

第7回 It . . . that

(1)

【例文】

1. It may be that he will never be famous.
2. It must be that to govern a nation you need a specific talent.
3. It is not that I dislike it, but that I cannot afford it. (624)
4. It happened that I was out of London at the time. (168)
5. It seems (appears) that he is wrong. (167)
6. It proved (turned out) that he was guilty.

【語彙とポイント】

beech ブナ

elm ニレ

thrush ツグミ

blackbird クロウタドリ

distinguish between A and B / between 複数名詞 / A from B

thrush's and a blackbird's song

so feeble is ... かすかな、弱弱しい

fail to— することをしそこねる

one . . . the other (609) 片方は、 またもう片方は

that of that=song

【例題】

It is impossible to take a walk in the country with an average townsman—especially in April or May—without being amazed at the vast continent of his ignorance. Thousands of men and women live and die without knowing the difference between a beech and an elm, between the song of a thrush and the song of a blackbird. Probably in a modern city the man who can distinguish between a thrush's and a blackbird's song is an exception. It is not that we have not seen the birds. It is simply that we have not noticed them. We have been surrounded by birds all our lives, yet so feeble is our observation that many of us fail to distinguish the song of one from that of the other.

【テーマ】自然の観察について

【和訳】

平均的な都会人と田舎で散歩することは、特に4月または5月に、彼の無知という巨大な大陸に驚かされることなしには、不可能である。ブナとニレの間の、ツグミの歌とクロウタドリの歌の間の違いを知ることなく、数千の男女が生き、そして死ぬ。恐らく、現代の都市では、ツグミとクロウタドリの歌を区別できる人は例外だ。私たちが、その鳥を見たことがないからではない。単に、私たちはそれらに気が付いたことがないからだ。私たちは、生涯ずっと鳥に囲まれているが、それでもかくもはかないのが、我々の観察であり、そのため、我々の多くは片方の歌ともう片方の歌とを区別し損ねるのである。