his own ideas, too.

In the next practice, Sora told his classmates about his own ideas.

They said that they agreed with his ideas and wanted to try them.

Erisa said, "Let's sing again."

Later, the second rehearsal was held.

Ms. Uchiyama listened to the song sung by her class.

She thought that it was wonderful.

She asked Sora, "How did you improve so much?"

He answered, "We all worked together and helped each other. We all gave our own ideas and listened to the ideas of others. Then we tried those ideas. That is the way we improved."

On the morning of the day of the chorus contest, Sora and Kota went to school as usual.

Kota said, "I hope you enjoy conducting today. I'm sure you'll do very well."

Sora said, "Thank you, Kota. I have learned a lot of things."

Kota asked, "What do you mean?"

Sora answered, "Now I know that singing well is important and that helping each other is a wonderful thing."

They smiled at each other.

Later, Sora was standing on the stage as a conductor.

He thought, "I'm sure we'll do well."

3-3 子供たちとの交流と成長の物語

出典：令和6年度 都立高等学校入学者選抜 学力検査問題（分割後期募集・全日制第二次募集）英語 大問4

Jun was a first-year high school student in Tokyo.

One day in September of that year, one of his classmates, Naoto, said to Jun, "Next Sunday, an event called *Let's Enjoy Old Japanese Games!* will be held at the Momiji Center. I work at it as a staff member every month. Why don't you work with me?"

Jun asked, "Who comes to the event?"

Naoto answered, "It is for children from seven years old to nine years old. We'll play with them. Some other high school students will also work at the event as staff members."

He continued, "If you join us, the children will enjoy playing with you."

Jun was happy to hear that.

He said to Naoto, "I'd love to do it!"

The next Sunday, Naoto took Jun to the Momiji Center.

Ms. Aoki, a staff leader, welcomed Jun.

On that day, Naoto worked as a student staff leader.

Fifteen children came to the event.

Some children looked a little nervous.

He wanted to make them relaxed and happy.

He smiled and said, "Hello! Let's have fun!"

At the event, they played games, such as *koma*, *otedama*, *takeuma*, and *kendama*.

Naoto used simple words and gestures for them.

The children looked happy to learn how to play games.

They enjoyed the games very much.

After the event, one of the children came to Naoto and said, "It was fun. I want to do it again."

Jun thought to himself, "Naoto did very well as the leader. I want to be like him."

Jun decided to work at the events with Naoto every month.

Three months later, Ms. Aoki said to Jun, "I want you to be a student staff leader at next month's event."

He was surprised and said, "Me?"

She said, "You will be able to do it well."

Naoto also said to Jun, "That will be a good chance for you."

Jun said, "Yes."

The next month, twenty children came to the event.

During the event, Jun tried to show children how to play games, but he was so nervous that he couldn't do it like Naoto.

He just read memos and didn't pay attention to the children.

Some children didn't understand Jun's words and looked bored.

He was sad about that.

Then, some other staff members and Naoto helped Jun and told the children how to play the games again.

After that, the children enjoyed playing them.

The next day, Jun had no confidence and said to Naoto, "I worked hard, but it didn't go well at yesterday's event."

Naoto wanted to encourage him and said, "You did your best."

Jun said, "I don't know what I can do for children."

Naoto said, "I felt the same way when I worked as a leader for the first time. I think you will be able to find your own way soon."

Jun said, "Find my own way...."

After that, he thought about that for a while.

One month later, Jun got a chance to work at the event as a student staff leader again.

This time he prepared very well.

Before the event, he read memos many times and also remembered the children's names.

About twenty children came to the event.

When the event started, he called the children's names one by one.

They were surprised and felt happy.

One of the children asked Jun, "Do you remember all of our names?"

Jun smiled and answered, "Of course."

Jun said, "Let's have fun!"

This time he paid attention to the children.

He showed them well how to play games.

He and the children had a good time.

After the event, Naoto and Ms. Aoki came to Jun.

Naoto said, "It was great to call the children's names! Was that your idea?"

Jun answered, "Yes. I wanted to give the children a warm welcome by doing that."

Naoto added, "That's your own way, Jun."

Ms. Aoki smiled and said at last, "You did well, Jun. Thanks to you, I was able to see children's wonderful smiles today."

Jun felt very happy to hear that.