

**For Teachers:** Please have the students read the sentences one at a time and correct their pronunciation of each sentence then have them repeat after you. Wait until after they read the sentence (use the number in place of the missing word) to have the students choose the correct answer to fill in the blank. When the students finish the article, move on to the further questions.

## 4[C] – The Sky is the Limit

10.3(4C)A2E

When the United States joined 第2次世界大戦 (だいにじせかいたいせん) World War II in 1941, the country found  
なくてはならない 軍人 (ぐんじん) 物資 (ぶっし) ~を渡 (わた)って 大西洋 (たいせいよう)  
it necessary to send soldiers and supplies across the Atlantic Ocean to Europe.

しかしながら 沈没 (ちんぱつ)させられた 潜水艦 (せんすいかん)  
Many of the ships it used, however, were sunk by German submarines.

造船技師 (ぞうせんぎし) ~を思 (おも)いついた  
An American shipbuilder named Henry J. Kaiser came up with the idea of  
巨大 (きょだい)な はこぶ  
building huge airplanes that could be used instead of ships to carry the  
軍隊 (ぐんたい) 装備 (そうび)  
troops and equipment.

連絡 (れんらく)をとった 百万長者 (ひゃくまんちょうじゃ) 設計者 (せっけいしゃ)  
He contacted Howard Hughes, a millionaire and airplane designer,  
提案 (ていあん)した ~のような  
and suggested that they build such a plane together.

**Further Questions**\* Ask student to answer the question on their own at first. If the student can't answer correctly, have him look at the last page and read the "example answer" for the question. Have the student try to memorize the answer, if it's too long or difficult, you should divide the sentence into 2 or 3 parts to make it easier to remember. Once they have memorized the answer, the teacher should ask the question one last time so that the student can practice answering. Also if you find any mistakes, please mark the page and let me know ASAP.

- 1) Why did the United States struggle sending soldiers and supplies across  
the Atlantic? (なぜアメリカは軍人と物資を大西洋を渡って送ることに奮闘したのですか。)
- 2) Who was Howard Hughes? (Howard Hughes は誰ですか。)

In 1942, Hughes and Kaiser 署名 (しょめい)した 契約 (けいやく) 政府 (せいふ)  
signed a contract with the U.S. government to  
develop the Hercules, a giant 飛行機 (ひこうき) 離陸 (りりく)する  
plane that could take off from and  
着陸 (ちやくりく)させる 海洋 (かいよう)  
land on the ocean.

They promised that it would be large enough to carry 750 soldiers and their  
武裝 (ぶそう) 重要 (じゅうよう)な 難問 (なんもん) 直面 (ちょくめん)した けれども  
equipment. The major problem they faced, however, was the  
不足 (ふそく) 金属 (きんぞく) ~の原因 (げんいん)となつた 意味 (いみ)していた  
shortage of metals caused by the war. This meant that the plane  
had to be built almost entirely of wood.

Work started at Hughes's company in California.

## Further Questions

3) How large did Hughes and Kaiser plane for the airplane to be?

( Hughes と Kaiser の飛行機はどれくらいの大きさになりますか。 )

挑戦 ( ちようせん )

4) What was the largest challenge for building the airplane?

( 飛行機を作るにあたっての最大の挑戦はなんでしたか。 )

Although the plane was needed immediately, the work took far longer than expected. One reason was that even the small amount of metal they wanted was difficult to obtain.

Another was Hughes's concern with unimportant details. He would, for example, spend days worrying about the design of the plane's control panel.

Eventually, Kaiser left the project and Hughes carried on alone. By the time he finished, though, the war was over.

The Hercules was three times larger than any airplane that had been built before. Hughes had spent \$22 million of the government's money and \$8 million of his own money building it.

## Further Questions

特徴 ( とくちょう )

製造 ( せいぞう )

5) What trait did Hughes have that slowed down the production of the airplane?

( Hughes の特徴で飛行機の製造を遅らせたものはなんですか。 )

開発 ( かいはつ ) している間に

6) How much money was spent on developing the Hercules?

