

## I 期 (一般)

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武蔵野大学大学院 人間社会研究科 人間学専攻 人間行動学コース 入学試験問題 (9 月 23 日)

[ 英語 ]

以下の文章を和訳しなさい。

In daily life, a glance at a face may provide an observer with an impressive amount of different types of information that are of great help in social and cognitive interactions with the surrounding environment. Within milliseconds, the observer can accurately and effortlessly determine the person's age, sex, and mood, whether the person is familiar or not, what his or her identity is, the direction of his or her gaze, and so on. How do these remarkable face-processing capacities emerge? Some authors suggest that, because of the relevance of faces in human life, natural selection led to the evolution of innate face-specific devices that are available prior to any postnatal experience and enable the individual to interact successfully with the world. In contrast, other authors hold that the extensive and prolonged experience that almost everyone commonly has with faces gradually renders people exceptional experts in recognizing individual faces.

An important contribution toward resolving this long-standing issue may come from the study of an intriguing phenomenon observed a few hours after birth, when visual experience with faces is still minimal. When presented with facelike and nonfacelike patterns, newborns spontaneously look longer at and orient more frequently toward the configuration that represents a face. Early reports of newborns' preference for faces were subsequently supported by studies that, with a few exceptions, demonstrated this phenomenon with both static and moving stimuli, and both schematic and veridical images of faces. What induces newborns to look longer at a face? Is there an innate face-specific mechanism devoted to this purpose? Or, on the contrary, does newborns' face preference stem from the general properties of perceptual processing?

[Turati C (2004). Why faces are not special to newborns: An alternative account of the face preference. *Current Directions in Psychological Science* 13: 5-8.]より。