地球惑星科学専攻博士前期(修士)課程入学試験

外国語試験問題

試験時間 9:30~11:30

- 1. 英文和訳と和文英訳にはそれぞれ2問づつ問題がある.
- 2. 4つの問題にすべて解答すること.
- 3. 問題毎に別の解答用紙を用い、問題番号と受験番号を書くこと、氏名は記入しないこと、
- 4. 解答は解答用紙裏面に及んでもよい.
- 5. 解答の如何に関らず、4枚の解答用紙はすべて提出すること.
- 6. 問題用紙、草案用紙は持ち帰ってもよい。

問題1 英文和訳

間1-1 以下の英文はある本の前書きの一部である。全文を和訳せよ。

When a child asks "Why does thunder go like that?", we can answer "It is because the thunder demons are beating their drums", and get away with it. However, we know that we are not giving a satisfactory answer. Since Benjamin Franklin conducted his famous experiments with a kite, even a school age child knows that thunder is a discharge of electricity in the cloud. Now if we should be asked "Why does electricity form in the cloud?" even a researcher in this field would have trouble giving a simple answer.

If we could find a way to clarify the mechanism by which electricity is generated in the clouds, the course that leads to its discharge and a means by which to give a convincing explanation to physicists, we could say that we have clarified the phenomenon of thunder. It is not that researchers in this field have failed to do the explaining, it is just that there are so many theories and hypotheses available, thanks to efforts of workers in this field, that we cannot decide which is the right one. (It may be that all are wrong.)

Thunder is a phenomenon close to our life, and even draws the attention of small children, but when we get down to it and really try to find an explanation, we find that it is unbelievably complex.

間 1 — 2 以下の英文の全文を和訳せよ。ただし、Chicxulub、Sudbury、および Vredefort は 地名である.

The Earth is constantly bombarded by interplanetary debris. Within this fusillade of mostly small meteoritic fragments, a comet or asteroid more than 10 km in diameter strikes the Earth roughly once every 100 million years, and may cause a mass extinction. Of the 150 or so known impact craters on Earth, only three were created by objects of this large. Chicxulub is the most recent of the three: Sudbury in Ontario, Canada, is 1.85 billion years old; and Vredefort, in South Africa, is 2.02 billion. Both of these ancient craters are deeply eroded and their original structures are now obscure. But although Chicxulub is by far the youngest and best preserved of the large craters on Earth, it is not particularly accessible. In fact, its very existence was not widely known outside the confidentials of various oil companies until 1991. The problem is that the crater does not outcrop anywhere at the surface.

注;

asteroid: 小惑星

debris: 岩屑 (がんせつ)

fusillade: 一斉射撃

outerop: 露頭

問題 2 和文英訳

問 2-1. 見出しも含め、次の和文を英訳せよ.

鉄 道 の 旅 一ある大学生の手記より

1999年7月25日(日)、朝. 明日からいよいよ学部生最後の夏休みに入るが、旅好きな私は、網走までJRの旅に出かけることを思い立った。今、札幌発網走行きオホーツク*3号の列車の中にいる。網走を選んだのは、司馬遼太郎著"街道をゆく"シリーズの「オホーツク街道」を読んで感動し、市郊外のモヨロ貝塚**に代表される「古代オホーツク文化」が育った環境に触れたかったためだ。9月上旬には北大の大学院を受験するつもりだが、この旅を通して、オホーツク海沿岸の海面変動と古代人との関係に触れ、機会ある毎にグローバルな視点から自然環境の変化を読みとれるよう英気を養いたい。

問 2-2. 次の和文を英訳せよ. ただし、文中の古文は現代語 として英訳してよい.

太古の昔から台風や地震などの自然災害に悩まされてきた日本人は、常に迫りくる破滅の予感におびえ続けてきた。「恐れのなかに恐るべかりけるは、ただ地震なりけり。」と、1185年の近畿地方の大地震に遭遇した鴨長明は『方丈記』に記している。

「山はくずれて川を埋み、海は傾きて陸地をひたせり、建物一つとして元のままにあらず、」

自然の脅威に対するこうした恐れが、日本人を禁欲的で我慢強い、勤勉な民族に したのだと、一部の日本研究者は指摘する.