

文部科学省認定社会通信教育

# 実用英語講座 準1級クラス

Practical English Course  
Grade Pre-1

# BOOK 1

1EIG0-02

## はじめに

この実用英語講座準1級クラス (Practical English Course, Grade Pre-1) は、準1級レベルの英語力を身に付けたい人を対象にした文部科学省認定の社会通信教育プログラムです。準1級で求められる英語力は、「社会性の高い分野の文章が理解でき、自分の意見を述べたり、説明したりすることができる力、日常生活の話題や社会性のある話題についてまとまりのある文章が書ける力」です。2級レベルからさらに上を目指し、このような力を付けるためには、「読む」「書く」「聞く」「話す」の4技能の全てにおいて、はるかに高いスキルに加え、高度な語彙力と正確な文法運用力が必須のものとなります。

英語力は日々のたゆまぬ地道な努力で少しずつ伸びていくものですが、意欲を持って集中して取り組むことにより、短期間で目覚ましい進歩を遂げることもあります。12週間、使える時間を全てこの講座の学習に充てて努力をすれば、3カ月後には大きな自信と成果が待っていることでしょう。

この講座は英検の対策講座ではありませんので、一次試験や二次試験対策の練習は含まれていません。しかし、この3冊を丁寧に学習し終われば、準1級レベルの英語力はもちろん、より幅広く骨太の英語力を身に付けることもできるでしょう。もし難しいと感じるなら、時間をかけて繰り返し学習してください。受講者の皆さんの熱意あふれる挑戦に期待しています。

To follow, without halt, one aim: There's the secret of success.

— Anna Pavlova

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山岡憲史

# WEEK 1

いよいよ1週目が始まります。  
新しいテキストで心も新たに、  
学習が楽しみです！

## Targets for WEEK 1

- ① 「男女の脳の違い」について知識を得ながら語彙や表現を学習する  
(DAY 1 ~ DAY 3 Listening / Speaking / Reading)
- ② プライベートメールの返信①  
(DAY 4 Writing)
- ③ 海外旅行に出掛けた際に耳にする英語を聞きながら知識を深める  
(DAY 5 Real Life & Review)

**Step 1** Before Listening

Think about the following questions.

- Q.1 Do you think there are any differences between male brains and female brains?
- Q.2 What do you think women are better at doing than men?
- Q.3 Do you think the larger the brain is, the more intelligent its owner is?

**Step 2** Listen to the Dialogue

Listen to the dialogue while taking notes, then answer each true or false question below.

- Q.1 The woman thinks brain structure may be basically the same between men and women. ( T / F )
- Q.2 Men are generally good at performing single tasks. ( T / F )
- Q.3 Social factors can affect how men and women use their brains. ( T / F )
- Q.4 Better relationships would be established if male and female brains functioned the same way. ( T / F )

## Notes

**Step 3** Listen to the Dialogue

Listen to the dialogue while taking notes again, then answer each question below.

- Q.1 What made the man think men and women may have different brain structures?
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Q.2 What are women generally good at doing?

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Q.3 According to the man's remark, what is the essential difference between men and women?

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Q.4 What will be the key to building a good relationship?

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**Step 4**  **Read the Dialogue** 



Read silently while you listen.

M : I believe men think and behave differently than women. I'm afraid they don't have the same brain structure.

W : Oh, you, too? Honestly, there are some fundamental differences between our brains. In fact, it is often said that men tend to concentrate on one thing, whereas women can do two or more things at the same time. These assertions support your opinion.

M : Yeah, but why do these differences exist?

W : To tell the truth, generally, women have a thicker corpus callosum, which links the two hemispheres of the brain. What I mean is that we women use the brain in a more balanced way than men do.

M : Oh, I see. I believe social factors have some impact on these differences, but, essentially, they are due to the fact that men and women have different types of brain structures, aren't they?

W : Exactly. If we can understand more precisely these differences between male brains and female brains, we'll be able to build better relationships with each other.

M : That's true.

**Step 5** Role Play CD1-03

Play the man's part.

**Step 6** Vocabulary & Phrases CD1-02

Listen to the dialogue again and find the English words and phrases which match the Japanese in the column on the right.

①		構造
②		根本的な
③		…に集中する
④		…だが一方
⑤		主張
⑥		…を支持する
⑦		実を言うと
⑧		…をつなぐ
⑨		(脳) 半球
⑩		本質的には
⑪		…が原因で
⑫		正確に

 参考 CD1-04

**Step 7** Summary of the Dialogue

Write a summary of the dialogue using the information and key phrases you wrote down in Steps 2 and 3. Your summary should begin with the following phrase, and should be more than 60 words, not including the given phrase.

