確認問題
**349**

ことわざ・教養・背景知識 CHECK TEST

# 目から鱗の英語雑学50 確認問題集

英語雑学の確認問題26問。語源・つづりの短い英文の内容一致と、語源を使った語彙問題で確かめる。

元のチートシートへ

月　日　名前　／26問

表で解いて、裏で答え合わせ。まちがえた所は元のシートへ。

## ◆ Ⅰ 英文の内容と一致するものを1つ選べ

**1** The ”k” in ”knight” and ”know” is silent today, but it was once pronounced. The spelling stayed the same while the pronunciation changed.

a The spelling of "knight" reflects an older pronunciation.
b The pronunciation of "knight" has not changed for centuries.
c The "k" was added to "knight" by printers.
d The "k" in "knight" has never been pronounced.

**2** The word ”debt” came into English from French, in which it had no ”b.” Later, scholars who admired Latin added a ”b” to make it look more like the Latin word debitum. The ”b” was never pronounced.

a The French word from which "debt" came contained a "b."
b The "b" in "debt" was added for the sake of appearance, not sound.
c People pronounced the "b" in "debt" for hundreds of years.
d Scholars removed a "b" from the Latin word debitum.

**3** The word ”nice” comes from the Latin nescius, meaning ”not knowing.” In English it first meant ”foolish,” and only over many centuries did it come to mean ”pleasant.”

a "Nice" has always been used as a compliment.
b The meaning of "nice" has changed greatly over time.
c "Nice" comes from a Latin word meaning "kind."
d "Nice" first meant "pleasant" and later "foolish."

**4** During outbreaks of plague, ships arriving in Venice were sometimes required to wait forty days before their passengers could go ashore. The word ”quarantine” comes from the Italian for ”forty days.”

a "Quarantine" was first used as the name of a type of ship.
b The word "quarantine" comes from Latin rather than Italian.
c The word "quarantine" originally referred to a period of time.
d Ships arriving in Venice were allowed to land after four days.

**5** ”December” comes from the Latin decem, meaning ”ten.” It is now the twelfth month because the early Roman calendar began in March.

a The early Roman year began in January.
b In Latin, decem means "twelve."
c December has always been the last month of the year.
d December was the tenth month in the early Roman calendar.

**6** Many people think that SOS stands for ”Save Our Souls.” In fact, it is not short for anything. It was chosen because its Morse code, three dots, three dashes and three dots, is easy to send and to recognize.

a "Save Our Souls" was the original meaning of SOS.
b SOS is difficult to recognize in Morse code.
c SOS was chosen for its simple Morse code pattern.
d SOS originally meant "Save Our Ship."

**7** Of the many theories about the origin of ”OK,” the most widely accepted one traces it to a Boston newspaper in 1839, where it appeared as a joking abbreviation of ”oll korrect,” a deliberate misspelling of ”all correct.”

a According to the most accepted theory, "OK" began as a joke in a newspaper.
b "OK" is a shortened form of a word from another language.
c Everyone agrees on where "OK" came from.
d "OK" was first used in London in 1839.

**8** Words for tea around the world fall roughly into two groups. Languages that received tea by sea, largely through Dutch traders, tend to use forms like ”tea,” while those that received it over land tend to use forms like ”cha.”

a The word "tea" was invented in England.
b How tea reached a region tends to be reflected in the word used there.
c Dutch traders brought tea to Europe over land.
d All languages use a form of the word "cha" for tea.

**9** The word ”robot” first appeared in a 1920 play by a Czech writer. It comes from a Czech word meaning ”forced labor.”

a "Robot" comes from a word meaning "machine."
b The word "robot" was originally connected with the idea of work.
c The word "robot" was invented by an engineer.
d The word first appeared in a novel written in English.

## ◆ Ⅱ 次の英文を読み、設問に答えよ

Have you ever heard that the word ”posh” comes from ”Port Out, Starboard Home,” supposedly stamped on the tickets of wealthy passengers sailing between Britain and India? Or that ”golf” stands for ”Gentlemen Only, Ladies Forbidden”? Stories like these are entertaining, but linguists treat them with great ( 1 ). (A) The main reason is historical. (B) The habit of forming new words from the first letters of other words, as in NASA or UNESCO, became common only in the twentieth

century. (C) "Golf," for example, appears in Scottish records from the fifteenth century, long before such words were common. (D) Any story claiming that a much older word began as an acronym should therefore make us suspicious.(ア) Of course, some word histories can be confirmed. "OK," for instance, has been traced to a specific newspaper published in 1839.

