

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②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②にマークしなさい。

(例)

解答番号	解 答 欄
20	① ● 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。

Mount Everest, called “Sagarmatha” by the Nepalese, is the tallest mountain on Earth. It is the ultimate challenge for adventurers who want to test the limits of human endurance. Located in the Himalayas in the Mahalangur Himal sub-mountain range, it stands 8,849 meters above sea level with steep gray rock formations and snow-covered slopes. Everest is one of only 14 mountains above 8,000 meters, all of which are part of the Himalayan and Karakoram mountain ranges that cross Nepal, China, and Pakistan. Mountaineers refer to these ultra-high peaks as the “eight-thousanders.” At this height, the thin air lacks the oxygen for most humans to survive; hence, it is called the “Death Zone.”

The Sherpa people, also called Sherpas, are one of the Tibetan ethnic groups that have been living in the highlands of the Himalayas for centuries. Some Sherpas live in eastern Nepal, in regions such as Khatra and Barun Valley, while other Sherpas live north of Kathmandu. Many Sherpas are elite mountaineers who have ⁽⁶⁾expertise with mountaineering equipment, and the ability to climb mountains faster and for longer periods. They are hired as guides by people who want to summit Everest. Sherpas also find and fix routes, build camps, help carry supplies such as oxygen tanks, set anchors, ropes, and ladders, and clean up the large amount of garbage generated.

The first people confirmed to have reached the summit of Everest were Tenzing Norgay, a Sherpa from Nepal, and Sir Edmund Percival Hillary of New Zealand on May 29, 1953. They were supported by a team of about 400 people from the British Mount Everest Expedition. Included were mountaineers, 20 Sherpa guides from Nepal and Tibet, and 362 skilled Sherpa porters, who had the tough task of carrying heavy baggage up the mountain with a total weight of 4,500 kilograms. This style of mountaineering, with the support of a large team, is sometimes called a “Big Wall Expedition.”

How many people brave the adventure of climbing Everest every year? The

numbers vary between 700 to 1,000 people with about a 65% success rate. As of 2025, about 7,300 people have reached the top, including 2,003 Sherpas. Women climbers have reached the summit 962 times. In total, there have been about 13,000 successful attempts, since some climbers have succeeded more than once. Currently, the record for the most summits is 30, held by Sherpa Kami Rita of Nepal, and the top nine climbers are all Sherpas. Many Sherpas are poor and become guides to make a living. Kami Rita said he first became a guide because there was no other way to survive at the time. Kenton Cool from the UK, who has climbed Everest 19 times, holds the record among non-Nepalis.

People who want to challenge climbing Everest will often experience altitude sickness since the air at the top has only one-third the oxygen pressure. Climbers can get headaches, nausea, muscle weakness, and blurred vision. Therefore, an expedition will require two months or more of high-altitude training to give the body time to adapt. Severe altitude sickness can result in *hypoxia and even death. Blood vessels will contract, making it hard for blood to flow through **capillaries, which are tiny veins in the muscles and organs. The blood has no place to go, so the liquid will build up in the brain and lungs. Therefore, almost all climbers will need training and supplementary oxygen for survival.

However, Sherpas have adapted genetically to high altitudes, and many are powerful climbers and excellent mountaineering guides. Dr. Jenny Levitt of University Hospital in Southampton and her research team compared the physiological effects of high altitude climbing on Sherpas and lowlanders. Her results showed Sherpas were more efficient at burning oxygen to get energy. First, their capillaries did not shrink at high altitudes, so blood could flow freely. They had more capillaries to take breathed oxygen to all parts of the muscles, tissues, and organs. Secondly, in lowlanders, blood flow slowed down, but in Sherpas, it circulated faster. Third, Levitt examined the structures within cells that generate energy, called ***mitochondria. In Sherpas, it was found that mitochondria used oxygen much more efficiently.