**In this dialogue, the man and the woman are talking about**

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**Step 8** Parallel Reading

Read the dialogue on page 7 aloud while you listen.

**Further Practice** Shadowing

Listen to the dialogue again, and repeat what you are listening to without looking at the textbook.

Step 1  Review of the Previous Day 

1. Listen to the dialogue from the previous day.
2. Go back to page 7, Step 4 and play the man's part again.



## Reading for Comprehension

Step 2  Read the Passage 

Read the passage and choose the best answer from among the four choices for questions 1 to 3.

所要時間 10分

### *Differences between the Male and Female Brain*

It has been well-known for a long time that there are some differences between the male and female brain. On average, men have larger brains than women, but this does not mean that men are superior to women in terms of intelligence. Despite the fact that a lot of studies on our brain had already been done, the kind of neural circuitry\* that exists in the brain and how it affects the capacity to process information had remained undiscovered.

However, a research group has uncovered information necessary to answer these questions. The findings, written by Ragini Verma and her colleagues at the University of Pennsylvania, were recently published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)\**. They analyzed the scan data of 949 subjects (428 men and 521 women) aged eight to twenty-two using the Diffusion Tensor Imaging (DTI) method\*, and succeeded in visualizing how neural circuitry ran in the subjects' brains. The results indicated that men and women have different structures and wiring in the brain and so they use their brains differently.

According to the study, male brains had more connections between the front and back regions within each hemisphere. This means that male brains are designed to facilitate the links between perception and coordinated actions. To put it another way, men are likely to be good at concentrating on a single task at a time, such as reading maps. Female brains, on the other hand, had stronger links between the right hemisphere and the left hemisphere. Based on this fact, it is safe to say that women



are generally better at multitasking and remembering things. Interestingly, these differences between males and females are seldom seen before thirteen, but after that they begin to become more conspicuous. It is true that some differences definitely exist in the male and female brain, but we must not jump to the conclusion that the study by Ragini's research group has cleared up all the mysteries regarding our brain 25 because it is crucial to take a variety of factors, such as biological, social and cultural influences, into consideration.

Getting a grasp of the differences between the male and female brain will also provide us with opportunities to consider how to diagnose and treat brain disorders better. For example, men are more likely to be diagnosed with diseases such as 30 autism\*, schizophrenia\* and dyslexia\*. In the case of women, in contrast, depression\* and chronic anxiety\* are often seen. If we can understand the similarities and differences between the male and female brain, it will be of great help in finding out why some medicine works differently on men and women.



CD1-05

\*neural circuitry 「神経回路」

\*the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)* 「米国科学アカデミー紀要」

\*the Diffusion Tensor Imaging (DTI) method 「拡散テンソル画像 (法)」

\*autism 「自閉症」

\*schizophrenia 「統合失調症」

\*dyslexia 「失読症」

\*depression 「うつ病」

\*chronic anxiety 「慢性不安」

- Q.1 According to the passage, it is appropriate to say that
1. women generally have much bigger brains than men.
  2. brain size has nothing to do with how intelligent we are.
  3. men with large brains are usually wiser than women.
  4. much had been revealed about the neural circuitry before Ragini Verma's group published their research outcomes.
- Q.2 The results of the study by Ragini Verma tell us that
1. it is very natural that men often get lost even when reading maps.
  2. multitasking is something both men and women can do in spite of the different structures in their brains.
  3. women have extremely strong links between the front and back regions in the right hemisphere.
  4. the connections between the parts of the brain differ in men and women.
- Q.3 What does the author think about diseases and medicine?
1. One of the diseases men often suffer from is not depression but dyslexia.
  2. It is typical of women to feel uneasy just for short periods of time.
  3. The effects of drugs will not be improved by clearing up the mysteries of our brains.
  4. Women have a much greater possibility of suffering from the loss of reading ability than men.

Q.1	Q.2	Q.3

Step 3 Vocabulary & Phrases

Fill in the blanks in Japanese.

①	on a <del>er</del> rage	
②	be superior to ...	
③	in terms of ...	
④	intelligence	
⑤	despite	
⑥	finding(s)	
⑦	unco <del>er</del> r	
⑧	analy <del>er</del>	
⑨	subject	
⑩	iv <del>er</del> sualiz <del>er</del>	
⑪	indicate	
⑫	facilitate	
⑬	perception	
⑭	coordinated action	
⑮	to put it another way	
⑯	conspicuous	
⑰	definitely	
⑱	crucial	
⑲	diagnose	