**10** Choose the best word for ( 1 ).

a pride　b confidence　c suspicion　d delight

**11** 次の英文を入れるのに最も適切な位置を、本文の (A)～(D) から選べ。Before then, words of this kind were very rare in English.

a (A)　b (B)　c (C)　d (D)

**12** Which of the following is closest in meaning to the underlined sentence (ア)?

a All acronyms are older than the twentieth century.

b We should never believe any story about where words come from.

c Old words were usually formed from first letters.

d If an old word is said to come from an acronym, we should doubt the story.

**13** Why does the author mention "OK" at the end of the passage?

a To give another example of a false story

b To prove that newspapers often invent new words

c To show that some word histories can be confirmed by evidence

d To show that OK is an acronym from the fifteenth century

**14** According to the passage, which of the following is true?

a The word "golf" was in use long before acronyms became common.

b NASA is one of the oldest acronyms in English.

c Linguists enjoy spreading stories about word origins.

d "Posh" certainly comes from "Port Out, Starboard Home."

## ◆ Ⅲ 語源を手がかりに、空所に入る最も適切なものを選べ

**15** com- means "together" and the Latin panis means "bread." A companion was originally someone who ＿＿＿.

a shared bread with you　b baked bread for you

c refused to eat with you　d sold bread at a market

**16** compassion comes from com- ("together") and a root meaning "suffer." It most nearly means ＿＿＿.

a a strong desire to win　b the ability to remember things

c anger at an unfair decision

d sympathy for the suffering of others

**17** In "breakfast," fast means "a period of going without food." Breakfast is therefore the meal that ＿＿＿.

a is often skipped by busy people　b is eaten very quickly

c ends the fast of the night　d is eaten during a long fast

**18** astronaut comes from astro- ("star") and naut ("sailor"). Which word shares the root meaning "star"?

a assist　b asteroid　c astonish　d nautical

**19** "Eleven" and "twelve" come from old Germanic words meaning "one left over" and "two left over" after counting ten. This explains why they ＿＿＿.

a are used only in Britain　b are spelled with "v" and "w"

c do not end in -teen　d come from Latin

**20** The word "silly" once meant "blessed" or "happy." Its meaning has changed ＿＿＿.

a from a positive one to a negative one

b because it was borrowed from Japanese

c very little over the centuries

d from a negative one to a positive one

## ◆ Ⅳ 空所に入る最も適切な語句を選べ

**21** The English word ＿＿＿, meaning "a powerful businessperson," comes from a Japanese title that was once used for the shogun in dealings with foreigners.

a tsunami　b emoji　c tycoon　d honcho

**22** Long ago, "a napron" was heard as "＿＿＿," and that is how the modern word was born.

a a pron　b an napron　c a nap　d an apron

**23** Many people believe that "emoji" is related to "emotion," but the similarity is ＿＿＿.

a official　b ancient　c coincidental　d intentional

**24** The abbreviation "e.g." means "for example," while "i.e." means "＿＿＿."

a that is　b note well　c and so on　d for instance

## ◆ Ⅴ 設問に答えよ

**25** 次の英文を和訳せよ。Words do not keep their meanings forever; like the people who use them, they change over time.

**26** "Gentlemen Only, Ladies Forbidden" が golf の語源だという説を信じるべきでない理由を、Ⅱの英文に即して日本語で説明せよ。

**1** **a The spelling of "knight" reflects an older pronunciation.**
つづりはそのまま、発音だけが変わった＝つづりは昔の発音の名残。never been pronounced は was once pronounced と逆。印刷業者が足した、は本文にない理由をつけ足したダミー。

**2** **b The "b" in "debt" was added for the sake of appearance, not sound.**
to make it look more like(見た目を似せるため)と never pronounced から「音ではなく見た目のため」。フランス語には b がなかったので3つ目は逆。doubt の b も同じ仲間。

**3** **b The meaning of "nice" has changed greatly over time.**
「無知な」→「愚かな」→「すてきな」と大きく変化。順序を逆にした選択肢(pleasant→foolish)は前後関係のすり替え。only over many centuries did it … は否定的な語 only が前に出た倒置。

**4** **c The word "quarantine" originally referred to a period of time.**
語源は「40日間」＝期間を表す語だった。four days は forty days の数字ずれ。from the Italian と明記されているので最後の選択肢は矛盾。

**5** **d December was the tenth month in the early Roman calendar.**
3月始まりなら、3月から数えて10番目が December。October (octo＝8)も同じずれ。decem＝10 は decade(10年)と同じ語源。

**6** **c SOS was chosen for its simple Morse code pattern.**
it is not short for anything＝何の略でもない。選ばれた理由は打ちやすく聞き取りやすい信号の形。Many people think ～. In fact ～ は俗説を正す典型の流れ。

**7** **a According to the most accepted theory, "OK" began as a joke in a newspaper.**
joking abbreviation(冗談の略語)の言いかえ。London は Boston の地名ずれ。the most widely accepted(最も広く受け入れられた)は「他の説もある」を含むので、Everyone agrees は言い過ぎ。

