SOUND DL

CHANGE AND CONFLICT

Seeing the World through New York Times Articles
ニューヨークタイムズの窓から

Edited with Notes and Exercises

by Rume KITA

and Keith Wesley ADAMS

EIHŌSHA

CHANGE AND CONFLICT

Seeing the World through New York Times Articles

ニューヨークタイムズの窓から

Edited with Notes and Exercises
by
Rume KITA
and
Keith Wesley ADAMS

EIHŌSHA

はじめに

ニューヨークタイムズのおもしろさは，旬の話題をユニークな視点で切り取って，変容する社会と人びとの姿を見せてくれるところにあります．シリーズ5作目となるChange and Conflictは，12編の最新記事を5つの社会風景にまとめて取り上げました．

I. Comfort, Conflict, Economy & Environment

21世紀のキーワードのひとつは「環境に優しい生活ですが，それを追求しようとした時，社会と個人の生活にどのような影響が及ぶのでしょうか．また，環境に配慮しながら経済を発展させることは可能なのでしょうか．

II. Families, Friction, Gender & Alternatives

社会が大きく変化する中で，家族観やジェンダーのとらえ方に今までとは違う変化が見えてきました．中国，スウェーデン，アメリカからの報告を読みましょう．

III. Manners, Machines, Attachment & Addiction

めざましいテクノロジーの発展が私たちのコミュニケーションの方法を劇的に変えました．その利点と欠点は何でしょう．仕事や人間関係，人格に及ぼす影響も大きいようです．

IV. Bionics, Biology, Humanity & Limitations

最新の生命科学を紹介します．生れること，死にゆくことはもはや自然に任せるものではなくなっていることが読み取れるでしょう．私たちはどう選択すればいいのでしょうか．

V. Employment, Education, Happiness & Adaptation

経済の発展や衰退は人びとの職業観にも変化をもたらしました．どのような仕事が私たちに満足感を与えてくれるのでしょうか．中国とアメリカからの報告です．

グローバル化する世界の中で，新しい技術や発見が人びとに時に利益をもたらし，時に混乱を与えるさま，家族や仕事に対する価値観の変化が，ある人の人生には幸福を，別の人には不安や疑念をもたらすさまをニューヨークタイムズの窓からご覧ください．

このテキストの目的は次の3つです． 1. 世界標準の英語を読むこと 2. 語彙力の強化 3. 社会問題への意識を高めること． 練習問題は同僚のKeith Wesley Adams氏の手によるものです． 語彙力を高め，リーディングの確認を目的として作成してあります．労を惜しまず辞書を引き，じっくりと英語と向き合ってください．

註釈の作成においては，テクノロジーや医療など，各分野の専門家である友人，同僚，家族から多くの教えを受けました．また，Unit 3では同僚の楊涛氏に中国語からの英訳を快諾していただきました．ご協力いただいたすべての友人，同僚，家族に感謝いたします．

最後になりますが，英宝社の宇治正夫氏には今回もたいへんお世話になりました．編著者の好みを理解していただいたおかげで思い通りの仕事ができました．心より厚く御礼申し上げます．

2013年　盛夏

喜多　留女

Preface: Questioning Technological and Economic Change.

We all hope change is for the better, but obviously not all change is good. All shifts in society force upon us questions of adaptation, rejection, and conflicts both within our selves and between those who benefit and those who are negatively affected by the change. In the last decade we have been so awed by the powers of new technologies that we have seemed unable to refuse any kind of technological progress. What struck me about the stories gathered by my colleague, Rume Kita, for this edition of learning English through New York Times articles, is that there is at least a beginning of rejecting some technological and economic changes in favor of human happiness. Human health, happiness and nature seem continually in conflict with the economic and technological advancements that promise to improve our lives.

