

2023 年度 フランス文学科

英 語

〔自己推薦 A O (A)〕 14-J 1

注 意

1. 監督者の合図があるまで問題冊子は開かないでください。
2. 解答はすべて解答用紙のきめられた箇所に記入してください。

I 次の文を読み、以下の問に答えなさい。

When I go into a bank I get frightened. The clerks frighten me; the desks frighten me; the sight of the money frightens me; everything frightens me. The moment I pass through the doors of a bank and attempt to do business there, I become an irresponsible fool.

I knew this before, but my salary had been raised to fifty dollars a month and I felt that the bank was the only place for it.

So I walked unsteadily in and looked round at the clerks with fear. I had an idea
⁽¹⁾that a person who was about to open an account must necessarily speak to the
manager.

I went up to a desk marked "Accountant". The accountant was a tall, confident devil. The very sight of him frightened me. My voice sounded as if it came from the grave.

'Can I see the manager?' I said, and added, 'Alone.' I don't know why I said 'alone'.

'Certainly,' said the accountant, and brought him.

The manager was a calm, serious man. I held my fifty-six dollars, pressed together in a ball, in my pocket.

'Are you the manager?' I said. God knows, I didn't doubt it.

'Yes,' he said.

'Can I see you,' I asked, 'alone?' I didn't want to say 'alone' again, but without this word the question seemed senseless.

The manager looked at me with some anxiety. He felt that I had a terrible secret to tell.

'Come in here,' he said, and led the way to a private room. He turned the key in the lock.

'We are safe from interruption here,' he said. 'Sit down.'

We both sat down and looked at each other. I was speechless. I did not know what to say next.

'You are one of Pinkerton's* detectives, I suppose,' he said.

⁽²⁾ My mysterious manner had made him think that I was a detective. I knew what he was thinking, and it made me worse.

'No, not from Pinkerton's,' I said, seeming to mean that I was a detective but was not from Pinkerton's.

'To tell the truth,' I went on, as if someone had urged me to tell lies about it, 'I am not a detective at all. I have come to open an account. I intend to keep all my money in this bank.'

The manager looked relieved but still serious; he felt sure now that I was a very rich man, perhaps a member of the Rothschild family.

'A large account, I suppose,' he said.

'Fairly large,' I whispered. 'I intend to place in this bank the sum of fifty-six dollars now and fifty dollars a month regularly.'

He got up, opened the door and called to the accountant.

'Mr Montgomery,' he said, in an unkindly loud voice, 'this gentleman is opening an account. He will place fifty-six dollars in it. Good morning.'

I stood up.

A big iron door stood open at the side of the room.

'Good morning,' I said, and walked into the safe.

'Come out,' said the manager coldly, and pointed me in the direction of a second door.

I went up to the accountant's desk and pushed the ball of money at him with a quick, sudden movement as if I were performing a sort of trick. My face was terribly pale.

⁽³⁾ 'Here,' I said, 'put it in my account.' The sound of my voice seemed to mean, 'Let us do this painful thing while we still feel that we want to do it.'

He took the money and gave it to another clerk.

He made me write the sum on a piece of paper and sign my name in a book. I no longer knew what I was doing. The bank seemed to swim before my eyes.

'Is it in the account?' I asked in a hollow, shaking voice.

'It is,' said the accountant.

'Then I want to write a cheque.'

My idea was to take out six dollars of it for my present use. Someone gave me a chequebook and someone else began telling me how to write it out. The people in the bank treated me like a man who owned millions of dollars, but was unwell. I wrote something on the cheque and pushed it towards the clerk. He looked at it.

'What! Are you taking it all out again?' he asked in surprise. Then I realized that I had written fifty-six dollars instead of six. I was too upset to explain my mistake. All the clerks had stopped writing to look at me.

I had to make a decision.

'Yes, the whole thing.'

'You wish to take your money out of the bank?'

'Every cent of it.'

'Are you not going to put any more in the account?' said the clerk, surprised.

'Never.'

(4) A foolish hope came to me that they might think something had offended me while I was writing the cheque and that I had changed my mind. I made a useless attempt to look like a man with an extremely quick temper.

The clerk prepared to pay the money.

'How will you have it?' he said.

'What?'

'How will you have it?'

'Oh' — I understood his meaning and answered without even thinking about it — 'in fifty-dollar notes.'

He gave me a fifty-dollar note.

'And the six?' he asked coldly.

'In six-dollar notes,' I said.

He gave me six dollars and I rushed out.

As the big door swung behind me I heard the sound of laughter rising to the

ceiling of the bank. Since then I no longer use a bank. I keep my money in my trouser
pocket and my savings in silver dollars in a sock.

LAWRENCE D., ET AL; BRITISH AND AMERICAN SHORT STORIES: LEVEL 5
(PENGUIN READERS) (GRADED READERS), 2nd edition, © 2008;
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* Pinkerton's : a well known American firm of detectives

問 1 下線部(1)を日本語に訳しなさい。

問 2 下線部(2)の 'My mysterious manner' とは, 具体的にどんな立ち振る舞いのことを
言っていますか。説明しなさい。

問 3 下線部(3)を日本語に訳しなさい。

問 4 下線部(4)を日本語に訳しなさい。

問 5 下線部(5)について, 5 行程度の英語であなたの見解を自由に述べなさい。