

68. 夏目漱石のロンドン生活(3)：構造理解

On November 5, Sōseki went to the National Gallery and from there to the University College of London, where he left a letter petitioning Professor William Paton Ker for permission to audit his lectures. A Scotsman, Ker was an authority on English medieval literature (whose writing on the knights of the roundtable was admired years later by W. H. Auden). Professor Ker invited Sōseki to his office the following day, and beginning on November 7, Sōseki attended his classes.

On November 12, Sōseki moved to a more affordable room at 85 Priory Road, West Hampstead, in northwest London, a neighborhood popular among students and faculty of the University of London. The proprietress, Miss Milde, was a spinster who had grown up in France and, following her mother's death, had moved to England with her stepfather, a sixty-nine-year-old Prussian named Frederick Milde who owned two clothing shops in the West End specializing in military uniforms. The others at the boarding house were Miss Milde's stepbrother, who appeared to be on bad terms with his father, and an overworked housemaid just fifteen, Agnes Brice.
