

**For Teachers:** Please have the students read the sentences one at a time and correct their pronunciation of each sentence then have them repeat after you. Wait until after they read the sentence (use the number in place of the missing word) to have the students choose the correct answer to fill in the blank. When the students finish the article, move on to the further questions.

日本語訳なしタイプ B もございます。スクロールダウンするとございますので好きな方をご利用下さい。

2[A] – Patently Ridiculous

Version3 G1 09-3

1. Contrary to its original aim, the current patent system in the United States is ( **26** ). So says Adam Jaffe of Brandeis University, who together with Harvard Business School’s Josh Lerner wrote a book about the system. Simply defending themselves against lawsuits claiming patent infringement—usually concerning highly technical matters—can cost companies <sup>侵害 (しんがい)</sup> dear , diverting resources from the business of product development. Jaffe and Lerner believe fear of patent <sup>高 (たか) い</sup> litigation <sup>訴訟 (そしょう)</sup> actually keeps many new products off the market and has an adverse effect on the economy.

**Further Questions**\*Ask student to answer the question on their own at first. If the student can't answer correctly, have him look at the last page and read the "example answer" for the question. Have the student try to memorize the answer, if it's too long or difficult, you should divide the sentence into 2 or 3 parts to make it easier to remember. Once they have memorized the answer, the teacher should ask the question one last time so that the student can practice answering. Also if you find any mistakes, please mark the page and let me know ASAP.

2. **1)** What was the original aim of the patent system in the United States?

3. アメリカ合衆国の特許システムの本来の目的は何でしたか。

4. **2)** What do Jaffe and Lerner believe fear of patent litigation does?

5. Jaffe と Lerner は特許訴訟への懸念として何を考えていますか。

6. **1)** *The original intention was to foster (aid/assist/help) commercial innovation.*

7. **2)** *They believe fear of patent litigation actually keeps many new products off the market.*

8. As a consequence, chief executive from 28 major corporations sent President Obama a letter in March 2009, urging him to help reform the system. They argue that in order to avoid future <sup>争 (あらそ) い</sup> squabbles, patents should be granted to the first person to file an application rather than the first to invent something, a fact which is often difficult to prove.

**Further Questions**

9. **3)** What did chief executives from 28 major corporations argue?

10. 28 の主要企業の社長たちは何と主張したのですか。

11. **4)** What is difficult to prove?

12. 何を証明するのが難しいのですか。

**3)** *They argued that in order to avoid future squabbles, patents should be granted to the first person to file an application rather than the first to invent something.*

13. **4)** *It is difficult to prove who first invented something.*

14.

人員不足 (じんいんぶそく) の

15. Corporations are not alone in ( 27 ). The understaffed Patent and Trademark Office is overwhelmed with applications, the fees from which are its only source of income. Furthermore, the federal government has not helped. It has been siphoning money from the patent office to cover other government debts. The agency is therefore desperate for cash, a situation it is dealing with the only way it can—by reviewing applications as quickly as possible. All this pressure filters down to patent examiners, who usually work alone issuing individual patents. The result, says Lerner, is a reduction in the quality of the review process. Patents that for technical reasons should not have been issued are being given the OK.

### Further Questions

16. 5) What has the federal government been doing to the patent office?
17. 連邦政府は特許庁に対して何をしましたか。
18. 6) What is the result of patent examiners working alone and issuing individual patents?
19. 一人で働き、それぞれの特許を交付している特許審査官によって、どんな結果になりましたか。
20. 5) *It has been siphoning money away from the patent office to cover other government debts.*
21. 6) *The result is a reduction in the quality of the review process.*
22. Jaffe and Lerner point out that articles for publication in scientific journals are reviewed by a panel of peers. If rulings on whether an application is worthy of a patent were determined by suitably qualified experts, this ( 28 ). Examiners—who cannot be expected to possess specialized knowledge about every kind of technical innovation—would find their workload lightened, and the chance of lawsuits would be reduced by ensuring that only applications which are valid get approved.

### Further Questions

23. 7) What is done with articles for publication in scientific journals?
24. 科学雑誌に掲載される記事に対して何が行われましたか。
25. 8) What would be the result of having patents reviewed by a panel of peers?
26. 特許が仲間うちで再審査されることで、どんなことが起こりますか。
- 27.
28. 7) *Articles for publication in scientific journals are reviewed by a panel of peers.*
29. 8) *Examiners would find their workload lightened and the chance of lawsuits would be reduced.*

### \*Choose the correct answer from these choices.

31. (26) 1 favoring huge corporations
32. 2 increasing application numbers
33. 3 hampering commercial innovation

34. 4 becoming more 秘密主義 (ひみつしゆぎ) の secretive
35. (27) 1 強 (つよ) く要求 (ようきゅう) する clamoring for change
36. 2 悪用 (あくよう) する exploiting the law
37. 3 profiting from technology
38. 4 supporting the president's idea
39. (28) 1 could complicate the issue
40. 2 would alleviate the current problems
41. 3 could face criticism from the government
42. 4 would remove the need for the patent office

43. **Answers for "Further Questions"**

44. 1) What was the original aim of the patent system in the United States?
45. *The original intention was to foster(/aid/assist/help) commercial innovation.*
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47. *They believe fear of patent litigation actually keeps many new products off the market.*
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49. *They argued that in order to avoid future squabbles, patents should be granted to the first person to file an application rather than the first to invent something.*
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60. 解答: (26) 3 (27) 1 (28)2

Type B 日本語訳なし

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