

以下、下線部を和訳しなさい。出典：「速読英単語 15～17」

15.

Bamboos are the fastest-growing plants on Earth. A typical bamboo grows as much as 10 centimeters in a single day. Certain species grow up to a meter during the same period, or about 1 millimeters every 2 minutes. You can actually see the plant grow in front of your eyes. Most species of bamboo reach maturity in just 5 to 8 years. Compare this to other popular hard woods that barely grow an inch in a week. Trees such as oak can take up to 120 years to reach maturity. But when it comes to flowering, bamboos are probably one of the slowest plants in the world. The flowering of bamboos is an interesting phenomenon, because it is a unique and very rare occurrence in the plant kingdom. Most bamboos flower once every 60 to 130 years. The long flowering intervals remain largely a mystery to many scientists.

16.

These bamboos exhibit another strange behavior – they all flower at the same time, all over the world, irrespective of geographic location and climate, as long as they were derived from the same mother plant. It is as if the plants carry an internal clock ticking away until the preset alarm goes off simultaneously. This mass flowering phenomenon also attracts small animals, mainly rats. The sudden availability of fruit in huge quantities in the forest brings in tens of millions of hungry rats who feed, grow and multiply at alarming rates. After they eat all the bamboo fruit, the rats start consuming crops – both in storage as well as in the field. So, a bamboo flowering event is almost always followed by famine and disease in nearby villages. In the northeastern Indian state of Mizoram, the terrible event, known in the local language as mantam or “bamboo death” occurs almost like clockwork every 48 to 50 years, when the local bamboo species blooms and produces fruit.

17.

Acid indigestion is a common problem affecting millions of people around the world. There are several other names for acid indigestion, including upset stomach, acid reflux, indigestion and heartburn. As the name suggests, there is usually too much acid in the stomach, which causes a burning sensation in the stomach that can move up into the throat. The intensity can range from being mildly uncomfortable to extremely painful. Some people suffer from it permanently, while most people only experience it once in a while. Overeating, a poor sleeping position or eating too much oily or spicy food can cause it. Sugary foods and alcohol can also cause it.

解答欄

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お名前：