

英 語 (問 題)

(100点・80分)

注 意 事 項

1. 試験開始の合図があるまで、この問題冊子の中を見たり、裏返したりしてはいけません。
2. この問題冊子は17ページあり、解答用紙は1枚（両面）です。
試験中に問題冊子・解答用紙の印刷不鮮明、ページの落丁などに気付いた場合は、手を挙げて監督者に知らせなさい。
3. 試験開始後、ただちに解答用紙の所定記入欄に、氏名・受験番号・誕生日をそれぞれ正しく記入し、さらに受験番号・誕生日をその下のマーク欄にマークしなさい。
4. 受験番号・誕生日が正しくマークされていない場合は、採点できないことがあります。
5. 解答は、解答用紙の解答欄に各設問で指示された方法で記入しなさい。
マーク方式は、例えば、

20

と表示のある問いに対して①と解答する場合は、次の(例)のように解答番号20の解答欄の①にマークしなさい。

(例)

解答番号	解 答 欄
20	● ② ③ ④

6. 問題冊子の余白等は、下書きなどに適宜利用してよいが、各設問で指示された解答は、必ず解答用紙の解答欄に指示された方法で記入しなさい。
7. 試験終了後、提出は解答用紙のみとし、問題冊子は持ち帰りなさい。

Part I 次の英文を読んで設問に答えなさい。

Imagine walking down the street and seeing plastic bags caught in the bushes, empty soda cans thrown on the side of the road, or fast-food packaging hidden under a bench. The air might even smell of old food and decay. Despite the natural beauty that may exist in the surroundings, the litter creates a shocking contrast, reminding everyone of the impact of human carelessness on the environment.

Littering, according to the Cambridge Dictionary, is “the act of dropping rubbish on the ground in public places.” It can be an intentional action, for example, throwing your cigarette butts on the ground, or it may be unintentional, such as when crows tear open trash bags put out on trash pick-up days. Littering, regardless of how it happens, can affect not only our physical health but our mental health, too.

While littering can happen when unsecured objects fly out of the back of a truck or other vehicle, often littering is intentional. It is done on purpose. There are many types of litter. These include cigarette butts, food packaging, alcoholic beverage containers, plastic bags, and plastic bottles. Larger items, including tire and vehicle debris and construction waste are also examples of litter. Cigarette butts are the most likely to be littered. A study conducted by Keep America Beautiful in 2020 shows that, in the US alone, it is estimated that 9.7 billion cigarette butts are discarded along roads and waterways throughout the country. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, there has also been a large increase in disposable gloves and masks being littered as well.

Littering has many negative effects on the environment. It can lead to soil, water, and air pollution. It can also cause an increase in pests such as mice, rats, and cockroaches. Additionally, small animals can get stuck in bottles or jars and are unable to escape. Collected waste can lead to the emission of greenhouse gases, increasing carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Improper disposal of waste, such as paint cans or pesticides can lead to soil contamination. That soil cannot be used for

cultivating crops in the future. In the oceans, litter such as plastic bags can harm sea life. For example, plastic bags are often mistaken for jellyfish and eaten by sea turtles.

Littering does not just affect the environment; it affects our mental and emotional well-being. Seeing and being in environments with a lot of litter can cause feelings of anxiety, stress, and depression. A national study in the US found that more than 64,000 children between the ages of 6 and 17 had greater rates of depression and anxiety when ⁽⁶⁾ they were surrounded by too much litter, vacant and falling apart buildings, as well as graffiti. These three characteristics were often found in lower income neighborhoods. Constantly being in that kind of environment can lead to a sense of hopelessness and cause people to lose empathy for each other. A New York resident from Brooklyn said that seeing things like empty paint cans and smashed up cars made her “feel like her neighborhood is a dumping ground.” She went on to say: “it made me feel like people in our community were losing empathy for each other, like they didn’t seem to care about each other or our neighborhood.”

Studies have shown that clean and well-maintained spaces can help people to feel calm and reduce their stress levels. A study in Denmark followed nearly one million residents from 1985 to 2013 and discovered that there was a 55% decrease in the risk of developing mental disorders later in life, if people grew up surrounded by green spaces.

