

英語科より 2 年生の皆さんへ (3 月 23 日)

家庭学習に入って 3 週間が経とうとしていますが、生活リズムを保って学習していますか。ELEMENT の Lesson 9, 10 の読解は進んだでしょうか。一人だと張り合いがないかもしれませんね。皆で意見を交換することで発見することも多いでしょう。


今回は、懐かしい Lesson 7 “iPS Cells” (山中教授の iPS 細胞の話ですね) を読んだ後に、一部のクラスで書いてもらったエッセーをいくつか皆さんに紹介します。自分が書いたものがあるかもしれませんよ。エッセーのテーマは「クローンを作ることが可能となり、クローンペットビジネスも盛んになっている。人間に関しては、移植するための臓器の提供、亡くなった子供の再生を願う人もいるが、人間のクローンを作ることは禁止されている。それはなぜだと思いますか。」です。皆さんはどう思いますか。

Essay Writing

Prior to the development of tissue engineering, large areas of a patient's skin had to be removed and transplanted to treat burns and other injuries. Now, thanks to the work of Dr. Yamanaka and other scientists, iPS cells can be created and transplanted with a high rate of success. Scientists are even able to create new life by cloning. The pet cloning business has become bigger and bigger. Some companies have created clone horses, cows, and sheep to supply high quality livestock. However, cloning human beings is prohibited, of course. Some people may want to clone themselves to obtain internal organs to cure their illness. Some parents may want to clone their dead child, just like some pet owners clone their dead pets. Still, cloning human beings must not be allowed. Why? Write your own opinion in English.

 Brittany's opinion:

Cloning humans would be unethical because cloning a whole human would mean giving life to another human. If these human clones were denied the right to a long life so that their organs may be harvested and given to the “original” human, then we will be oppressing those human clones. In the past, the bodies of minorities have been used and hurt by medical professionals to benefit people with more power. Human clones might experience that same fate.

 My opinion:

It is true that we want spare parts to cure our illnesses, so some people want to clone themselves to get internal organs. If this were possible, we would not have to worry about serious illnesses! It sounds wonderful. However, we must not forget

this; human clones are also people who have the right to live their own lives. Of course, nobody would think of killing those human clones to get internal organs, like in a novel, but some may think that producing an embryo clone to get body parts is acceptable, insisting that embryos do not have the right to live. We tend to overlook negative aspects when we are desperate for something. Once creating embryo clones is approved, it would be difficult to prevent some people from creating human clones secretly. We should not allow ourselves to slide down this slippery slope.



My opinion:

I think there are bioethics and medical ethics if you use human clones to heal someone's illness. Human clones have to have the same human rights as we do. So, using human clones as donors is the same as killing them. Also, I am afraid some people think about cloning soldiers if the human cloning technology develops.



My opinion:

I think there are two reasons for prohibiting human cloning. First, if we were allowed to make human clones, we would be able to control human lives because we could make an alternative to a person who passed away. Second, human cloning is not good for the field of international relations. If we could make clone soldiers, we would begin war against some countries because we do not have to worry about it costing lives. Therefore, human cloning must not be allowed.



My opinion:

Cloning human beings must not be allowed. Of course, I can understand how some parents feel when they lose their child and how desperately they want to clone their dead child. It is a good point of cloning. However, cloning humans has a very serious problem. Even though human clones are created by scientists, they are still human beings just as we are. So, taking out internal organs from those human clones for transplantation means "killing" them.



My opinion:

If there were many human clones in the world, you could not distinguish real human beings from clones. Then, a lot of troubles would happen. For example, some people may think of using clones to commit a crime. Some people, who are real humans, might be arrested though they did nothing. The number of false accusations would increase. Also, cloning human beings is inconsistent with ethics. The value of

existing lies in that each human being is the “only” one in existence in the world. There would be no meaning in living, if we made our clones. We have to live our original life.

☺ My opinion:

Cloning humans prevents us from understanding the importance of life. If humans could create clones from dead humans, we would not remember how sad the death is. Moreover, the population of the world would be bigger, so we could not supply enough food to all the people in the world.

☺ My opinion:

People who were born as clones must be equal to us as human beings. However, they might be discriminated against by “original” people. We do not like to be imitated by others, so we would hate human clones likewise.

☺ My opinion:

Cloning humans is against bioethics. Though there is a religious reason, I think, controlling genes is an area region we must not step into. Also, if the number of human clones increased, discrimination against them would increase.

☺ My opinion:

The idea of cloning humans makes the value of life lower. If my parents could make my clone after I die, she could become my replacement.

いかがでしたか。SF 小説の中の話のようですが、技術的にはクローン人間を誕生させることはできると言われています。彼らの存在について考えることは私たちの生き方を考えることにもなりそうですね。興味のある人は是非、イギリスの小説家カズオイシグロの「わたしを離さないで」“Never Let Me Go”を読んでみてください。とても感動的かつ、魅力的な内容なのでとてもお勧めです！！