



Lesson 7

Science and technology have given us a comfortable life. But sometimes our technology damages the natural world. Janine Benyus, a science writer, suggests a way to make our technology conform to nature: "biomimicry."

1

No other living thing on earth has accomplished more than human beings. We have created many useful things such as airplanes, trains, computers, cell phones, medicines and pesticides, as well as institutions such as schools, universities, hospitals and banks. **G-2** Without them, the

No other living thing ~

105-1

Why Biomimicry? 

modern world would not exist.

These things let us travel far and wide, gather information quickly, educate ourselves, and treat diseases. However, things we have created can be harmful. Pesticides kill insects but can poison the soil. We need cars, but CO₂ may be one of the main causes of global warming.

Now the question we must ask is:

G-3 If we were to live in harmony with nature, could we maintain our comfortable way of living? In other words, how is it possible for us to live a sustainable life? **TF**

far and wide in other words

105-2

Why Biomimicry? 

No other living thing ~ *cf.* No other soccer team is more famous than Nadeshiko.

far and wide ≡ everywhere

in other words ≡ that is (to say),
to put it another way

G-2 Without music, life would be boring.

G-3 If we were to miss the examination, we would be in real trouble.

Q1 What are some of the useful things that humans have created?

Q2 What question does Benyus say we must ask ourselves?

 **音読練習**

強勢に注意しながら、第4課で取り上げた貫戸朋子さんの気持ちになって、次の文章を音読しましょう。

- (1) It is my hope that many more Japanese will volunteer for such work, go and see more of the world, and begin to have a sense of compassion for people who need help.
- (2) Crossing the border takes courage — your family and friends may object — but if it seems to you the right thing to do, follow your heart.