

第 13 章 本文の内容を日本語で説明する

61 死の出会いと子ども

Children may meet the idea of death for the first time at any age. In the normal course, the death of an older member of the family is likely to be the first experience of the kind that (1)touches a child closely. Whenever the child asks about death, it is important to answer in simple (2)terms, without (3)instilling fear but also without false explanations that may only confuse the child.

(4)Some of the explanations grown-ups give a child, though easiest to give, are not the wisest. When a child is told that the person who died has “gone to sleep and won’t wake up,” he may be (5)frightened about going to sleep himself in (6)(case, fear, lest, that) he should also die. Or if he is told that someone died because he was sick, he may be afraid when he or his parents have any illness, even a cold, believing that illness will result in death.

For the young child, details are not necessary and are best avoided. The simplest statement is enough: People die because their bodies get (7)worn out. If the child wants to know where a person goes when he dies, parents have their own religious belief to share with the child. When parents are without beliefs that they can share, the child can accept their acknowledgement that they don’t really know.

(8)Exact explanations are not so important as the manner in which an answer is given. When parents have accepted the fact of death with quiet courage, they convey this attitude to the child along with their words.

When there is a death in the family, (9)grown-ups sometimes unwisely exclude the children from sharing in the family sorrow with the idea of protecting them. To be sure, it is not good for a child to see his parents or other older people (10)overwhelmed with shock or grief. But it is also not good for him to be pushed aside, or sent out of the house to be taken care of by strangers. A family loss is the child’s loss too, and he should not be separated from those who are closest to him at such a time.

(11)However grief-stricken a mother or father may be, it is important to remember that the children, too, are suffering and need to be comforted. (12)A parent will feel for the children at such a time and try not to give way to uncontrolled expressions of grief in the children’s presence.

(13)Complete control is neither necessary nor wise. When the adults master themselves entirely for the children’s (14)(), and show no grief at all, children are (15)puzzled and are often unable to give vent to their own feelings. It is important for the children to be allowed to take some (16)() in the family’s mourning. When they can share it in their own (17)(), they find an (18)outlet for their own sorrow and are comforted. Mourning relieves sorrow by giving it (19)(), and by recalling happy and loving memories of the

person who is gone. (20)Children need this relief as grown-ups do.

設問

(1)(2)(3)(10)下線部と近い意味のものを次から選べ。

(1) 1. 関係する 2. 心を動かす 3. 成長させる 4. 傷つける

(2) 1. 言葉 2. 態度 3. 表情 4. 場面

(3) 1. 取り除く 2. 妄想を抱かせる 3. 植えつける 4. 詳しく説明する

(10) 1. 大げさに表す 2. 克服する 3. 屈する 4. 隠す

(4)下線部のような説明の具体例を1つ挙げ、それが the wisest でない理由を日本語で答えよ。

(5)(7)(15)下線部と近い意味の語句を次から選べ。

(5) 1. confused 2. scared 3. sensitive 4. skeptical

(7) 1. decayed 2. exhausted 3. overburdened 4. wounded

(15) 1. confused 2. disappointed 3. shocked 4. surprised

(6)かっこ内の語句のうち正しいものを選べ。

(8)(11)(12)下線部を和訳せよ。

(9)下線部を、them の具体的内容を明示して和訳せよ。

(13)下線部のように筆者が主張する理由を日本語で答えよ。

(14)(16)(17)(19)空所にあてはまる適語を次から選べ。

1. account 2. expression 3. part 4. sake 5. want 6. way

(18)下線部と近い意味の1語を同じ段落から選べ。

(20)下線部はどのようなことを言っているのか日本語で説明せよ。

(21)第1段落において、子どもが死についてたずねた時、大人はどのようなことに気をつけて答えてやるのが大切だと筆者は述べているか、3点を日本語で答えよ。

Further Expressions

《同情する》

A parent will sympathize the children who suffer from grief. 【同情する】

A parent will feel sympathy for the children who suffer from grief.

A parent will feel for the children who suffer from grief.

A parent will feel sorry for the children who suffer from grief. 【ふびんに思う】

A parent will feel pity for the children who suffer from grief.

A parent will take [have] pity on the children who suffer from grief.

《恐れて》

The child may keep awake in case he should die. 【～するといけないから】

The child may keep awake lest he should not die.

The child may keep awake for fear that he may die. 【～するのを恐れて】

The child may keep awake for fear of dying.

The child may keep awake so as not to die. 【～しないように】

The child may be anxious about dying. 【不安で】