Without hiring Sherpas for support, it is nearly impossible to climb Everest. Just above Everest Base Camp in Nepal is the dangerous Khumbu Icefall, part of a slowly moving glacier where pressure between sliding ice sheets can create long, deep cracks that can be hidden under the top layer of snow. Since 1953, 47 climbers have fallen to their deaths, so Sherpas' knowledge is essential for setting up and positioning ladders and ropes for climbers to cross safely. Moreover, Sherpas are vital to place oxygen tanks at high altitude camps for hikers to change out. Sherpas' expertise in how they use oxygen efficiently is also valuable to help the sick climbers. It is virtually impossible to climb to the summit without them. This is especially true in the Death Zone, where climbers could die from hypoxia. However, as a testament to Sherpas' strength, 38 of them have climbed Everest without supplemental oxygen.
(7)

The Sherpas' cultural heritage, technical skills, spirit of unity, and cooperation make it possible for people from all over the world to realize the dream of conquering Mount Everest. Sherpas' dedication to their work brings needed income to their communities for improvement in healthcare and infrastructure. Based on all of the above, we should value the extraordinary contributions that Sherpas provide to mountaineering.

*hypoxia 低酸素症

**capillaries 毛細血管

***mitochondria ミトコンドリア

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。

According to the passage, which of the following is the correct definition of “eight-thousanders”?

- ① Eight thousand adventurers who attempted to summit Mount Everest
- ② Mountains whose height is 8,000 meters or higher above sea level
- ③ Eight thousand mountains in the Himalayan mountain ranges
- ④ Fourteen mountains that have 8,000 peaks

According to the passage, what is NOT one of the Sherpas' roles in Everest expeditions?

- ① Setting up camps
- ② Navigating mountaineers
- ③ Purchasing oxygen tanks
- ④ Transporting heavy goods

According to the passage, which statement is true about Everest climbers?

- ① The top nine climbers have reached the Everest summit 30 times or more.
- ② More women climbers have repeatedly reached the top of Mount Everest.
- ③ Once becoming a successful guide, Sherpas are expected to live a wealthy life.
- ④ About 35 percent of the climbers do not reach the top of Mount Everest every year.

4

According to the passage, what is the primary danger of altitude sickness?

- ① Lack of oxygen affects the brain, lungs, and muscles.
- ② It takes a long time to train climbers to avoid the sickness.
- ③ Climbers cannot have easy access to supplementary oxygen.
- ④ Sherpas' physical symptoms puts climbers at risk of death.

5

According to the passage, what is the difference between Sherpas and lowlanders in oxygen use?

- ① Sherpas are more efficient at burning oxygen than lowlanders.
- ② Sherpas are better at substituting oxygen than lowlanders.
- ③ Lowlanders are able to control the use of oxygen due to lack of training.
- ④ Lowlanders are trained to consume less oxygen than Sherpas.

6

Which phrase is closest in meaning to the underlined word (6)?

- ① ideas and efforts
- ② personal interests
- ③ skills and knowledge
- ④ detailed instructions

7

What does the underlined word (7) refer to?

- ① proof
- ② source
- ③ precision
- ④ standard

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。

Description of Mount Everest

Sherpas as mountain experts in the Himalayas

Sherpas' role in supporting Mt. Everest climbers

8-1

8-2

Comparative advantages of Sherpas' physiology

8-3

Sherpas' legacy and dedication to mountaineering

- ① Regular training to improve high-altitude performance
- ② Sherpas' biological advantages for physical training
- ③ The records of summiting Mt. Everest by mountaineers
- ④ Comparative advantages of Sherpas in physical functions
- ⑤ Sherpas' contributions to securing the climbers' safety to the summit
- ⑥ Scientific approaches to achieving a safe expedition
- ⑦ Myths of Sherpas' hero legends in their community
- ⑧ Health challenges and training experienced by Everest mountaineers

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 paragraph, what do Sherpas contribute to the mountaineering?

9-2

What benefits does the Sherpas' work bring to their community?

