

2023학년도 연세대학교 특기자전형[국제인재] 언더우드학부(인문·사회) 면접구술시험 문제

Instructions. Please read the passages and answer all the following questions.
Question 1 is worth 50% and question 2 is worth 50% of your final score.

Passage 1

London, 1602. A young girl, Mary, encountered a neighbor, Mrs. Jackson, with whom she had quarreled in the past. Mrs. Jackson pulled Mary indoors and scolded her for damaging her reputation in the community. She yelled at Mary for over an hour before releasing her. Later that week, she again confronted Mary, shouting curses before abruptly leaving. Mary, who was drinking tea at the time, felt like she was choking and was unable to swallow her drink. She later suffered speechlessness and blindness, followed by the left side of her body becoming paralyzed.

Most people believed that curses could kill and Mrs. Jackson's threats raised fears of witchcraft.¹ The Bishop of London was called to investigate whether Mary had been bewitched.² He tested her by bringing in another woman disguised as Mrs. Jackson, but this had no effect. The Bishop then brought in the real Mrs. Jackson in the clothes of another woman and Mary fell into a wild fit.³

Eventually, Mrs. Jackson was tried as a witch. However, one man at the trial, Edward Jorden, gave a radically different interpretation of Mary's symptoms. As a physician, he had encountered cases similar to this, yet inviting another explanation. Mary was not bewitched, he claimed, but hysterical. The judge rejected Jorden's testimony and Jackson was found guilty of witchcraft. Nevertheless, Jorden's testimony was significant.

Hysteria is an illness characterized by a range of symptoms, such as paralysis, blindness, and deafness, without any understood physical cause. It has a long medical and cultural history and has changed its form over the centuries. Even those who insist on its reality admit that it is a chameleon⁴-like disease that can copy the symptoms of any other and seems to adapt itself to the culture in which it appears.

1. witchcraft = 마녀의 저주
2. bewitched = 마녀의 저주에 걸리다
3. fit = 발작
4. chameleon = 카멜레온

Question 1

- a) The author describes hysteria as a "chameleon-like disease." How does this relate to the story of Mary and Mrs. Jackson?
- b) Put yourself in the shoes of Edward Jorden, the man giving testimony at the trial of Mrs. Jackson. How might you argue that "Mary was not bewitched, but hysterical"?

Passage 2

In October 2011, near Buffalo, New York, Le Roy High School cheerleading captain Thera Sanchez woke up from a nap to find herself violently twitching.¹ Two weeks later, a senior from the same school named Lydia Parker began humming and swinging her arms around involuntarily. Eventually, the number of cases at the school increased from two to twenty people (mostly teenage girls). Parents became concerned that the tics² were caused by the school's water supply or that the playing fields were contaminated. However, the country's leading environmental scientists agreed there was nothing that would cause these symptoms. The more likely explanation was that it was mass hysteria, that is, the spread of symptoms without a clear physical cause from one person to another. According to Dr. Lawrence Matin, who treated fifteen patients at the Dent Neurological Clinic, the symptoms were worsened by social media and press attention. Matin explained, "One thing we've learned is how social media and mainstream media can worsen the symptoms. The mass hysteria was really influenced by the national media and social media—all this promoted the worsening of symptoms by putting these people in the national spotlight." By the end of the school term, many of the teenage girls who were affected had returned to normal.

1. twitching = 경련을 일으키다
2. tics = 경련

Question 2

- a) What are the similarities between the mass hysteria described in Passage 2 and the individual hysteria described in Passage 1?
- b) Drawing on your experience of current affairs and contemporary culture, can you think of any other examples of mass hysteria (or similar phenomena)?
- c) What measures do you think could be used to reduce mass hysteria in a large population?