If littering has such an impact on our physical and mental health, why do people do it? Some people may just be careless and forget their trash. Others may see trash littered around them, and feel that because there is already litter there, then it is okay for them to leave their trash behind as well. They believe that someone else will come along and clean up after them. This is a serious problem because littering is a large financial ⁽⁷⁾ burden on individuals, local communities, and national governments. Cleaning up litter requires a lot of money that comes from taxpayers.

Some may say that people should just pick up their own trash and take it home,

instead of dumping it illegally. However, that is easier said than done. The best way to reduce the amount of litter around us is to take responsibility for ourselves and dispose of it properly. Some ways to do this include refusing single use items, like plastic bags or disposable chopsticks; carrying your own mug or bottle to refill as well as using your own shopping bags; disposing of trash in the correct places. Finally, never forget to engage in the 3Rs: reduce, reuse, and recycle. If each person in society takes responsibility for themselves, we should be able to reduce the amount of litter and improve our environments as well as our mental health.

から の質問の答えとして最も適切なものを選び、その番号をマークしなさい。

What is the primary contrast described in the first paragraph?

- ① the cleanliness of the air versus the pollution
- ② the natural beauty versus the litter caused by humans
- ③ the natural beauty versus the urban development
- ④ the tranquility of the environment versus the noise pollution

According to the passage, which type of litter are people more likely to see in the US?

- ① cigarette butts
- ② disposable gloves and masks
- ③ fast food packages
- ④ plastic bottles

According to the passage, what is a potential long-term effect of soil contamination from improper waste disposal?

- ① disrupting mental health of the community
- ② decreasing the variety of wildlife
- ③ disappearing natural beauty of the surroundings
- ④ damaging future food production

Which of the following statements is NOT supported by the passage?

- ① Clean and well-maintained spaces can reduce stress levels.
- ② Littering can have serious financial consequences.
- ③ Littering has a greater impact on animals than on humans.
- ④ People are more likely to litter if they see litter around them.

5

According to the passage, why do some people continue to litter despite knowing its negative impact?

- ① They believe littering is not a serious problem.
- ② They know no penalties are imposed on them.
- ③ They lack access to proper waste disposal facilities.
- ④ They think someone else will clean up after them.

6

What does the underlined word (6) refer to?

- ① children
- ② environments
- ③ neighbors
- ④ rates

7

Which is the closest in meaning to the underlined word (7)?

- ① cost
- ② error
- ③ penalty
- ④ regulation

8

下の表は、この文章のメインポイントを段落ごとに順番に並べたものです。本文の流れに沿って、空欄に適する選択肢をひとつ選び、その番号をマークしなさい。ただし、同じ選択肢は一度しか使えません。

The impact of litter on the environment and its shocking contrast with natural beauty

8-1

Common types of litter and the intentional nature of most littering

Environmental effects of littering, including pollution and harm to wildlife

8-2

8-3

Reasons why people litter

Ways to reduce littering through personal responsibility and sustainable practices

- ① The definition of littering and its effects
- ② Intentional acts of crows searching for cigarette butts and garbage
- ③ Paint cans, pesticides, and other waste that cause soil contamination
- ④ Psychological and emotional effects of littering on communities
- ⑤ Positive effects of clean and well-maintained spaces on mental health
- ⑥ Research showing that people in green environments are healthier
- ⑦ Rotting smell of food in the air
- ⑧ Trash from trucks and other vehicles

9

最後の段落には下記の質問の答えがあります。その答えを日本語で要点を押さえて述べなさい。解答は解答欄に書きなさい。

9-1

According to the passage, how can individuals take responsibility to reduce waste?

9-2

According to the passage, what would be possible if each of us in society acted responsibly?

Part II 次の英文の空欄 **10** から **18** に入る最も適切な単語を選択肢から選び、その番号をマークしなさい。ただし、同じ選択肢は一度しか使えません。

What are your thoughts on people who don't mind talking with their mouth full or **10** with their mouth open while eating with you? Do you **11** people who use forks and knives or chopsticks in an improper way? How about those who don't wash their hands before a meal or eat with their elbows **12** on the table? It might be hard for you to imagine that your family, friends or colleagues lack or **13** dining etiquette and show no respect and consideration for other diners around them. Many people believe that it is essential to acquire knowledge and skills to eat in a proper manner, especially when dining in formal **14**. A recent research analysis of table manners, however, shows less **15** and respect for the practice of table manners. The younger generation has created and accepted new **16** of proper behavior for eating. But it does not **17** that cultural eating rules, which have been passed down through generations, should be forgotten or removed. Dietary etiquette and manners are essential to improving your social skills and **18** your self-esteem. Regardless of where or when you dine with other people, practicing proper diet manners is beneficial.