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。

A growing number of eye doctors are cautioning the public about neglecting their eye care and maintenance, citing instances where individuals put off or avoid visiting an eye specialist due to certain reasons. My regular eye doctor notes that 10 individuals don't believe they need a routine check-up because their vision seems satisfactory. He believes that they suffer from poor vision perception, resulting in a delayed recognition of the 11 to which their eyesight has declined until it becomes noticeable. Eye doctors explain that many people fear or hold anxiety about receiving a negative medical 12, such as a requirement for surgery. They frequently encounter individuals over 40 who believe age-related vision loss is a standard 13 of aging and that no intervention is possible. What frustrates eye specialists the most is a widespread misconception that wearing glasses causes eye weakness, thereby deterring people from making scheduled appointments. There are also individuals with financial worries. A significant number of individuals are 14 to visit their doctors due to concerns about the high cost associated with eye exams, treatments, and eyeglasses, particularly when they lack insurance 15. Eye specialists emphasize the need for patients to undergo routine eye examinations despite encountering numerous difficulties. Early detection of eye conditions enables you to identify the 16 symptoms of serious diseases such as glaucoma, which if not treated, can result in 17 damage to your eyes. Regular eye exams are a proactive 18 that enables early detection of problems, as well as the maintenance of optimal eye function.

選択肢

① approach	② consequence	③ coverage
④ diagnosis	⑤ extent	⑥ fatal
⑦ hesitant	⑧ initial	⑨ numerous

Part III 次の表とそれに続く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。

Two of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Goals 14 and 15 aim to protect and preserve life both below water and on land. The ongoing crisis of global warming and climate change has had a significant ecological impact from deforestation of our lands, and polluting of our oceans, resulting in biodiversity loss. Despite these challenges, countries around the world are making efforts to preserve ecosystems. These goals specifically address the protection of species inhabiting diverse environments, including oceans, rivers, mountains, and forests.

Figures 1 and 2 provide recent data on the conservation of biodiversity in the oceans and the land in Japan, China, the United States, and Australia. Let us examine how Japan compares to these other nations in terms of environmental protection and biodiversity preservation.

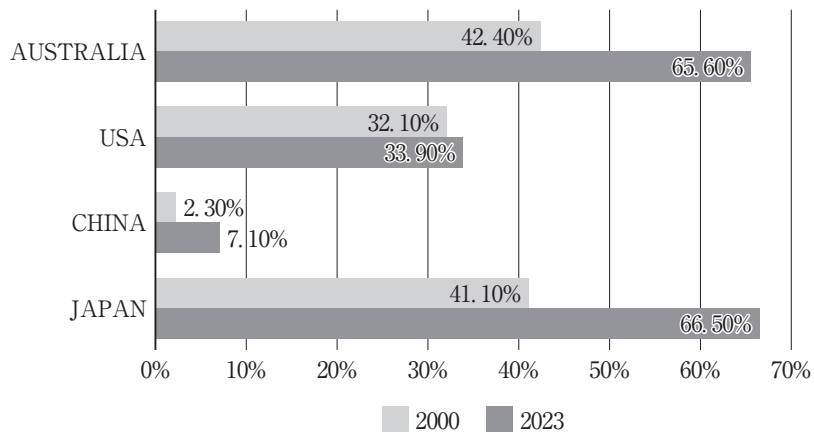


Figure 1. The average proportion of Marine Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) covered by protected areas.

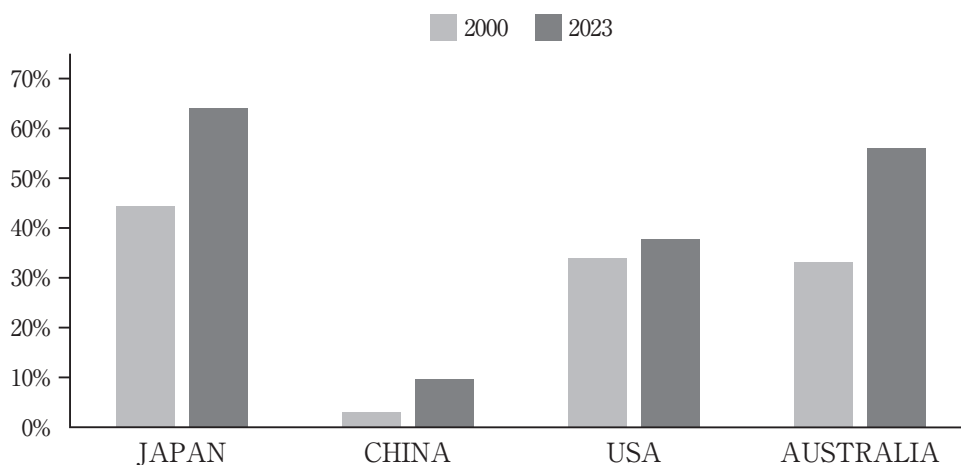


Figure 2. Average proportion of terrestrial Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) covered by protected areas.

