

I 次は、2018年2月25日付の新聞記事である。英文を読み、下記の設問に答えよ。
(配点 20)

Kindergarten pupils tried the new pedestrian crossing button installed in a corner of Tokyo's Shinagawa Ward and pronounced it easy to use.

"It is easy to push the big panel," a six-year-old said.

The pedestrian button, accompanied with a multilingual sign, was installed on February 8. The new switch and sign are designed to help physically challenged people who have difficulties with the older buttons and the ever-increasing foreign visitors ahead of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics.

In Japan, pedestrian crossings in areas with foot traffic often have a "press to cross" button that will change the traffic lights only when pedestrians want to cross the road. Some crossings become "press to cross" only at night. According to the traffic control section of the Metropolitan Police Department in Tokyo, the current push button mechanism was introduced in 1981. Currently, there are about 13,000 pedestrian crossing controllers in the Tokyo metropolitan area.

However, as the "press to cross" system is not always common overseas, sightings of foreigners waiting for long periods without activating it were occasionally reported. Also, as the older, common pedestrian buttons generally required a touch for activation, requests from the physically challenged have been received, asking for crossing buttons that can be pressed more easily.

The pedestrian crossing button has a touch panel that can be activated by a light touch. The panel has a diagram, how the switch works. The touch panel works even when one is wearing a glove. A sign in English, Chinese and Korean that instructs pedestrians to "touch panel to cross the street at night" is also installed above the switch panel. The sign also carries a QR code that pedestrians can scan with their mobile phone to receive directions for the system in 11 other foreign languages, including French.

The "press to cross" buttons in Tokyo will be replaced with the new "touch to cross" switches in stages.

(Foreign-friendly pedestrian crossing switch comes to Tokyo (The Asahi Shimbun, Feb 25, 2018))

- (1) 空所 ～ に入る最も適切なものを、次の中からそれぞれ1つ選び、その番号をマークせよ。

<input type="text" value="1"/>	① light	② weak	③ brilliant	④ sharp
<input type="text" value="2"/>	① gentle	② soft	③ big	④ strong
<input type="text" value="3"/>	① former	② late	③ new	④ past
<input type="text" value="4"/>	① that illustrated	② illustrate		
	③ illustrated	④ illustrating		

- (2) 押しボタン方式について本文の内容に合うものを、次の中から1つ選び、その番号をマークせよ。

- ① 歩行者が渡りたいと思ったときにだけボタンを押すことで信号が変わり、昼間だけ押しボタン式になる場合もある。
- ② 東京オリンピックに向けて、13,000の押しボタン箱が新しくなる。
- ③ 観光客がボタンを押すことなく信号が変わるまで長い間待つケースがみられ、海外でもこのような押しボタン箱が問題になっている。
- ④ 押しボタン箱は今から35年以上前に導入された。

- (3) タッチパネル方式について本文の内容に合うものを、次の中から1つ選び、その番号をマークせよ。

- ① Pedestrians can get directions for the system in more than 10 languages by scanning the QR code on the sign.
- ② Inside the switch panel, a sign shows pedestrians the local traffic conditions.
- ③ The touch panel will not be activated if a person forgets to take off his or her gloves.
- ④ The switch and sign are designed to be used particularly by the elderly people and athletes of the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics.

Ⅱ 次の ice swimming の体験についての英文を読み、下記の質問に答えよ。(配点 20)

Ice swimming is probably the most extreme winter activity. It is practiced in Finland and it is also popular in Norway and Russia. In Finland, I met Uljala, a woman, 74, retired and a veteran ice swimmer for more than 15 years.

“It’s beneficial for your health, especially if you have joint pain or rheumatism,” she said with enthusiasm. “It’s also good for mental health; it helps to fight stress, sadness or anger.”

After watching Finns jump into the frozen lake and coming out alive, I thought I would give it a try. It was snowing and -5°C . Due to the wind, it felt much colder but it was 7. As I reached the steps to descend to the lake, I didn’t think twice —¹⁾ I just kept repeating to myself, “Go, go, go.”

As I entered the water, for a second I felt a strong pressure on my chest, as if I could not breathe. But Uljala had warned me beforehand, saying the feeling was to be expected and that I should just try and swim. A second later, my muscles relaxed, I breathed again and swam to the exit ladder. Her other piece of advice was not to put my head underwater. She said it was “forbidden.” Less than 30²⁾ seconds later I was out of the water.