選択肢

- | | | |
|----------------|------------|-------------|
| ① appreciation | ② boosting | ③ chewing |
| ④ follow | ⑤ forgive | ⑥ ignore |
| ⑦ rested | ⑧ settings | ⑨ standards |

Part III 次の英文と図表を読んで、 **19** から **22** の質問の答えとして最も適切なものを選び、その番号をマークしなさい。



Gender equality indicates the achievements in providing equality and empowerment of women and girls in different areas of life such as career, health, education, and legislation to name a few. For example, the data in Figure 1 show points each country had in 2022 for the degree to which legal systems support, monitor, and facilitate gender equality in the area of employment and economic benefits.

Figure 2 demonstrates the changes in the percentage of females in senior and middle management positions over time, which possibly indicates to what extent the particular area promotes gender-free rights and opportunities.

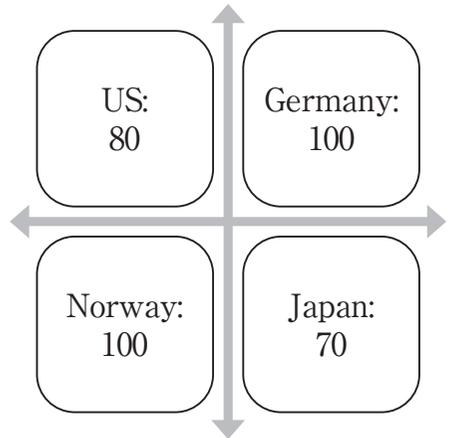


Figure 1. Points on a 0-100 scale

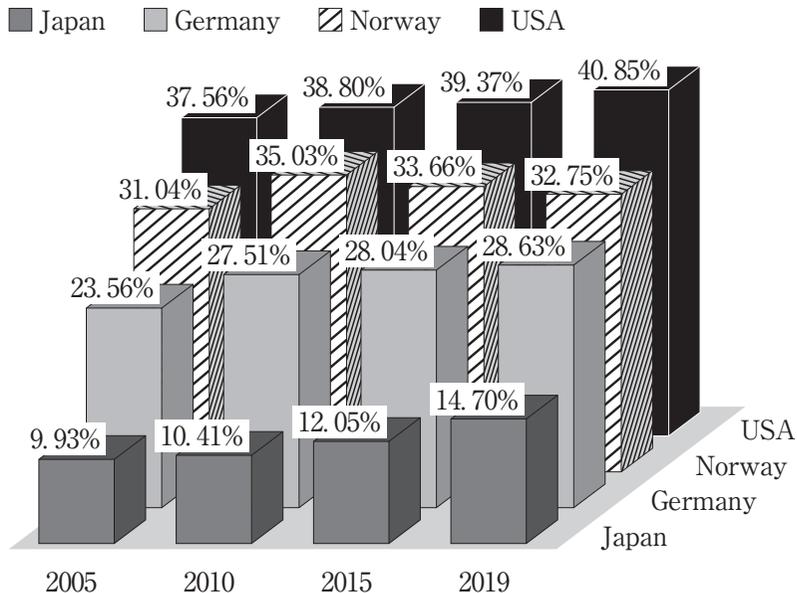


Figure 2. The changes in the proportion of females in the senior and middle management positions between 2005 and 2019

A lot of progress has been achieved in the area of gender equality. However, on the global scale, the goal of achieving gender equality by 2030 might not come true. One of the steps in advancing towards the right direction, especially for Japan, should be ensuring that women can actively participate and have equal opportunities to become leaders politically, economically, and socially.

Source: <https://unstats.un.org/sdgs>

19

What is mainly discussed in the passage?

- ① The commonly accepted definition of the term 'gender equality'
- ② Gender fairness changing the economy worldwide
- ③ Trends of fairer rights and opportunities for females
- ④ Ways to enable the equality of human beings

20

Which of the following is true?

- ① Japan has offered the most governmental support to females in all matters.
- ② Legal support for female workers in the four countries are reviewed in different ways.
- ③ There are no unemployed females in Germany and Norway.
- ④ Two countries, Japan and the US, are behind in terms of gender balance in employment.

21

Which is NOT the right interpretation about the number of females in Figure 2?

