「小論文(英語)」採点基準説明書

キーワード (理解のための要点)

- 1. 脂肪税 (fat tax)、肥満、心臓病と糖尿病と戦う(fight obesity and combat heart disease and diabetes)
- 2. 平均寿命延伸 (prolong average life span)、健康状態改善 (improve the health)
- 3. 死亡率を上昇させる (responsible for higher death rates)、他の不健康な食品を志向す
- る (switch to other unhealthy foods)、脂肪だけを課税対象とすべきではない (should not be limited to fat alone)
- 4. 模範となり(will be a signal)、同様の措置 (similar measures)
- 5. 食品業界 (food industry)、収益低下 (earnings will go down)、追加税収 (additional tax dollars)

模範解答

要約(例)

デンマークは肥満、心臓病や糖尿病と戦うため脂肪税を導入した。政府は国民の平均寿命延伸、健康状態改善を目指している。すでに課税済みの砂糖などに加え、バター、ポテトチップス、ひき肉類などが対象となる。政府は数年後にその影響を評価する予定だ。デンマークの肥満人口は 10%に過ぎないが、専門家によると飽和脂肪酸が死亡率を上昇させている可能性がある。さらに人々が砂糖や塩分の多い他の不健康な食品を志向する可能性があり、脂肪だけを課税対象とすべきではないと主張する。この動きは、肥満大国である米国をはじめとする他の国々の模範となり、ヨーロッパ諸国も同様の措置を検討している。デンマークの食品業界、特に食肉生産者は、収益低下を恐れて課税に反対しているが、政府はこの措置により年間 4 億ドルの追加税収を見込んでいる。(347 字)

Opinion (Example)

I do not think we should have a fat tax in Japan. I think that the fat tax is a good way to fight obesity and make people's lives healthier in countries such as the United States where a large proportion of the population is overweight. However, I think that we need to think carefully about how effective it would be in Japan. I explain my reasons below.

The first reason is that this tax targets products that are necessary for daily living, such as butter and ground meat which may indeed be high in saturated fats but are not

totally unhealthy. I can agree with taxes on snacks, such as potato chips and ice cream, but adding more taxes on basic foods, such as butter and ground meat, will affect people financially, and people with a low income will struggle just to eat.

The second reason is that this tax could affect meat producers and the food industry in Japan. I think that such a tax could lead to the loss of jobs in the food industry and agriculture, which could hurt the economy in general.

Therefore, I think that it would be better to observe the effect that this tax has on Denmark first, before introducing this tax in Japan, and to think of a better solution that does not involve taxes to improve people's health without harming consumers and industries. (233 words)

Opinion (Example)

I think we should introduce a fat tax in Japan. Although Japan does not have a big problem right now with obesity like the United States and countries in Europe, such as Denmark, I believe that Japan would benefit from a fat tax in many ways. I explain my reasons below.

The first reason is that although the traditional diet in Japan is generally healthier than that of countries such as the United States, many people are now choosing to eat more Western style foods that are higher in fat. This is leading to an increase in Japanese people having health problems that are associated with an unhealthy diet, such as obesity and heart disease. I think a fat tax will make Japanese people eat less fatty food, and go back to eating traditional Japanese foods, which will improve the general health of the Japanese people.

The second reason is that I think Japan will benefit from the additional tax dollars that the government will receive from the fat tax. The country can use the extra money on many areas, such as education and healthcare. Improving the country's education and healthcare, etc., will lead to an increase in the general satisfaction and living standards of the Japanese people.

I think a fat tax will decrease the unhealthy habits of the Japanese people, while also help to increase their living standards and general satisfaction. These are the reasons why I think we should also have a fat tax in Japan. (248 words)