As I walked to the changing room, bare feet in the snow, I felt spasms of heat coming from inside my body, reaching out to my muscles and skin. It was an incredible feeling, all my blood was reacting. I felt as if someone had just turned on a heater inside me.³⁾ By the time I reached the sauna, I felt a strong sense of achievement and wonderful feeling flooded my entire body. It was so good 8 I asked Uljala if I could try it one more time. “Of course,” she said, “but first you need to spend some time in the sauna.” The second time was as good as or even better 9 the first.

Ice swimming was the experience that changed my relationship with cold weather forever. I felt more powerful, like I was taking an active part in the winter’s advantages rather than passively viewing the cold as a setback or something one needed to put up with.

(極寒の北欧で、寒さを吹き飛ばす (Asahi Weekly, Dec 9, 2016))

(1) Which of the following is best to fill in 7 ~ 9 ? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet.

- | | | | | |
|---|------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| 7 | ① bearable | ② impossible | ③ intolerable | ④ reasonable |
| 8 | ① because | ② that | ③ if | ④ when |
| 9 | ① as | ② that | ③ before | ④ than |

(2) Which of the following is closest in meaning to “I didn’t think twice”? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet. ¹⁾ 10

- ① I had a second thought about entering the frozen lake.
- ② I hesitated just a second to enter the frozen lake.
- ③ I made a decision to enter the frozen lake without hesitation.
- ④ I thought seriously about entering the frozen lake.

(3) Which of the following is best to describe what Uljala calls “forbidden”? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet. ²⁾ 11

- ① You must not swim in the water before your muscles relax.
- ② You must not put your whole head into the water.
- ③ You must not swim in the water for over 30 seconds.
- ④ You must not get out of the water before you feel heat reaching out to your muscles.

(4) Which of the following is closest in meaning to “I felt as if someone had just turned on a heater inside me”? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet. ³⁾ 12

- ① The writer noticed someone prepared a heater near her.
- ② The writer found the inner part of her body warm.
- ③ The writer turned on a heater for others.
- ④ The writer wished there had been a heater.

(5) Which of the following is true? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet. 13

- ① Uljala retired from ice swimming and she is a coach.
- ② The coldness discouraged the writer from trying ice swimming.
- ③ The writer had expected the strong pressure she felt on her chest when she entered the water.
- ④ The writer regrets that she tried ice swimming.

Ⅲ 次の会話を読み、設問に答えよ。(配点 16)

(Two travellers are discussing their trip.)

Jim: What shall we do today? I'd like to climb that mountain and I know you want to go to see the sights 14 town.

Kate: Well, we're here for a week so we can do both at some point. Have you checked the weather? Will it be fine all day?

Jim: According to the weather report on the TV news, it'll be fine this morning but there may be showers later.

Kate: Going up the mountain sounds risky to me. I don't want to get caught in the rain. Let's go to town 15 .

(1) Which of the following is best to fill in 14 and 15 ? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet.

- | | | | | |
|----|---------|----------------|-----------|------------|
| 14 | ① at | ② in | ③ on | ④ to |
| 15 | ① again | ② another time | ③ instead | ④ tomorrow |

(at lunch time)

Jim: What shall we have for lunch? That restaurant has local food.

Kate: But look at the people waiting in line. We could be waiting for ages.

Jim: Well, we passed a pasta place. There were some empty tables there.

Kate: I'd like to try the local food but I don't like waiting. I don't mind where we go. 16

Jim: OK. I say we have pasta for lunch. And then book a table for dinner at the local restaurant.

Kate: Great. Let's do that.

(2) Which of the following is best to fill in 16 ? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet. 16

- ① Don't blame me.
- ② Don't talk to me.
- ③ It depends.
- ④ It's up to you.

(3) Which of the following is true according to the conversation? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet.

17

- ① They have passed a pasta place.
- ② They have waited for ages.
- ③ They have tried the local food.
- ④ They have had lunch.

(at the end of the day)

Jim: I'm absolutely shattered.

Kate: Me too. We've done a lot of walking today.

Jim: I think I need a rest before dinner.

Kate: I might have a bath. That usually makes me feel better.

(4) Which of the following is closest in meaning to "shattered" in the above conversation? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet.

18

- ① hungry ② refreshed ③ thirsty ④ tired

IV 次の会話を読み、設問に答えよ。(配点 20)

(An old married couple are chatting one evening.)

Wife: Is there anything interesting in the newspaper, dear?

Husband: Yes, there is, as a matter of fact. It says here that they have developed a shirt that can monitor your heart rate and your breathing.

Wife: Really? Whatever will they think of next?

