

## 翻訳にあたってのヒント

### その 26

#### 「1年の中で今頃」を示す句の英訳で気づいた点

この日本語にあたる英語が、"at this time of year" であると疑わずに丸暗記していた時期があった。夜学の学生時代に、英語講師から「of の後に何て言いましたか。もう一回言ってください」と聞かれたので、"year" と言い定冠詞は付けなかったと回答したら、「それでよろしい」と同意された記憶がこびりついて離れなかったからだ。しかしよくよく探っていくと、of の後には定冠詞が付いたり・無冠詞になっていたりと、どちらでもいいようである。ちなみに Google で「at this time of year」と「at this time of the year」をそれぞれ検索してみたが、ヒット数はどちらも 16 億 5 千万件であった。では、Yahoo ではどうかと同じく検索したら、「at this time of year」が 9 億 1 千 6 百万件、「at this time of the year」だと 9 億 1 千 8 百万件がヒットした。

これからすると、「at this time of the year」のほうに僅差で軍配があがりそうだが、どちらでも問題なしとみなしてもいいだろう。以下にその例文（無冠詞・定冠詞付き・どちらも適用可能なもの）をあげておくことにしよう。

★ at this time of (the) year 1 年の今頃（今時分）、この季節、1 年（毎年）のこの時期、毎年この頃、この時分、今の時期、1 年の中で今頃、季節柄、通例毎年この時期、etc. :

■ ◆ at this time of year（無冠詞）◆ ■ :

- ◆ At this time of year the days are warm, but the temperature drops off at night.
- ◆ How long does daylight last at this time of year?
- ◆ This time of year, when it's neither too hot nor too cold, is the best for studying.
- ◆ This time of year, we get a lot of guests coming here for the entrance exams.
- ◆ Oranges taste their best at this time of year.
- ◆ The cows are not milking well at this time of year.
- ◆ The flowers in your garden make a fine show at this time of year. 。

■ ▼ at this time of the year（定冠詞付き）▼ ■ :

- ▼ This is the busiest time of the year for us.
- ▼ ... at this time [season] of the year
- ▼ At this time of the year the sun rises in roughly this direction.
- ▼ This is the hottest time of the year.
- ▼ At this time of the year, a variety of wild vegetables liven up the table.

- ▼ Although lettuces seem like a great buy compared to a few weeks ago, they are still about twice as high as normal for this time of the year.
- ▼ What is the traditional greeting at this time of the year?
- ▼ Purchases usually fall at this time of the year.
- ▼ Demand slackens off at this time of the year.
- ▼ ... at this time of the year
- ▼ About this time of the year is the best for going on walks.

■ ● at this time of (the) year (無冠詞か定冠詞付き) ● ■ :

- It's good weather for this time of (the) year.
- The hills are beautiful at this time of (the) year.
- It generally blows hard at this time of (the) year.
- ... every year at this time; at this time of (the) year.
- Our business is at a low ebb at this time of (the) year.
- At this time of (the) year, the weather changes periodically.
- Easterly winds prevail at this time of (the) year.
- The weather is generally unsettled at this time of (the) year.
- It's quite unusual for it to snow at this time of (the) year.

季節柄、今は紅葉シーズンでもある。そこで・・・

Why don't you take a trip to the mountains for leaf peeping at this time of the year?

Well, so much for today...

zzz...

(これにて、翻訳一口メモ 26 回目完了)