Almost universally, the recent technological changes written about in these articles came with negative costs. One of the main underlying themes —perhaps the major theme our times—is the conflict between economy and environment. Generally the gain of one is at the cost of the other. Even the seeming positive developments of developing biofuels to counteract CO2 emissions have consequences that are life threatening to large segments of the world population, mainly the rural poor. Of course this is unnecessary were we to put human interests first and allow small farmers to produce on small scale, but the economic drives of factory farming mean even the gains in CO2 emissions are countered by the large scale burning of latifundia-sized fields. Likewise, the life improvement offered by air conditioning, responsible for the productivity and growth of new tropical economic tigers like Singapore, is also responsible for global warming. Similarly, our vastly improved communication tools, smart phones and texting, even as they provide us with the ability to micromanage our time and participate in a wider social world, are creating addiction and a breakdown in common rules of decency. We might also have named this book, "The Troubles with Technology".

A number of stories are also about refusal: refusal to let social limits stop your desire for children; refusal to let language form a person's gender iden-

tity; refusal to update to more modern technology in favor of old; refusal to live longer than necessary; refusal of jobs with greater pay that do not bring happiness and a sense of self-fulfillment. Thus, not everyone is embracing economics and technological advancement; there are many questioning, especially when it comes to tinkering with our biology and our lives. Though science has brought us to a new biological frontier, wherein we may be able to prevent diseases before birth, and greatly extend the limits of our lives, the majority of people it seems, would prefer to not to artificially postpone death. And when it comes to jobs, there seems to be an outright rejection of wealth in favor of work that is more fulfilling, both by people in China rejecting higher paying but mind numbing factory work, and in America rejecting high finance for less paying, more spiritually nurturing jobs. Interestingly, the only mainly positive story with technology was the Japanese refusal to progress and throw away their outdated fax machines. However, this emotionally positive technological story, had a negative impact on the adaptability of their economy. It seems humans are finding happiness in the rejection of wealth and technology, the very things that offer them a better life.

Were there any purely positive stories of change? A recent report on the BBC claims that all the truly major positive economic changes in the last 10 to 20 years were not coming from China, India or the developing countries, or from IT and new technologies, but from women. Women are the most important driving force for positive economic development in the world today. Interestingly, the two most positive stories in the batch, are gender related: men embracing female occupations and the Swedish breaking down of gender barriers in elementary schools. While there are issues for conflicts in these items too—men getting a "glass elevator" in women's jobs, and conservatives upset about politically correct brainwashing of children, unaware that the status quo is also a form of brainwashing—conflict is not the major issue in these stories. It is the overcoming of conflict: men no longer have to feel conflicted about taking jobs that were once the preserve of women, and are finding a much greater happiness in their working lives for it. And children no longer have to feel conflicted about their natural proclivities, be they boys playing with rocks or dolls, or girls playing with rocks or dolls.

I also found positive the willingness of people to reject and adapt social

norms in order to overcome barriers to their happiness. While conservatives again will be upset by the development of couple-less child raisers, the consciousness and care with which otherwise unrelated men and women were compromising their lives to provide a stable and nurturing environment for a child seems to me a positive step in experimenting with life. Even if such relationships prove a failure, we stand to learn much about the nature of love, child raising and parenting.

So over all the main conflicts seem to be between economy and ecology, technology and humanity. The very changes that are supposedly improving our lives are bringing us conflicting benefits. There seems to be a winning of humanity among those who reject new technologies and economy in favor of more fulfilling work and family time, and loss where new technologies are pushed forward against the better interests of the people. In terms of values, however, it seemed the opposite was true. Positive change seems possible among those who rejected conservative values in favor of adaptation. These stories all provide insights into the conflicts we experience in the changes taking place in our world today.

Again, my role is to provide the language exercises, titles etc. I have stuck with the same basic format as *Trends in Transition*, of developing vocabulary in a relatively fun manner so that students may both experience the joy of learning and have a basis with which to discuss the issues.