Husband: It can be used in hospitals to save time. Nurses tend to spend a lot of time going around taking patients' measurements. Using this shirt, any patient's data can be displayed on a screen automatically anytime it's needed. They're hoping they can further develop it so it can 19 signs of abnormal breathing or heart rate.

Wife: That'd help save lives.

Husband: It certainly would.

Wife: Who're the smart people that come up with these things?

Husband: Apparently, in this case, some young researchers at university designed the shirt. One young woman had suffered *asthma as a child and she¹⁾ wondered if they could develop something to easily monitor breathing.

Wife: She sounds like a lovely girl. I bet ((① are ② her ③ her parents ④ of ⑤ proud ⑥ very)).²⁾

Husband: They're thinking of using it in care homes too. It says some patients can feel stressed when measurements are taken.

Wife: Oh yes. I'm the same. I 20 it when they hook me up to a machine.

Husband: You really don't like it at all, do you?

Wife: No, not at all.

Husband: But they'd miss it, wouldn't they?

Wife: ³⁾ Miss what?

Husband: I think all patients would miss it, if the nurses weren't coming around a few times a day to take their measurements.

Wife: That's true. A hospital can be a lonely place. But perhaps, if the nurses spent less time taking measurements, they could spend more time talking to the patients. That'd be good.

Husband: Wouldn't it just? Anyway why are you laughing?

Wife: I was just thinking. I might get myself one of these shirts and wear it next time I go for my check-up.

Husband: I doubt you'll be laughing when you find out how much they cost. A bit too much for us, I think.
⁴⁾

注 *asthma ぜん息

- (1) Which of the following is best to fill in 19 and 20 ? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet.

19 ① detect ② protect ③ write ④ heal

20 ① defend ② don't mind ③ hate ④ look forward to

- (2) Which of the following is closest in meaning to “she wondered if they could¹⁾ develop something to easily monitor breathing”? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet. 21

① she thought it would be terrible if they could develop something to easily monitor breathing

② she thought about whether they could develop something to easily monitor breathing

③ she doubted whether they could develop something to easily monitor breathing

④ she would suffer if they could develop something to easily monitor breathing

- (3) Put ① – ⑥ in (① are ② her ③ her parents ④ of ⑤ proud ⑥ very) in the²⁾ correct order. Which is in FOURTH place? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet. 22

- (4) Which of the following is closest in meaning to “they’d miss it”³⁾? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet. 23

① the patients would miss the nurses coming around

② the patients would miss being hooked up to machines

③ the nurses would miss taking measurements

④ the nurses would miss spending more time with patients

- (5) Which of the following is closest in meaning to “A bit too much”⁴⁾? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet. 24

① A bit too automatic

② A bit too expensive

③ A bit too funny

④ A bit too intelligent

V 次は、ある博物館に関する記事である。グラフを参照しながら英文を読み、下記の設問に答えよ。(配点 24)

There has been a sharp rise in inbound foreign tourists visiting museums nationwide. Museums are working to accommodate these guests, considering it a good opportunity to introduce them to Japanese history and culture. However, one of the museums attracting the most visitors from overseas is not well known in Japan — located in the Kansai area, it is not even that famous there.

Kimono and *joiner shops, a drugstore from the Edo period (1603-1868) — every day, groups of young people in kimono gather and have their photos taken in front of these life-size models of traditional merchant houses. They pose in front of shop curtains or sitting on *engawa* porches. The museum is run by the municipal government. Located in a building that accommodates different offices, it re-creates the town from about 180 years ago. It looks like the set of a period Japanese drama, but you can hear many people speaking Korean and Chinese.

A total of 389,000 foreigners visited the museum in fiscal 2016. Among major domestic museums that have such data, it is said to have one of the highest numbers of foreign visitors. Most striking is the high percentage of foreigners among the overall visitors to the museum. Of the about 576,000 visitors, foreigners accounted for 67.5 percent. The museum has not done any particular advertising that targets foreigners.

“To be honest, we didn’t expect the museum would become quite so popular,” said the director of the museum. When the museum opened in 2001, its visitors were mainly elementary school students on field trips, and there were few foreign visitors. An unexpected turn came after the museum started a kimono rental service in fiscal 2010, initially targeting Japanese visitors. However, as pictures taken by foreign tourists were posted on social media and elsewhere, the museum became a hot topic. Some people said the facility let them travel back in time to an older Japan.

