

CEFR-J レベル

A2.2

技能 Reading

Can Do descriptor

生活、趣味、スポーツなど、日常的なトピックを扱った文章の要点を理解したり、必要な情報を取り出したりすることができる。

テスト・タスク

世界の習慣や行事をテーマにした発表会で、次の英文をもとにして発表することになりました。情報の確認のために各問いに答え、A～C から一つずつ選んで記号に○をつけなさい。

### Valentine's Day and Chocolate

Today, chocolate has become a symbol for Valentine's Day. Around that time, many people all over the world go to chocolate shops and choose chocolates as gifts for someone special for them. However, this combination doesn't have such a long history. In fact, chocolate became indispensable for Valentine's Day only about 160 years ago.

The story of chocolate originated in the Mayans and the Aztecs over 4,000 years ago. They drank chocolate drink made from cacao beans. They added corn flour or spice to the drink. In those days, people recognized cacao beans were as precious and expensive as gold, so only limited people, such as the imperial family, could enjoy the drink.

When Spanish explorers and travelers came to South America in the 16th century, they brought chocolate and cacao beans back to Spain. The Spanish kings and queens drank the chocolate drink, but it was too bitter so they sweetened it with sugar or honey. In about one hundred years, the liquid chocolate became popular throughout all of Europe. Then in 1847, the first solid chocolate bar was produced in a factory in England.

Valentine's Day had already been celebrated in Europe by this time. They loved to write poems and songs to their loved ones. They also loved to give gifts and cards with a picture of Cupid, an icon of Valentine's Day. The only thing missing was something sweet in taste.

Finally, in 1861, Richard Cadbury put chocolates in heart-shaped boxes and started to sell them. He had Cupids, hearts and roses printed on the boxes. After consuming the chocolates, people could recycle the boxes to keep their love letters.

It took a long time for chocolate and Valentine's Day to find each other. Lucky for us, the result is a perfect match! While people in some countries are eager to purchase chocolate to celebrate Valentine's Day, in other countries people celebrate the day without it. Still, chocolate is considered a symbolic item of Valentine's Day everywhere, and has become big business in many countries.

1. 飲み物としてのチョコレートに関する説明として正しいものはどれですか。

- A. As soon as chocolate was made sweet, it became widespread in Europe.
- B. At first, chocolate was too valuable for ordinary people to enjoy drinking.
- C. The Spanish first made chocolate drink with cacao beans brought from South America.

2. Valentine's Day とチョコレートに関する説明として正しいものはどれですか。

- A. There are some countries where people celebrate Valentine's Day without chocolate.
- B. People began to celebrate Valentine's Day after they had chocolate all over Europe.
- C. It took about 160 years for chocolate and Valentine's Day to find each other.

3. この文章のメインアイデアとして最も適切なものはどれですか。

- A. Chocolate was very important to ancient civilizations like the Mayans and the Aztecs who made chocolate drinks from cacao beans.
- B. Chocolate drink became popular across Europe after Spanish explorers brought it back to Spain in the 16th century.
- C. Sharing chocolate with loved ones on Valentine's Day became popular after Richard Cadbury had the idea of putting chocolates in boxes covered with Cupids, hearts and roses.

正答・採点基準 正答： 1. B      2. A      3. C

開発段階

第1期（作成） 第1期（実施） 第1期（分析）

第2期（改訂） 第2期（実施） 第2期（分析） ✓ 第3期（改訂）

メモ

開発担当者

村越亮治・長沼君主