Sincerely

Keith Wesley Adams

◆ CONTENTS ◆

IV. Bionics, Biology, Humanity & Limitations

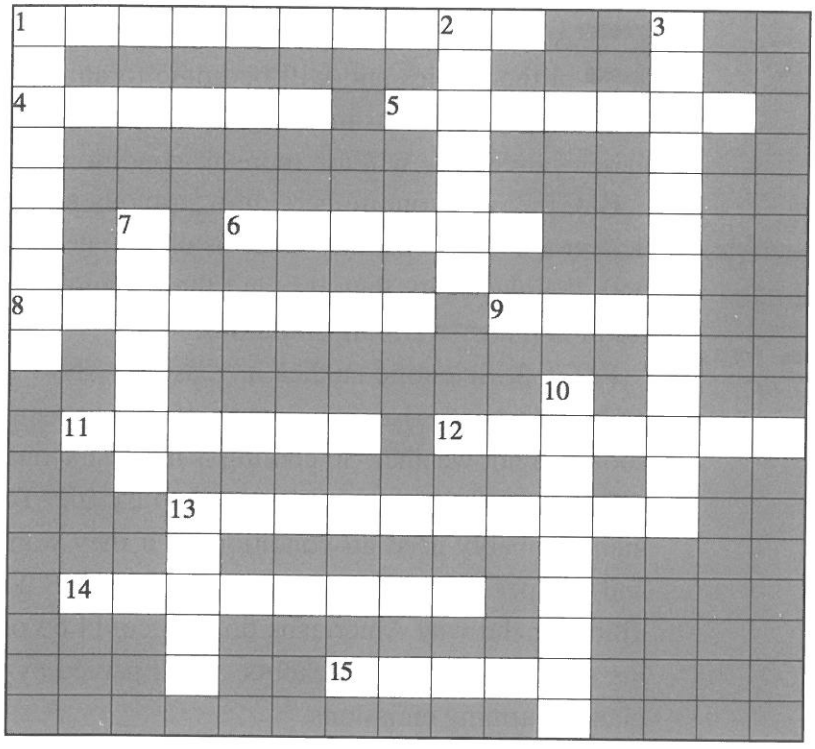
V. Employment, Education, Happiness & Adaptation

Unit 1
The Cost of Cool

By ELISABETH ROSENTHAL

Pre-reading

Match the words in the box on the next page to their descriptions to fill in the crossword.



Abstinence	Architect	Blackout	Booming	Coaxed	Consumer
Coolant	Copious	Craze	Double digits*	Draft	Drowsiness
Grid	Latent	Mandate	Steamy	Tolerated	

*Use space when filling in crossword.

Across

1. (n.) Self-denial, self-restraint, to do without, moderation.
4. (v.) Past participle, persuaded gently.
5. (adj.) Lots of, abundant, plentiful, profuse, bountiful, many.
6. (adj.) Hidden, dormant, present but unexpressed.
8. (n.) Shopper, user, purchaser, customer.
9. (n.)The electrical system or network supporting electricity to an area.
11. (adj.) Hot and humid, muggy, sweltering.
12. (adj.) Thriving, successful, profitable, flourishing.
13. (n.) Sleepiness.
14. (n.) Loss of electric light. A period without electricity.
15. (n.) A fad, trend, fashion, rage, obsession.

Down

1. (n.) A person who designs buildings.
2. (n.) A substance, usually a liquid or gas that prevents overheating.
3. (n.) Numbers from 10 to 99, often meaning a high amount.
7. (v.) To officially order or command people to do something.
10. (v.) Past tense, to accept or permit though not necessarily like.
13. (n.) A current of air in an enclosed space.

FACT 1: Nearly all of the world's booming cities are in the tropics and will be home to an estimated one billion new consumers by 2025. As temperatures rise, they — and we — will use more air-conditioning.

FACT 2: Air-conditioners draw copious electricity, and deliver a double whammy in terms of climate change, since both the electricity they use and the coolants they contain result in planet-warming emissions.

FACT 3: Scientific studies increasingly show that health and productivity rise significantly if indoor temperature is cooled in hot weather. So cooling is not just about comfort.

Sum up these facts and it's hard to escape: Today's humans probably need air-conditioning if they want to thrive and prosper. Yet if all those new city dwellers use air-conditioning the way Americans do, life could be one stuttering series of massive blackouts, accompanied by disastrous planet-warming emissions.

6 **whammy**「打撃」

7 **coolant**「冷媒」⇒Note 1

8 **emission**「ガスの排出」

We can't live with air-conditioning, but we can't live without it.

