

## Lesson 4

### Paving the Way to a More Inclusive Society

#### ディクテーションシート

クラス	番号	名前
-----	----	----

❶ “Thanks to these blocks, I can walk around freely and safely in the city.” This is a comment from a visually impaired person in Japan about *tenji* blocks, known as tactile paving in English. This system helps people with a <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ impairment to travel around in public. There are two types of tactile paving. One has raised <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ which indicate directions. The other has raised <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ which act as a <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ sign in front of stairs, at <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, or near the edge of platforms. Visually impaired people can understand the direction or notice any danger by stepping on these blocks or touching them with a white stick.

❷ It may surprise some people to learn that tactile paving originated in Japan. It was invented by Miyake Seiichi in his hometown of Okayama. Miyake had a friend who was losing his <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_, and wanted to help him get around safely in public. One day, Miyake saw a person with a white stick almost hit by a car at an <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_. This experience inspired him to invent a system of blocks to <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ visually impaired people of possible danger on the street. Miyake realized if some patterns like braille were put on the ground, people might be able to “read” them with their feet or a stick. After spending a lot of time and money, Miyake completed the first tactile paving <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ in 1965. He provided some blocks for free to various organizations in Okayama, Osaka, and other cities. He hoped that his invention would spread throughout Japan, but unfortunately, at that time, it received little interest.

❸ The situation changed <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ in 1970, when a school for visually impaired children in Osaka made a request to Japanese National Railways (JNR). For the students’ safety, the school asked JNR to lay tactile paving on the platform of the

nearby station. The organization agreed to its request, and other facilities also began to  
<sup>11</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ tactile paving. From that time, tactile paving began to spread  
<sup>12</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

④ In 1976, the United Nations <sup>13</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ 1981 as the International Year of Disabled Persons. It called for action to support disabled people, such as creating employment opportunities and promoting <sup>14</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ programs. In Japan, tactile paving was already helping visually impaired people participate in society. Based on this success, Japanese tactile paving became the international standard in 2012. Today, tactile paving is assisting visually impaired people in more than 70 countries around the world. They say, “In the past, we had to rely on others when going out, but now, tactile paving allows us to be <sup>15</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.”

⑤ Recently, tactile paving with various functions has been tested. In one project, tactile paving in certain locations is equipped with radio transmitters. This means that smartphone app users can catch <sup>16</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ automatically when they are near these spots. If this system is put into practical use, people will be able to get information about directions or nearby public facilities. In another project, people can also use an app on their smartphones to read patterns painted on blocks. That AI technology can provide huge amounts of both <sup>17</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ and visual information on nearby restrooms, restaurants, and tourist facilities. Therefore, this system can be easily used by domestic and overseas visitors. Even in natural disasters, tactile paving can give useful information about nearby emergency <sup>18</sup> \_\_\_\_\_.

⑥ In recent years, there has been a growing public movement toward accepting diversity. This has encouraged people with disabilities to participate more <sup>19</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ in society. As tactile paving offers possibilities for everyone, it will certainly continue to play an important role in creating a more <sup>20</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ society.