The number of foreign visitors soared from ¹⁾ 27 in fiscal 2011, to 270,000 in fiscal 2015, surpassing the number of Japanese visitors. In the five years through fiscal 2016, the number grew by more than 30 times. Visitors from South Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong make up the majority, with South Korean visitors accounting for 45 percent and those from Taiwan and Hong Kong 40 percent. Most of them come as 28, not as part of a tour group, and every day, about 100 foreigners stand in line to rent a kimono even before the museum opens.

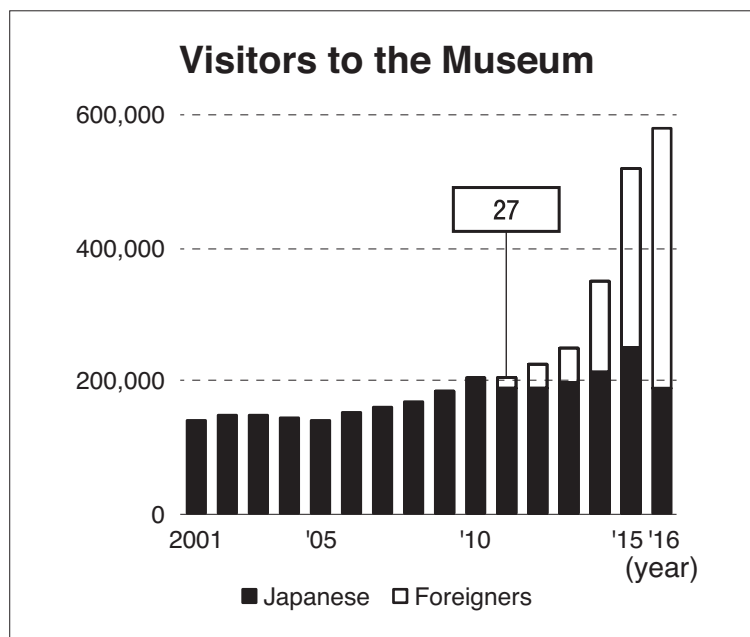
One 23-year-old woman said she was visiting from Hong Kong with her boyfriend and had seen photos posted by a travel blogger. She was so impressed by the “beautiful and elegant” museum that she definitely wanted to come. She said she

would post pictures she took there on the Instagram photo sharing service.

Another 15-year-old girl who came with her family from South Korea, said excitedly that she really wanted to wear kimono, which she had seen on the internet. She enjoyed seeing traditional Japan and took about 100 pictures, she added.

A board member of the Japan Museum Management Academy said: “One factor behind the popularity of the museum is that it’s easy to understand, so even if visitors aren’t that knowledgeable about Japan, they can still enjoy it. Other museums ²⁾ should follow suit in making themselves more appealing to visitors.”

注 *joiner 建具屋



(Osaka museum trends as foreign tourist spot (The Japan News, Apr 8, 2018))

(1) Why did the number of foreign visitors to the museum start to increase in 2011?

Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet. 25

- ① Because the museum was re-built in 2010.
- ② Because the total of foreign visitors to Japan started to increase in 2010.
- ③ Because the museum started a new service that other museums had not given.
- ④ Because the museum started to put advertisements on the internet and so became well known to foreign visitors.

- (2) Which of the following is closest in meaning to “the facility let them travel back in time to an older Japan”? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet. 26
- ① the facility made them go back to an older Japan
 ② the facility let them enjoy the atmosphere of an older Japan
 ③ the facility provided them with travel tickets to an older Japan
 ④ the facility encouraged them to make a long trip to other museums
- (3) Which of the following is best to fill in 27 in the text and the graph? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet. 27
- ① 12,000 ② 14,000 ③ 16,000 ④ 18,000
- (4) Which of the following is best to fill in 28 ? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet. 28
- ① individuals ② exchange students
 ③ workers ④ tour conductors
- (5) Which of the following is DIFFERENT in meaning from “visitors aren’t that knowledgeable about Japan”? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet. 29
- ① visitors do not know much about Japan
 ② visitors have little knowledge about Japan
 ③ visitors are not very familiar with Japan
 ④ visitors are concerned with Japan
- (6) Which of the following is NOT true? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet. 30
- ① In 2001, most of the visitors to the museum were elementary school students.
 ② More foreign tourists visited the museum than domestic visitors in fiscal 2015.
 ③ Foreign visitors wait in front of the museum before it opens.
 ④ A woman from Hong Kong has seen photos taken by a blogger but will not put her own photos on the internet.
 ⑤ According to the graph, the number of foreign visitors began to increase rapidly rather than gradually in the last three years.