財団 全国商業高等学校協会主催

第2回パソコン入力スピード認定試験問題 (20.2.9)

英 語 部 門

(制限時間10分)

試験委員の指示があるまで、下の事項を読みなさい。

[書式設定]

- 1. A 4 縦長用紙
- 2. 1行の文字数を半角76字(全角38字)、1ページの行数を29行に 設定しなさい。
- 3. ヘッダーに試験実施校名、受験番号を入力しなさい。
- 4. ページ番号を答案用紙の下に入れること。
- 5. フォントの種類は明朝体、フォントのサイズは 1 2 ポイントに設定する こと。(問題のフォントは Courier New で作成している。)
- 6. プロポーショナルフォントは使用しないこと。

[注意事項]

- 1. 問題のとおり、すべて半角英数文字で入力しなさい。
- 2. 入力したものの訂正などの操作は制限時間内に行いなさい。

試験終了後

- 1. 答案用紙が2枚以上になった場合、左端上をステープラー (ホッチキス) でとめなさい。
- 2. 答案用紙、試験問題を提出しなさい。

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It seems like every time I pass through a major station in Tokyo there is someone handing out free packets of pocket tissues with an advertising insert. Is this form of marketing unique to Japan? I have never seen it in any other country. What really puzzles me is that sometimes the person handing out the tissues seems to be giving them only to certain people. Just the other day, in Shibuya, a tissue man did not offer me one of his packs, and when I put out my hand to ask, he actually refused!

Four billion packets of free tissues are distributed every year in Japan, a large proportion of which end up in my apartment. I just went through the places they collect, including a kitchen drawer and a basket just inside our entranceway, and found give-away tissues from travel agencies, consumer finance companies, fitness clubs, optical chains, banks and so on. The most interesting find was a pack with recruiting information for Japan's Self-Defense Forces.

Why would such a range of organizations use tissues to promote their messages? Because, in Japan, tissue-marketing is a proven and inexpensive way to advertise. For a cost of as little as \(\frac{1}{2}\)10 to \(\frac{2}{2}\)5 you can get your message directly into the hands of potential customers. What's more, consumers who accept the tissues are likely to read your advertisement. If you are lucky, they will look it over several times before the tissues are used up.

In a recent Internet survey of over 100,000 Japanese consumers conducted by a research company, 76 percent said they accept free tissues. (That is a much higher acceptance rate than for leaflets.) When asked if they look at the advertisement accompanying the tissues, slightly more than half said they either "definitely look" or "at least glance" at the advertisement. When asked why, many respondents said they hoped to find a coupon or special offer. Yet others displayed a

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very Japanese sense of obligation for having received a gift, giving
answers like "because they were so kind to have given me something" and
"if I accepted them, I figure it would be rude not to look."

As you surmised, the concept of tissue marketing was indeed developed in Japan. It dates back to the late 1960s, when the founder of a paper-goods manufacturer in Kochi Prefecture was looking around for ways to expand demand for paper products. At the time, the most common marketing freebie in Japan was boxes of matches, often given away by banks and used primarily by women in the kitchen.

Figuring tissues would have wider appeal (because everyone has to blow their nose, and carry insurance against public toilets with no tissues), the company developed the machinery to fold and package tissues into easy-to-carry pocket-sized packs. The new product was marketed only as a form of advertising and was not sold to consumers. Even now, pocket tissues hardly exist as a retail category in Japan because everyone expects to receive them for free.

Japan is still the main market for tissue-pack advertising, but the practice is beginning to spread overseas. A subsidiary of a Japanese trading giant introduced tissue marketing in New York in 2005 and now offers it throughout the United States.

"Our first clients were Japanese companies, who were already familiar with the concept, but as awareness of the medium increased, U. S. companies began to adopt tissues as a way to promote their brands," they said.

It's quite common to target a certain demographic; a company advertising a beauty product, for example, will ask distribution staff to favor women in their 20s when passing out the tissues. At a Kyoto-based advertising agency, more than half of tissue-marketing clients request targeted distribution, according to their Internet sales

第2回パソコン入力スピード認定試験 (20.2.9) 【英語部門】

manager. But such requests are tricky.	380
"People like to receive free tissues, and passersby outside of the	3868
targeted group may ask for a pack," he allowed. "Refusing might create	3940
bad feelings and hurt the advertiser's image, so we instruct our workers	4013
to give them to anyone who asks."	4048
Unfortunately for those of us who count on a steady supply of free	4115
nose-wipes, the tissue-marketing industry is suffering a slump along	4184
with its biggest users, major consumer loan companies. With advertisers	4257
cutting back, some tissue-pack suppliers are reporting a 20 to 25	4323
percent drop in orders. Even so, the industry in Japan alone is still	4394
generating approximately ¥75 billion in sales. And that's certainly	4463
nothing to sneeze at!	4484