

英文試題

請將下文翻譯成中文，佔 50 分。

Until less than a century ago, the two prevailing views of dreams as well as of souls were that they are inconsequential (the scientific view) or of divine origin (the religious view) . In either case it was assumed that they cannot be objects of rational inquiry. Similar views still prevail regarding mystical experiences and mysticism in general. Modern Western opinion, whether friendly or hostile, holds that the mystical falls squarely within the domain of the irrational.

How, then, is mysticism to be explored more fruitfully ? Where do we start ? Mr. Staal's answer is : With mystical experiences. Are these obtainable ? How ? And how decide whether they are real or imaginary ? Where draw the line between a real mystic and a charlatan ? In his discussion of such questions Mr. Staal relates mystical phenomena to drugs, ritual, religion, and philosophy — in particular, Indian philosophy. He concludes that we are only beginning to explore a domain of the mind as complex as many areas of physics or biology but as yet barely touched by psychology and the humanities.