

《 Sample 》

Practical Skills

Today, practical skills such as using computers and speaking foreign languages are regarded as important. As a result, many schools are offering classes for these skills, and learning them gives students more opportunities to find jobs. However, some teachers say that students are losing interest in traditional subjects like math and history. Practical skills are useful, but studying traditional subjects is also important.

Your story should begin with this sentence: One day, Mr. Sato was asked something in English by a customer at his bookstore.



【 Questions 】

No. 1 According to the passage, how does learning practical skills help students?

— By giving them [students] more opportunities to find jobs.

No. 2 Now, please look at the picture and describe the situation. You have 20 seconds to prepare. Your story should begin with the sentence on the card.

<20 seconds>

Please begin.

— **One day, Mr. Sato was asked something in English by a customer at his bookstore.**

He said to the customer, “I don’t understand English.” A few seconds later, a worker at the store talked to the customer in English for him. Mr. Sato felt a little embarrassed that he could not help the customer himself. One week later, Mr. Sato started attending an English language class. He hoped that he would be able to speak with customers in English in the future.

Now, Mr. / Ms. —, please turn over the card and put it down.

No. 3 Some people say that, because of computers, people spend too much time alone.

What do you think about that?

— I agree. People don’t have to talk to others while using computers. They should have more face-to-face communication with others.

— I don’t think so. Actually, computers make it easier for us to communicate with our friends. We can e-mail them and arrange where to meet.

No. 4 Today, many schools in Japan have stopped having classes on Saturdays.

Do you think this is good for students?

Yes. → Why?

— Students have more time to spend with their friends. They also have time for volunteer and club activities.

No. → Why not?

— Schools should give more lessons to their students. Students need to study hard to pass exams and to get jobs.