CLAIMS

1. A cleaning composition which comprises:

Ingredient (a): an acylamino acid type surfactant ~~7~~5 to 15~~20~~ % by weight;

Ingredient (b): a betaine-type ampholytic surfactant; ~~and~~

Ingredient (c): a non-ionic surfactant 1.5 to 10 % by weight; and

Ingredient (e): an anionic surfactant other than Ingredient (a) wherein the amount of Ingredient (e) is from 0.01 to 0.6 times by weight as much as the amount of Ingredient (a),

wherein the acylamino acid type surfactant of Ingredient (a) is a compound represented by the formula:

$R\text{-}NH\text{-}CH(COOX_1)((CH_2)_nCOOX_2)$

wherein

R is an acyl group having 8 to 20 carbon atoms;

n is 1 or 2;

X_1 and X_2 are each independently a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal, an alkaline earth metal, an ammonium group, or a cationic residue of a basic amino acid or an alkanolamine, and

wherein the cleaning composition~~which~~ has a viscosity ranging from 300 to 4000 mPa·s at 20°C.

~~2. The cleaning composition according to Claim 1 wherein the acylamino acid type surfactant of Ingredient (a) is a compound represented by the formula:~~

~~$R\text{-}NH\text{-}CH(COOX_1)((CH_2)_nCOOX_2)$~~

~~wherein~~

~~R is an acyl group having 8 to 20 carbon atoms;~~

~~n is 1 or 2;~~

~~X_1 and X_2 are each independently a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal, an alkaline earth metal, an ammonium group, or a cationic residue of a basic amino acid or an alkanolamine.~~

2~~3~~. The cleaning composition according to Claim 1~~2~~, wherein R is selected from the group consisting of a capryloyl group, a caprinoyl group, a lauroyl group, a myristoyl group, a palmitoyl group, a stearoyl group, an oleoyl group, a cocoyl group, an acyl group derived from palm kernel oil fatty acid, an acyl group derived from hydrogenated tallow fatty acid.

3~~4~~. The cleaning composition according to ~~any one of~~ Claim~~s~~ 1 or 2~~3~~ wherein the acylamino acid type surfactant of Ingredient (a) is an anionic surfactant selected from the group consisting of lauroyl aspartic acid, cocoyl glutamic acid, and a salt thereof.

4~~5~~. The cleaning composition according to any one of Claims 1 to 3~~4~~ which comprises ~~7 to 15 % by weight of the acylamino acid type surfactant of Ingredient (a), and~~ 2 to 5 % by weight of the non-ionic surfactant of Ingredient (c).

5~~6~~. The cleaning composition according to any one of Claims 1 to 4~~5~~ wherein the amount of Ingredient (b) is from 0.5 to 7 times by weight as much as the amount of Ingredient (c).

6~~7~~. The cleaning composition according to any one of Claims 1 to 5~~6~~ which further comprises Ingredient (d): a cationic polymer, wherein the amount of Ingredient (d) is

from 0.025 to 1 times by weight as much as the amount of Ingredient (a).

7~~8~~. The cleaning composition according to Claim 6~~7~~ wherein the cationic polymer of Ingredient (d) comprises cationic cellulose and/or dimethyldiallyl ammonium chloride·acrylamide copolymer.

8~~9~~. The cleaning composition according to any one of Claims 1 to 7~~8~~ wherein the amount of ~~which further comprises~~

~~Ingredient (e): an anionic surfactant other than Ingredient (a)~~ is 0.1 to 5 % by weight.

9~~10~~. The cleaning composition according to Claim 8~~9~~ wherein the anionic surfactant of Ingredient (e) is selected from the group consisting of:

an anionic surfactant which has an acyl group having 6 to 20 carbon atoms and a taurine skeleton;

an anionic surfactant which has an acyl group having 6 to 20 carbon atoms and an alanine skeleton; and

an anionic surfactant which is a sulfonic acid compound having an alkyl group and/or an alkenyl group each of which has 10 to 20 carbon atoms, or a salt thereof.

10~~11~~. The cleaning composition according to any one of Claims 1 to 9~~10~~ which is applied to scalp and head hair.

11~~12~~. A composition for cleaning scalp and head hair which comprises

Ingredient (a): an acylamino acid type anionic surfactant which has an aspartate moiety or a glutamate moiety 7~~5~~ to 15~~20~~ % by weight;

Ingredient (b): a betaine-type ampholytic surfactant;

Ingredient (c): a non-ionic surfactant; ~~and~~

Ingredient (d): a cationic polymer; and

Ingredient (e): an anionic surfactant other than Ingredient (a); ~~,~~

wherein

the amount of Ingredient (b) is from 0.25 to 2 times by weight as much as the amount of Ingredient (a);

the amount of Ingredient (c) is from 0.1 to 1 times by weight as much as the amount of Ingredient (a); ~~and~~

the amount of Ingredient (d) is from 0.025 to 1 times by weight as much as the amount of Ingredient (a); and

the amount of Ingredient (e) is from 0.01 to 0.6 times by weight as much as the amount of Ingredient (a), and

wherein the acylamino acid type surfactant of Ingredient (a) is a compound represented by the formula:

$R\text{-}NH\text{-}CH(COOX_1)((CH_2)_nCOOX_2)$

wherein

R is an acyl group having 8 to 20 carbon atoms;

n is 1 or 2;

X_1 and X_2 are each independently a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal, an alkaline earth metal, an ammonium group, or a cationic residue of a basic amino acid or an alkanolamine.

12~~13~~. The composition for cleaning scalp and head hair according to Claim 11~~12~~ wherein a coacervate is formed when the composition is diluted by 5 to 100-fold with water.

~~14. The composition for cleaning scalp and head hair according to Claim 12 or 13 which further comprises~~

~~Ingredient (e): an anionic surfactant other than Ingredient (a).~~

13~~15~~. A cleaning composition which comprises

Ingredient (a): an acylamino acid type anionic surfactant which has an aspartate moiety or a glutamate moiety 7~~5~~ to 15~~20~~ % by weight;

Ingredient (b): a betaine-type ampholytic surfactant;

Ingredient (c): a non-ionic surfactant; and

Ingredient (e): an anionic surfactant which is selected from the group consisting of:

an anionic surfactant which has an acyl group having 6 to 20 carbon atoms and a taurine skeleton;

an anionic surfactant which has an acyl group having 6 to 20 carbon atoms and an alanine skeleton; and

an anionic surfactant which is a sulfonic acid compound having an alkyl group and/or an alkenyl group each of which has 10 to 20 carbon atoms, or a salt thereof,

wherein

the amount of Ingredient (b) is from 0.25 to 2 times by weight as much as the amount of Ingredient (a);

the amount of Ingredient (c) is from 0.1 to 1 times by weight as much as the amount of Ingredient (a); and

the amount of Ingredient (e) is from 0.01 to 0.6 times by weight as much as the amount of Ingredient (a), and

wherein the acylamino acid type surfactant of Ingredient (a) is a compound represented by the formula:

$R\text{-}NH\text{-}CH(COOX_1)((CH_2)_nCOOX_2)$

wherein

R is an acyl group having 8 to 20 carbon atoms;

n is 1 or 2;

X_1 and X_2 are each independently a hydrogen atom, an alkali metal, an alkaline earth metal, an ammonium group, or a cationic residue of a basic amino acid or an alkanolamine.