"It is true that air-conditioning made the economy happen for Singapore and is doing so for other emerging economies," said Pawel Wargocki, an expert on indoor air quality at the International Center for Indoor Environment and Energy at the Technical University of Denmark. "On the other hand, it poses a huge threat to global climate and energy use. The current pace is very dangerous."

4 **emerging**「新興の」

8 **pose**「引き起こす」

In 2007, only 11 percent of households in Brazil and 2 percent in India had air-conditioning, compared with 87 percent in the United States, which has a more temperate climate, said Michael Sivak, a research professor in energy at the University of Michigan. "There is huge latent demand," Mr. Sivak said. "Current energy demand does

14 **latent**「潜在的な」

not yet reflect what will happen when these countries have more money and more people can afford air-conditioning." He has estimated that, based on its climate and the size of the population, the cooling needs of Mumbai alone could be about a quarter of those of the entire United States, which he calls "one scary statistic."

7 **massive blackouts in India in July** ⇒Note 2
9 **grid**「送電系統」

Massive blackouts in India in July were almost certainly related to the rising use of air-conditioning and cooling, experts say, even if the immediate culprit was a grid that did not properly balance supply and demand.

"Cooling is the craze in India — everyone loves cool temperatures and getting to cool temperatures as quickly as possible," said Rajendra Shende, chairman of the Terre Policy Center in Pune, India. He said that cooling has become such a cultural priority that rather than advertise a car's acceleration, salesmen in India now emphasize how fast its air-conditioner can cool.

Scientists are scrambling to invent more efficient air-conditioners and better coolant gases to minimize electricity use and emissions. But so far the improvements have been dwarfed by humanity's rising demands.

23 **sobering**「考えさせられる」
24– **energy conservation**「省エネ」
26 **government offices**「官公庁」

And recent efforts to curb the use of air-conditioning have produced sobering lessons.

Since 2005, Japan had been promoting energy conservation through its annual summer "cool biz" campaign: air-conditioning thermostats in government offices were set to between 24 and 25 degrees and workers were told they could forsake business suits for looser, cooler clothes. So far so good.

31– **abstinence**「節制」
34 **nuclear power**「原子力発電による電力」
35– **to that end**「そのために」
37– **government-prescribed**「行政が定めた」

But in the past year, the country became an unwitting laboratory to study even more extreme air-conditioning abstinence, and the results have not been encouraging. After the Fukushima earthquake and tsunami knocked out a big chunk of the country's nuclear power, the Japanese government mandated vastly reduced energy consumption. To that end, lights have been dimmed and air-conditioners turned down or off, so that offices comply with the government-

prescribed indoor summer temperature of 28 degrees ; some offices have tried as high as 30.

Unfortunately, studies by Shin-ichi Tanabe, a professor of architecture at Waseda University in Tokyo who has long been interested in "thermal comfort," found that while workers tolerated dimmer light just fine, every degree rise in temperature above 25 degrees resulted in a 2 percent drop in productivity. Over the course of the day that meant they accomplished 30 minutes less work, he said.

5 **thermal comfort**「温熱環境の快適性」

Other studies have found that with office temperatures between 28 and 30 degrees, symptoms like headache, drowsiness and difficulty concentrating increase, which may explain the drop in performance.

13 **performance**「業績，仕事量」

Worse still, perhaps, Mr. Tanabe calculated that the suffering was all for naught: When offices were kept above about 28 degrees, so many people were using inefficient fans at their desks that the total electricity consumption could be higher than if the building had been better cooled. "That's just stupid," he said.

15 **all for naught**「無駄」

Some studies from hot and humid Singapore also show that work improved if the thermostat was lowered to about 22. "It's a huge problem if we have to cool buildings in tropical environments to that level, in terms of energy use and climate," said Mr. Wargocki, who is a visiting researcher at the National University there.

24– **visiting researcher**「客員研究員」

But a new report by the McKinsey Global Initiative predicts that one billion city dwellers "will enter the global consuming class by 2025." And, for most of them, an air-conditioner will most likely be a first purchase since almost all of the cities with the highest potential cooling needs, according to Mr. Sivak's research, are in developing countries that are in hot climates. These include Chennai, India; Bangkok; Manila; Jakarta, Indonesia; Karachi, Pakistan; Lagos, Nigeria and Rio de Janeiro. Sales of air-conditioning units are already growing by double digits annually in many emerging economies.