( Hercules の開発にはどのくらいの費用がかかりましたか。 )

Many people doubted that such a huge airplane could fly, and they criticized Hughes for spending so much public money on it. In 1947, Hughes was called to Washington, D.C., for questioning by the government. During the investigation's summer break, however, he returned to California to take the Hercules on a test flight.

To everyone's surprise, the huge plane rose 21 meters above the water and flew for about 1.6 kilometers. Hughes had shown his critics that the airplane could fly, and the government ended the investigation.

Although the Hercules never flew again, it became known as an engineering miracle, one that showed that a huge size does not make flying impossible.

7) What did Howard Hughes do during the investigation on him?

( Howard Hughes の取り調べの 間、彼はなにをしましたか。 )

8) Why do you think the airplane was never used after the first flight?

( あなたはなぜその飛行機が最初の飛行から使われることがなかったと思いますか。 )

\*Choose the correct answer from these choices.

(41) Why did Henry J. Kaiser want to build huge airplanes during World War II?

- 1 He hoped to sell them to Howard Hughes's airline company.
- 2 Ships carrying men and equipment were often <sup>攻撃 (こうげき)された</sup> attacked .
- 3 Such airplanes could be used <sup>~のような</sup> <sup>倒 (たお)すために</sup> to sink <sup>敵 (てき)</sup> enemy submarines.
- 4 It was becoming expensive for him to make ships.

(42) What was one difficulty faced by Hughes and Kaiser?

- 1 There was a shortage of wood in California.
- 2 They could not get all the metals that they needed.
- 3 Hughes's factory was <sup>~に位置 (いぢ)した</sup> located far from the Atlantic Ocean.
- 4 The airplane could not be designed to take off from land.

(43) What was one reason the Hercules took so long to build?

- 1 Kaiser left the project because the war had ended.
- 2 It was difficult to find workers because of the war.
- 3 Hughes spent a lot of time thinking about <sup>重要 (じゅうよう)でない</sup> minor details.
- 4 The government did not <sup>与 (あた)える</sup> provide the money it had promised.

(44) Why did the government end its investigation of Hughes?

- 1 His airplane never flew again after its first flight across the sea.
- 2 The war finished long before his airplane was ready to be used.
- 3 A test flight showed that his airplane was able to fly <sup>~にもかかわらず</sup> despite its size.
- 4 He successfully flew his airplane from California to Washington, D.C.

(45) Which of the following statements is true?

- 1 After the war, many people said Hughes had <sup>無駄 (むだ)にした</sup> wasted government money.
- 2 Kaiser and Hughes <sup>相談 (そうだん)していた</sup> argued over how much money to spend on the plane.
- 3 The Hercules project was not completed because Hughes <sup>完成 (かんせい)した</sup> ran out of <sup>使 (つか)い果 (は)たした</sup> money.
- 4 Hughes went to Washington, D.C, to get back the money he had spent on the project.

## Answers for "Further Questions".

1) Why did the United States 奮闘（ふんとう）する struggle sending soldiers and supplies across the 大西洋（たいせいよう）の Atlantic?

潜水艦（せんすいかん） The German submarines would 沈没（ちんぱつ）する sink many of their ships

2) Who was Howard Hughes?

He was a millionaire and airplane designer.

3) How large did Hughes and Kaiser plane for the airplane to be?

It was planned to be large enough to carry 750 soldiers and their equipment.

4) What was the largest challenge for building the airplane? 挑戦、努力

不足 There was a shortage of metal which required that the airplane be built 必修（ひっしゅう）の 完全に almost entirely from wood.

5) What trait did Hughes have that slowed down the production of the airplane? 特徴（とくちょう） 製造（せいぞう）

関係（かんけい）して He would spend a lot of time concerned with unimportant details such as the 細かいこと ～のような design of the control panel. 操作（そうさ）

6) How much money was spent 開発（かいはつ）している間に on developing the Hercules?

\$22 million of the government's money and \$8 million of his own was spent on the project.

7) What did Howard Hughes do during the investigation on him? 調査（ちょうさ）・とりしらべ

証明（しょうめい）する 可能（かのう）で He flew the Hercules proving that it was capable of flight.

8) Why do you think the airplane was never used after the first flight?

もはや～ない The war was over and the airplane no longer had a good use.