- ¶ 1 The Reverend Kitagawa, a Japan-born minister, writes of attending a going-away party for two young *Nisei* drafted into the U.S. Army in the fall of 1940 which was attended by all the people in the Japanese-American community. Kitagawa recalls an elderly *Issei* speaking at the party.
- ¶ 2 What the old man said was that he was wedded to the United States and therefore, though Japan had remained his "original" home for these many years, his "true" home was none other than the United States. The traditional Japanese teaching emphasizes that, once married, the bride must accept her husband's parents as her own, his home as hers; and her primary and ultimate loyalty must be to his parents and his home. "So," said he, "we the *Issei* gladly offer our sons to the United States. Be brave and prove yourselves loyal citizens of this country, for by so doing you will prove yourselves to be worthy inheritors of the best of the Japanese heritage as well."
- ¶ 3 The elder's words about marriage impressed the *Issei* more strongly than the elder might have expected, for they were very applicable to their present situation. When the elder saw his son standing proudly in a U.S. Army uniform, he realized that he had been wedded to the United States for all these years, even though there had been many relatives, as it were, who mistreated him. Being characteristically Japanese, he would say, "If I were alone, I might choose to return to Japan, but now I have these children, for whose sake I will hold out to the bitter end."
- ¶ 4 At that moment the *Issei* was in a frame of mind that would easily have led him to fight the Japanese forces, should they invade the Pacific Coast. Emotionally it would have been an extremely painful thing for him to do, but he would have done it just the same, for he saw quite clearly that it was the only thing for him to do as one who had been "wedded" to the United States. The traditional Japanese teachings, when faithfully followed, would not only justify, but more positively demand, his taking the side of the United States. No *Issei*, however, expressed his feelings on this extraordinarily sensitive subject. Yet, amazingly, this sentiment, in almost everybody's heart, quickly dominated the climate of opinion without anyone's expressing it. There could have been no split within the Japanese-American family insofar as the issue of war between the United States and Japan was concerned, for in that case

the *Issei* would stand solidly behind the *Nisei*.

¶ 5 Something dramatic had come over the *Issei*, and the direct cause was their *Nisei* children. Once their families became established, a people who had come to America only as birds of passage, intending to go home as soon as they had made their fortunes, discovered themselves gradually changing their outlook and their plans. The dream of a homecoming grew progressively more dim, and they were not entirely dismayed. Their roots had been sunk into American soil deeper than they themselves realized.

## 本文の内容に最もよく合うものをそれぞれ1つ選びなさい。

- 1 The party was held because ......
- (1) the Reverend Kitagawa was going away with two young Nisei
- (2) joining the U.S. Army was similar to being wedded to the United States
- (3) all of the Japanese-American community wanted to see the Reverend Kitagawa
- (4) two Japanese-American youths were going to leave the town to join the U.S. Army
- 2 According to what the elderly *Issei* said, the *Issei* were "wedded" to the United States because ......
- (1) each of them was once married.
- (2) they were like the husband of a new bride who had to obey his family's wishes
- (3) they had left their "original" home and come to live in the U.S., their new "true" home
- (4) Japanese are traditionally taught that one's loyalty to one's parents and family never changes
- [3] The *Nisei* could prove that they had inherited the best of Japanese teachings by ......
- (1) being worthy of their Japanese heritage
- (2) offering their sons to the United States
- (3) being loyal and brave soldiers for the United States
- (4) following the ideas concerning the traditional Japanese way of marriage

- 4 The fact that the elder *Issei* had children who were born in the United States ......
- (1) made him want to return to Japan
- (2) made him proud to see his son wearing a U.S. Army uniform
- (3) made him realize that he must stay in the United States and fight the Japanese if necessary
- (4) made him wonder what he should do if the Japanese should invade the United States mainland
- 5 Even though everyone at the party seemed to hold the same opinion about fighting against Japan, ......
- (1) no one spoke about it clearly
- (2) they still felt that they should take the side of Japan
- (3) the *Issei* thought they should fight for their country of birth (4) they could not do so since they were "wedded" to the United States
- 6 Concerning the war between Japan and the United States, it was clear that ......
- (1) the Nisei found it unwise to follow their parents' advice
- (2) the Issei and the Nisei both felt the same way about which side to take
- (3) the *Issei* wanted to hide behind the *Nisei* and have them protect them from the enemy
- (4) the *Issei* and the *Nisei* were not concerned about the war since they were married to the United States
- 7 When the *Issei* first came to the United States, ......
- (1) they hoped to change their outlook and plans
- (2) they soon changed their ideas about marriage
- (3) they intended to settle there and bring up a family
- (4) they hoped to make a lot of money and then return to Japan

アメリカの日系1世

出題データ

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難易度

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コメント

戦争中のアメリカでの日系人のことなので、なじみのない話だが、きちんと読んでいけば、全問正解はむずかしくありません。センターの長文と同じくらいのレベル。

## 解答・解説

下のアイコンをクリックすると、解答・解説が表示されます。解答・解説を閲覧するためには、パスワードが必要です。詳しくは、以下のサイトをご覧ください。



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