英文和訳

問題 - 1 次の英文を和訳せよ.

A tsunami is a chain of fast moving waves (known as a 'train') that are generated when water in the ocean – or even a lake – is rapidly displaced by a sudden trauma in the form of an earthquake, a volcanic eruption, a landslide or the impact of a meteorite. Tsunamis are virtually undetectable out in the open sea – fishermen can be directly over a tsunami without experiencing more than mild ripple in the water. However as tsunami waves race across the ocean at speeds of up to 600mph, they create havoc on reaching land, destroying everything in their path. As they approach land, the shallow water acts as a brake on the front of the wave, slowing it down to around 200mph, while the back of the wave continues at full speed. The back catches up with the front to form a terrifying wall of water. This marked contrast in behavior at sea and near land gives the tsunami its name. For the term derives from the Japanese for 'harbour' ('tsu') and 'wave' ('nami'), and was coined by fishermen who returned to port to find the area surrounding the harbour devastated even though they had been unaware of anything untoward in the open sea. Although often referred to as tidal waves, this is misleading as tsunamis are not caused by changes in the tides. They not only travel at great speeds across the ocean – faster than jet airliner – but also they hardly lose any energy on the way. Tsunami wavelengths can be excess of 60 miles and are sometimes separated by as much as an hour. Just when tsunami victims think the worst is over, even bigger second or third waves come along to wreak far greater destruction, the flooding sometimes extending over vast areas inland. Tsunamis do not necessarily make their final approach as a series of giant breaking waves. They may be more like a rapidly rising tide. This may be accompanied by considerable underwater turbulence, sucking people under and tossing heavy objects around.

(from "TSUNAMI" by Carlton books, 2005)

注 mph: mile per hour

havoc: 大被害

和文英訳

問題 - 1 次の文を英訳せよ.

人類の視点からみた地球の最も重要な特徴は,その豊かな生命であろう.何故なら,その惑星は我々の知る生物圏 を持つ唯一の天体だからである.地球上の元素の分布は,はじめは物理的および化学的過程によってのみ支配されたが,それらに加えて,約38億年前に生命が最初に出現して以来,生物的過程により影響されてきた.

*生物圈:biosphere

問題 - 2 次の文中にある下線部を英訳せよ.

トピック・センテンスは,テクニカル・ライティングの最も重要な概念の一つである.テクニカル・ライティング*は,今日,科学だけでなくビジネスの分野においても,英文・和文の両方で広く使われている。多くの場合,段落の第一文に現れるトピック・センテンス*は,その段落でどういうトピックに関して議論されるかの見通しを与える.読者は段落の最初の2~3の文を見て,段落の主題と見通しとを無意識に判断しようとするので,効果的なトピック・センテンスは,読者が段落を理解する上で大きな助けとなる.他の文は,トピック・センテンスで示されたアイディアに関するものであることが必要である.一つの段落では,全ての文がトピック・センテンスによってまとめられるのである.

*テクニカル・ライティング: technical writing

*トピック・センテンス: topic sentence