- ① Norway shows a constant rise in the ratio of the female workers in higher positions.
- ② Germany marked an increase of about five percent in the proportion of the females since 2005.
- ③ Japan and the US recorded an increase in the number of females in managerial positions.
- ④ The ratio of females in managing positions highlights the promotion of gender equality in the area.

22

Which of the following shows the author's position?

- ① Developing countries should be excluded from the consideration of gender issues.
- ② Women should try harder to be politicians for better economies and societies.
- ③ The goal of the gender-free movement is set too early.
- ④ The world is still in the process of achieving gender equality.

Part IV 次の 23 から 26 の会話の空欄に入る最も適切な表現を選び、その番号をマークしなさい。

23

Chris : Hi, Joe. What's new?

Joe : Hi, Chris. I'm thinking of leaving my job and going back to college.

Chris : Wow, That's big news. How come?

Joe : I need to earn a lot more money. ().

Chris : Yes, I can guess. Now you have a bigger family than last year, with newborn twin babies.

Joe : Exactly. I want to acquire technical skills at college to be a mechanical engineer.

Chris : Good choice. I hope that will help you get a higher paying job.

- ① You don't like it anymore
- ② You don't trust me for that
- ③ You know what I mean
- ④ You wonder how I try

Emi : What do you hope to do in the future when you have finished university?

Andrew : I'm not sure at the moment, but I may go into teaching or researching. That is why I am studying English, as I intend to carry on my studies and go study abroad.

Emi : You are already very focused on your future.

Andrew : Well, people say, "()."

Emi : You are right. I need to start seriously thinking about my future now and move forward.

Andrew : But I'll probably decide for sure what to do when I have completed my internship at the university.

- ① A penny saved is a penny gained
- ② First come, first served
- ③ Seeing is believing
- ④ Time flies

David : Hi, Kim. I want to ask you something.

Kim : Sure. What is it?

David : I missed Dr. Brown's biology class yesterday. What was the topic for the class discussion?

Kim : (). We heard he'd give a make-up class at the end of this month.

David : Really? What happened to him?

Kim : I heard he got involved in a traffic accident on the way to the campus. He got slightly injured. But college staff said he would be back in class next week.

David : I'm sorry to hear that.

- ① Dr. Brown told us he would change the class schedule
- ② Dr. Brown told us he would decide the discussion topic
- ③ The class was delayed due to the rain storm
- ④ The class was suddenly canceled

Betty : Emma, did you know King's Bakery will be closing down next month?

Emma : No way! When I had a chat with the clerk there yesterday, she didn't say anything about it.

Betty : I often chat with regular customers of the bakery at my part-time job. I happened to get the sad news from them.

Emma : Oh, I see. I really want to get my favorite egg sandwiches one more time before they close.

Betty : So do I (). I just hope they reopen here again someday.

Emma : Me, too.

- ① I'd like to know if they still have them available
- ② I'm thinking of asking the bakery for the part-time job
- ③ I've been a big fan of the bakery since it opened
- ④ I've just prepared them for breakfast this morning

Part V 次の各英文を読み、その内容を理解した上でカッコ内の語句をすべて使って、27 および 28 の下線部を正しく並べ換えなさい。ただし、他の語句を加えてはいけません。解答は作成した部分のみを解答欄に記入すること。

27

I went to an outdoor recreational program with my friends last summer. We had a great time biking, hiking, and camping in the mountains. The government-sponsored program provided numerous physical, mental, and social benefits. All of the program's staff put a lot of effort into running the program, which allowed the participants to take full advantage of this opportunity. We were able to exercise, relax, form relationships, and connect with nature. I was particularly pleased with some young leaders who were in charge of the recreational activities. Without them, (these advantages / have / been / to / able / would not / we / fully enjoy). I believe the participants' fulfilling experiences were realized thanks to such capable and responsible leaders.

28

I have been giving a lot of thought to how I could regain my physical strength and make positive changes in my life. I'm now looking for a gym I could join. Luckily enough, my friend Ron is helping me find an affordable gym. However, I am wondering if I would enjoy working out with other people around. Many other worries seem to shake my confidence in joining the gym, including the location, coaches, equipment, expenses, and general atmosphere. Ron suggests I go and see for myself, and ask the staff about services they provide. I think his advice will work for me. He is (me / decision / in / helping / making / myself / the big / about improving).