

第3部 課題

第22回 毎日パソコン入力コンクール 秋季大会


【課題】

第3部 英文A

Living the Dream

制限時間5分


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Living the Dream


Forty years after her professional debut, legendary film subtitle translator Toda Natsuko has no doubts about what motivated her to keep going over the years. 


"As a subtitler, I hoped everyone could enjoy good movies," she said. 

In a recent interview with the Mainichi Weekly, where she started a movie translation column six years before her breakout debut, she revealed she has loved movies since her elementary school days, just after the end of World War II. Sitting in the cinema, she felt moved by the Western movies she saw unfolding on screen. Their world seemed completely different from the Japan outside the cinema doors, which still bore the scars of war. 

"Kids go through a time when they are always pestering their parents to read them a book," says Toda, adding that for movies, "That time has never ended for me." 

Though subtitling was a difficult field to break into, Toda never gave up on realizing her dream, saying, "I want to do work that I love. I can keep on living, even if I have to pick through the garbage." 

In 1979, at age 43 and some 20 years after embarking on her mission, she finally got her chance with Francis Ford Coppola's "Apocalypse Now." And then she was off, translating a movie per week - 50 films per year. 

During translation, she puts herself in every actor's shoes to find a suitable translation. "Their lines are alive," she says. "Words come from emotion, not from logic. Emotion is so important in movies, and in all the arts." 

Perhaps because of her close connection with movies, Toda cannot hide her concerns about recent films. As digital technology prevails in the film industry, many filmmakers seem to be overly concerned with creating eye-catching images, while lacking depth and emotion in stories. She feels that the year 2000 was a

turning point in this trend. ↩

Toda will turn 83 soon, but she still translates a movie a month, and sends in her twice-monthly Weekly column like clockwork. "You can dive into an unknown world with every movie. That's what makes this work so interesting, and I just can't stop," she says with a smile. ↩



Blossoming Heroes ↩

Japan bowed out of the 2019 Rugby World Cup after being defeated by South Africa on Oct. 20, but not before making historic strides in the tournament and proceeding to the quarterfinals for the first time, thrilling legions of rugby fans. ↩

The diverse Japanese team of 31 members, including 15 players from overseas, bonded together under the slogan "One Team," and won all four of their pool stage games to advance to the best eight of the tournament, which was held in Asia for the first time. ↩

In the pool stage, Japan beat Ireland, a team that entered the World Cup ranked No. 1 in the world and which had been seen as a contender to win the tournament. They also felled Scotland, which have regularly made the World Cup's best eight. At one stage Japan rose as high as sixth in the world rankings - its best position to date. ↩

In the quarterfinal match before a crowd of 48,831 at Tokyo Stadium in Tokyo, the Brave Blossoms sought to repeat the victory over the Springboks that they achieved in Brighton, England, during the 2015 World Cup. At the end of the first half, they narrowly trailed 3-5, but in the second half, South Africa's powerful forwards got the better of them. When the final whistle blew, Japan's 3-26 defeat was settled.
