

(Check) 14. 比較 (2)

12 Health is the most important thing.

= (Nothing) is so important (as) health.

= Health is (more) important than (anything) else.

最上級の内容を原級・比較級を用いて表現できる。

I've never seen such a big tree as this. (私はこれほど大きな木を今まで見たことがない)

= I've never seen a bigger tree than this. (私はこれよりも大きな木を今まで見たことがない)

= This is the biggest tree I've ever seen. (これは私が今までに見た最も大きな木だ)

cf. The Shinano is the longest river in Japan. (信濃川は日本で最も長い川だ)

= The Shinano is longer than any other river in Japan.

= No other river in Japan is longer than the Shinano.

= No other river in Japan is as[so] long as the Shinano river がいずれも単数形であることに注意。

13 (a) as ~ as possible [one can] できるだけ (b) not so much A as B A というよりむしろ B

(c) 比較級 and 比較級 だんだん~

(d) The 比較級, the 比較級 ~すればするほど~

原級・比較級の慣用表現は多様で紛らわしいものが多いので正確に覚えることが重要。

BASIC

A

- (ウ) He made no more than three mistakes. (彼は3つしか間違わなかった) (= only)
- (エ) He made no less than fifteen mistakes. (彼は15も間違った) (= as many/ much as)
- (イ) It will cost not less than thirty dollars. (少なくとも30ドルはかかるだろう) (= at (the) least)
- (ア) It will cost not more than thirty dollars. (せいぜい30ドルしかかからないだろう) (= at (the) most)

B

- John told his wife that he would return as soon as possible.
John told his wife that he would return as soon as (he)(could).
(ジョンはできるだけ早く戻ってくると妻に言った)
- I have never read a better novel than this. (私はこれより優れた小説を読んだことがない)
This is the (best) novel I have (ever) read. (これは私がこれまで読んだ最も優れた小説だ)
- That castle is the oldest building in our city. (あのお城は私たちの町で最も古い建物です)
That castle is (older) than (any)(other)(building) in our city.
(あのお城は私たちの町の他のどの建物よりも古い)
- As we grow older, our strength becomes weaker. (年をとるにつれて、私たちの力は弱くなる)
(The)(older) we grow, (the)(weaker) our strength becomes. (年をとればとるほど、私たちの力は弱くなる)
- In spite of his fault, I love him. (欠点があるにもかかわらず、私は彼のことが大好きだ)
I love him none (the)(less) for his fault. (同上)

1. 13 時制と主語に注意。 2. 12 3. 12 building が単数形であることに注意。 4. as ~ 「~するにつれて」 strength 「力」 The 比較級, the 比較級 13 5. in spite of ~ 「~にもかかわらず」 none the less for ~ 「~だからといって、それだけいっそう...でないことはない」

【その他の重要表現】

「(all) the 比較級 for ~ because s' v'」 「~なので、それだけいっそう...」

I like him all the better for his faults. (彼には欠点があるので、いっそう私は彼が好きだ)

I like him all the better because he has faults. (同上)

(A is no more X than B is (X)) 「A は B と同様 X ではない」

A whale is no more a fish than a horse is (a fish). (馬が魚でないのと同様にクジラは魚ではない)

(A is no less X than B is (X)) 「A は B と同様に X である」

He is no less good at swimming than his brother is. (彼は彼の兄(弟)と同様に泳ぎがうまい)

【否定文+much[still] less ~】 「まして~ない」

The baby cannot stand, much[still] less walk. (その赤ん坊は立てない、まして歩くことはできない)

FURTHER

C

- ④ He paid as (much) as 200,000 yen for the bicycle.
as much as ~ = no less than ~ (金額なので、manyではなくmuch) A-2 for は「交換」を表す。
(彼はその自転車に20万円も支払った)
- ③ I want to know the result, and (the sooner) the better.
The 比較級, the 比較級 13 the sooner the better は決まった表現。
(私は結果を知りたい、それも早ければ早いほどよい) (「ある時点から程なく」は soon を用いる)
- ③ I can't speak German, (much less) write it.
否定文+much[still] less ~ 【その他の重要表現】 (私はドイツ語を話せない、まして書くことなどできない)
- ④ I don't believe his story (any more) than you do.
A is not X any more than B is (X) = A is no more X than B is (X) 【その他の重要表現】
(あなたが彼の話を信じないのと同様に、私も彼の話を信じない)

D

- これまで飲んだコーヒーの中で、これは最高だ。
This is (the best coffee that I have ever had).
→ I have never had such good coffee as this. / I have never had better coffee than this. 12
- できるだけたくさんの方達を連れていっしょに、と(連れてくるように)スミス夫人は私に言いました。
Mrs. Smith told me to bring (as many friends as I could).
→ as many friends as possible 13 many と friends を離さないこと。
- 公園を散歩することほど楽しいことはない(私に楽しみを与えてくれるものはない)。
Nothing (gives me more pleasure than taking) a walk in the park.
→ Nothing is more pleasant to me than taking a walk in the park.
Nothing is as[so] pleasant to me as taking a walk in the park. 12
- 彼女は歌手というよりも作曲家です。
She's (not so much a singer as) a composer.
→ She is a composer rather than a singer. composer 「作曲家」
not so much A as B 13 She is not a singer so much as a composer. の語順も可だが、まれ。
- 私はそんなことはしません(そんなことをするほど愚かではない)。
I (know better than to do) such a thing.
know better than to do 「~するほど愚かではない」
cf. You should know better. (君はもっと分別を持つべきだ)
- 彼女ははにかみやなので(彼女の内気さのために)、それだけいっしょに(いっそう)彼女が好きだ。
I like her (all the better for her) shyness.
→ I like her all the better because she is shy. 【その他の重要表現】
- 近頃、自分の健康状態をとて気にする人が増えている(ますます多くの人々が健康に関心をもっている)ようだ(と彼らは言っている)。
They say that these (days more and more people are concerned with their health).
比較級 and 比較級 13 be concerned with ~ 「~に関心を持つ、注意を注ぐ」