**8** **b How tea reached a region tends to be reflected in the word used there.**
海の道なら tea 系、陸の道なら cha 系＝伝わり方が語に表れる。roughly・tend to と控えめに言っているので、例外はある。オランダ船は by sea の側。

**9** **b The word "robot" was originally connected with the idea of work.**
forced labor(強制労働)＝仕事の概念。生まれたのは技術者の発明ではなく、チェコの作家の戯曲。「機械」の意味の語から、は本文にない。

**10** **c suspicion**
entertaining, but(おもしろいが)の後なのでマイナスの評価。続く「頭字語の習慣は20世紀から」が疑う理由。下線部(ア)の suspicious (疑わしく思う)とも対応する。

**11** **c (C)**
Before then の then は「20世紀」、words of this kind は「頭文字から作った語」を指すので、その文の直後。続く golf の例(15世紀＝頭字語がまれな時代)にもつながる。

**12** **d If an old word is said to come from an acronym, we should doubt the story.**
acronym＝頭字語、suspicious＝疑わしく思う。「どんな語源の話も信じるな」は言い過ぎで、直後の Of course, some word histories can be confirmed と矛盾する。

**13** **c To show that some word histories can be confirmed by evidence**
Of course(もちろん)で譲歩し、for instance で例を挙げる。資料で年代まで確かめられる語源もある、という補足。OK は俗説の例ではない。

**14** **a The word "golf" was in use long before acronyms became common.**
15世紀の記録にある＝頭字語が広まった20世紀よりずっと前。posh の説は supposedly(～だと言われている)付きで、certainly は逆。→ シートの『目から鱗！「頭字語の語源」はまず疑え』

**15** **a shared bread with you**
com(共に)＋panis(ラテン語でパン)＝パンを共にする人。company (仲間・会社)も同じ語源。語源は知らない単語の意味を推測する武器になる。

**16** **d sympathy for the suffering of others**
「共に苦しむ」→思いやり・同情。passion も元は「苦しみ」の意味(the Passion＝キリストの受難)。com＋suffer の組み合わせから意味を組み立てる。

**17** **c ends the fast of the night**
break(破る)＋fast(断食)＝夜の間の断食を終える食事。fast を「速い」と読むと「急いで食べる」の誤答になる。多義語の罠。

**18** **b asteroid**
aster／astro＝星。asteroid(小惑星)・disaster(悪い星回り)も同じ仲間。astonish は「雷に打たれる」の意の語から来ていて、見た目が似ているだけ。nautical は sailor の側。

**19** **c do not end in -teen**
「10数えて1つ・2つ余り」という別の作りなので、thirteen 以降の「3＋10」型の -teen が付かない。Germanic(ゲルマン語)なので Latin は誤り。

**20** **a from a positive one to a negative one**
「幸せな・祝福された」(プラス)→「ばかな」(マイナス)。nice(無知な→すてきな)はマイナス→プラスで、向きが逆の例としてセットで覚える。

**21** **c tycoon**
tycoon＝大物実業家。語源は「大君(たいくん)」。honcho(ボス)も日本語の「班長」由来だが、将軍の呼び名ではない。

**22** **d an apron**
a napron の n が冠詞の側に移って an apron に(異分析)。napkin と仲間。逆に an ekename → a nickname は n が後ろの語に移った例。

**23** **c coincidental**
emoji は「絵＋文字」で、emotion とは無関係。but の後なので「信じられていること」を否定する語＝偶然の(coincidental)。intentional(意図的な)は逆。

**24** **a that is**
e.g.＝exempli gratia(例えば)、i.e.＝id est(すなわち)。for instance は e.g. と同じ意味なので while の対比に合わない。and so on は etc.、note well は N.B.。

**25** **言葉はその意味を永遠に保つわけではない。言葉を使う人々と同じように、言葉も時とともに変わっていく。**
採点ポイント：not … forever(永遠に～わけではない：部分否定)／like～(～と同じように)／them・they＝words／over time(時とともに)。

**26** **頭文字をつないで語を作る習慣が広まったのは20世紀になってからだが、golf という語は15世紀のスコットランドの記録にすでに現れているから。**

採点ポイント：①頭字語の習慣は20世紀から②golf は15世紀の記録にある、の2点で時代が合わないことを示す。「作り話だから」だけでは根拠不足。


もっと無料で学ぶなら

**原田英語.com**

究極の英単語帳（PDF印刷）・共テ単 キョウテタン・共通テスト満点チートシート・英文法大全・英作文超絶採点くん・時事英語ナビ…受験に役立つ無料の英語アプリと、約2,800本の記事。

原田英語.com

ほかのチートシート（全439本・無料）