２０２５年度

群馬県立女子大学

文学部英米文化学科

学校推薦型選抜問題

注意事項

1．試験開始の合図があるまで、この問題冊子を開いてはいけません。

2．印刷の不鮮明な箇所があれば手を挙げて監督者に申し出てください。

3．解答は、解答用紙に書きなさい。

4．試験終了後、問題冊子は持ち帰ってください。

次の文章を読んで、あなたが考えたことを 600 字程度の<u>日本語で</u>書きなさい。

You have probably heard the names of the most famous lovers in world literature "Romeo and Juliet" even if you have never seen or read their tragedy, which was made immortal by William Shakespeare, the greatest dramatist in human history. In the memorable balcony scene, shocked to know that the boy she has just fallen in love with is the son of the enemy family the Montagues, Juliet convinces herself that everything is alright by saying that "Romeo" or "Montague" is just a name and that it does not belong to him like his arm or face. She goes on to reason that nothing is in a name because a rose by any name would smell as sweet.

Anne Shirley, one of the dreamiest literary heroines, would though disagree if she heard Juliet on the balcony. Known in Japan as *Akage-no-An*, she feels her own name to be very unromantic, and she would like to be called Cordelia instead, which she thinks is a more elegant name. Names really matter to her. She does not believe a rose would be as nice if it were called by a different name like a thistle or something similar.

Is there though anything that makes a name sound suitable? The sound of a word seems to have nothing to do with the meaning of the word and a rose smells as sweet when it is called *bara*. There is no reason why the flower should be called by the combination of sounds in the letters of the word "rose." However, it is known that people often associate certain sounds with certain images.

The term, "sound symbolism," refers to the phenomenon where particular sound sequences are associated with particular meanings. Experiments have shown that the sound /i/ feels small while the sound /a/ large, not only for English

speakers but for Japanese speakers as well. That is, "mal" sounds larger than "mil." The sound /i/ can also be associated with the image of cuteness as well as smallness. You may know many cute characters with names which have the sound /i/ such as Miffy, Minnie, Kitty, and so on. The sound /g/ can convey the image of heaviness or strength. Godzilla or Gilgamesh may sound just a bit stronger and heavier than Codzilla or Kilkamesh.

Sound-meaning associations may also play an important role in your language learning and can help you to learn new words. On the other hand, images or biases arising from such associations may prevent you from correctly guessing the meanings of unfamiliar words.

<div align="right">（英文：本学文学部英米文化学科作成）</div>