35 **double digits**「二桁」

SO researchers say the best hope is that we all adjust our air-conditioning expectations and behavior. Workers could wear lighter, looser clothing to work in summer — instead of carrying sweaters to protect themselves from over-chilled air. Architects could design office blocks using materials that did not conduct so much heat and where humans could open the windows to take advantage of natural ventilation and breezes.

"The temperature many Americans find most comfortable indoors in summer —21 degrees — feels uncomfortable to most Europeans, who find it too cold," said Mr. Sivak, who suggested that Europe's greater environmental awareness might make people more inclined to put on an extra sweater in winter or tolerate a bit more heat in summer.

12 **environmental awareness**「環境に対する意識」

Unfortunately many tropical places — including Singapore, Malaysia and Hong Kong — seem to have followed the United States' lead in cooling preferences, Mr. Tanabe said.

But certainly if I deserve to have an air-conditioner here in New York, my counterpart in Mumbai deserves to have one, too. So individuals need to be coaxed to make new choices.

19 **deserve to ~**「~してもおかしくない，~するのも当然だ」

"We need to educate people there are other ways to be comfortable than just turning up the A.C., you have to use it wisely," said Mr. Wargocki, speaking from his condo in Singapore with the windows open late one evening to create natural drafts for cooling. He began telling me about how the European Union was effectively forcing companies to use less cooling, by mandating that new buildings meet stricter energy-use standards.

24 **A. C. = air conditioning**

30 **energy-use standard**「エネルギー使用の基準」

I was listening from my living room in New York on a steamy Sunday morning. Given the topic of our conversation, I had the air-conditioner off, and the temperature was 29 or so. I couldn't concentrate.

32 **given ~**「~を考慮して」

August 18, 2012

Notes

1 かつての冷媒は塩素化合物のフロンガスが主流であったが，オゾン層が破壊され有害な紫外線が降り注ぐ危険性があるので，現在では塩素を含まないものが使われている．しかしながら，この代替冷媒は地球温暖化係数では二酸化炭素の千数百倍のレベルである．

2 2012年7月30日と31日の2日間，インドに5つある主要な送電網のうち3つでトラブルが発生し，全29州のうち22州で大規模停電が起こり，交通網の混乱や企業の操業停止など，人口の半分にあたる6億人の生活に甚大な影響が出た．

Post-reading

Match the compounds to their description.

1. City dwellers		A. Learning information that causes serious thought.
2. Climate change		B. Newly developing countries.
3. Cultural priority		C. People who live in an urban area.
4. Current pace		D. Indoor air currents caused by building structure rather than by an electrical device.
5. Double whammy		E. Potential for great need, use, development & sales.
6. Emerging economies		F. Large scale alteration of weather patterns often related to global warming.
7. Global consumer		G. A temperature that is neither too hot nor too cold.
8. Immediate culprit		H. Two bad things occurring in a row, or simultaneously from one event.
9. Huge latent demand		I. The present speed [of development.]
10. Natural drafts/natural ventilation		J. A person who buys goods made in countries all around the world.
11. Sobering lessons		K. Of utmost importance to a specific social group.
12. Thermal comfort		L. The person or thing directly to blame.

Comprehension Questions

1. How many new consumers are expected in the tropics by the year 2025?

2. Why do air-conditioners deliver a "double-whammy" in terms of climate change?

3. In 2007, what was the percentage of houses in tropical India that had air-conditioning, compared to houses in the temperate United States?

4. What is the statistic that research professor Sivak says is "scary?"

5. When did the Japanese government start the "cool biz" campaign and what does it entail?

6. What percentage drop in productivity results from the Japanese government's prescribed indoor summer temperature of 28 degrees?

7. What event prompted this higher temperature setting?

8. What symptoms are likely caused by such high temperatures in the office environment?

9. Why does professor Tanabe say this effort is stupid?

10. What are some of the solutions to this problem according to Mr. Wargocki?