

2015年度 特別選抜 I 英語等有資格型

(自己推薦入試)

適 性 検 査

英語問題

以下の文章を読み、それに続く第1問と第2問に答えなさい。

People tend to talk about childhood and adulthood like they are completely distinct phases of life. One is supposed to be an early period of growth, where a person undergoes great physical and psychological changes. The other is supposed to be a time when people go about achieving their long-term goals, which usually includes working and starting a family. Between childhood and adulthood is adolescence, a time when one's decisions and experiences determine the type of adult one will become. It is interesting to think about where exactly in that hazy time of life one officially becomes an adult. Is it when you get the keys to your first car? Is it when you take your first job? Is it when you finally leave your parent's home? Perhaps adulthood doesn't even arrive until your early thirties.

According to our legal system, there is a definitive age of adulthood. Lawmakers have determined that people who are 18 or 21 should be able to take on adult privileges like gambling, voting, owning a gun, and marrying. But this does not necessarily imply that 18- or 21-year-olds are adults; nor does it even imply that lawmakers consider them so. The purpose of this definition of adulthood is practical only. It is a rough estimation that lawmakers were willing to settle on because they believed that most people in this age range could handle adult responsibilities.

Writers and artists throughout the ages have offered a popular definition of childhood and adulthood—that it is a state of mind. As true as this may feel for many people, it is not a good definition because it has no boundaries at all. Should an older person who feels energetic be called a child? Not any more than a serious ten-year-old should be called an adult.

There are many other possible answers to the question of when exactly one becomes an adult. People have said that adulthood begins with financial independence, with the end of formal schooling, with getting married... Some have even suggested that adulthood begins when you stop wishing that you were older.

In fact, there is truth to all these statements, but they have a common thread. Adulthood begins when you lose the feeling of protection you have had all your life, giving way to a security of your own. This can happen at thirteen or thirty-five. But the strongest sign of adulthood is having a child of your own, for then you are expected to do everything your parents did for you, for somebody else.

(Evan Bailyn. "When Does a Child Become an Adult?" *Early Writings of Evan Bailyn*. 18 Jan. 2012. Web. 1 Jul. 2014. <<http://evanbailyn.net/thoughts-on-childhood/when-does-a-child-become-an-adult/>>.)

第1問 人の成長においてどの時点で成人とみなすかという点については、諸々の考え方があります。左記の文章を読み、成人になる時期に関して、法的な考え方、作家や芸術家の見方、一般の人々の考え方にそれぞれ言及して、著者の考え方を全体で200字以内の日本語(横書き)で述べなさい。

第2問 論じられている話題に関して、自分の考え方を400字以内の日本語(横書き)で述べなさい。(これは考え方の良し悪しを見る問題ではなく、考えを日本語で展開する能力を見る問題です。書く内容は、本意でも架空でもかまいません。)