

READING

〈復習用CD TRACK 2~6〉

次の英文を読んで、設問に答えよ。

Human beings like to generalize. Listen attentively to those around you, and notice the generalizations that come into every conversation: City people are unfriendly; politicians are dishonest; modern art is worthless; Americans are materialistic. The examples could be continued endlessly.

5 When ⁽¹⁾[how / can / such generalizations / mistaken / realize / we] be, we may want to say that all generalizations are false. But such a statement would be the most mistaken generalization of all. Should we perhaps say, “All generalizations are half-truths, including this one”? No, because some generalizations are true, others are false, and still others are uncertain or doubtful. That is a dull way to express
10 the fact, but ⁽²⁾this generalization happens to be true.

To illustrate how a generalization is formed, consider the following: Several years ago I visited France, and ate at various restaurants that had been recommended to me. The food was excellent in each. Then one day I was unable to go to any of my customary eating places. I ate in a small restaurant, far from the center of Paris.
15 The food was excellent. I then tried other restaurants, always with ⁽³⁾the same results. I generalized: All French restaurants serve excellent meals.

⁽⁴⁾A generalization is a statement that includes more than what is actually observed. It proceeds to a rule or law that includes both the observed cases and those not yet observed. Thus the generalization may not be true, even though the
20 observations on which it is based are true. Somewhere in France there may have been a restaurant where the food was not good at the time of my visit. ⁽⁵⁾If so, then my generalization was false.

Many generalizations are statements with this form: All A's are B's. “All” means exactly what it says: all, without exception. A single exception destroys a
25 generalization of this kind. ⁽⁶⁾In science, when an exception to a rule is definitely proved, the law is abandoned or changed. All too often, generalizations are false