The data illustrate the progress being made in biodiversity conservation. Although significant challenges remain in slowing global warming and safeguarding endangered species, many countries are actively working to expand their protective measures. When combined with broader initiatives such as reforestation and the reduction of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions, these efforts hold the potential to positively influence environmental outcomes in the future.

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

19

What is mainly discussed in the article?

- ① Expansion of green areas
- ② Progress in ecological preservation
- ③ Process of natural hazards
- ④ Solutions to climatic risks

20

Which of the following describes the background of this article?

- ① The SDGs are successful in terms of percent protected areas.
- ② Marine biodiversity is being endangered due to deforestation.
- ③ Environmental challenges have been left unaddressed, with no solutions attempted.
- ④ Two specific SDG goals are insufficient for increasing terrestrial area.

21

Which of the following best summarizes Figure 1 and Figure 2?

- ① A mutual dependence between marine and terrestrial areas is highlighted.
- ② Conservation areas on land were more than twice as large as those in the ocean in 2023.
- ③ Most nations made efforts to save marine lives, but not land animals.
- ④ Recent attempts at biodiversity preservation can be said to have made good progress.

22

What is the author's position on the topic?

- ① Countries must develop a better defence system to safeguard their populations.
- ② Global warming has been showing signs of moderation.
- ③ Ongoing efforts can lead to positive environmental change.
- ④ Reducing CO₂ emissions should be the world's top priority.

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

Cindy : I'm thinking of moving out of my parents' house and into a dorm next semester. It's a big decision, and I'm not sure if it's the right one.

Tem : Living in a dorm offers a lot of independence and social opportunities, but it can also be expensive and sometimes noisy. It's a trade-off.

Cindy : Exactly! I love the idea of having my own space and meeting new people, but I'm worried about the cost and being away from my family.

Tem : You have to weigh the pros and cons. Living at home can save money and provide stability, but it might limit your personal growth.

Cindy : I guess I need to consider what I value most at this point in my life. I want to become more independent, but I don't want to strain my finances.

Tem : It's a common dilemma. Just make sure you're making the decision for yourself. It's important to ().

- ① follow others and do what everyone else is doing
- ② listen to your parents' opinions above all others
- ③ make a quick decision to avoid overthinking
- ④ prioritize your own needs and values

Mary : Ken, I'm really concerned about the amount of paper and plastic waste we produce in the office. I wish we could be a bit more environmentally friendly.

Ken : I agree, Mary. We need to take more responsibility. We could start by implementing a recycling program and reducing our paper consumption.

Mary : Absolutely. We should also encourage employees to use reusable containers and water bottles. It's about changing our daily habits.

Ken : We could even organize a company-wide initiative to plant trees or participate in local clean-up events. It would raise awareness.

Mary : That's a fantastic idea. ().

Ken : Yes, we need to create a culture of sustainability. It's not just about our company but about the planet as well.

- ① We should ignore and avoid illegal activities against environment protection
- ② We should support companies that exercise government environmental policies
- ③ We have to explore and improve national strategies for healthy environment
- ④ We have to minimize our environmental footprint significantly

Receptionist : Hello. James Hospital. How may I assist you today?

Patient : Hello. My name is Jackson Smith. I am a patient of Dr. Lee. My arm still hurts from the volleyball injury I got last week. If possible, I'd like to make another appointment.

Receptionist : Let's see. I cannot fit you in then. How about Wednesday at 3 PM? That is her first available appointment in the afternoon because she has an operation at another hospital before that.

Patient : Sounds good. I appreciate your assistance.

Receptionist : Please remember to arrive fifteen minutes early to complete any necessary paperwork. Also, make sure to bring your insurance information.

Patient : I see, but I cannot come at (). Do you have any other available slots?

Receptionist : Sorry, that will be the only afternoon slot available this week.

- ① half past two
- ② quarter to three
- ③ fifteen to two
- ④ fifteen past three

Emma : I think it's just too much that we're required to do volunteer work during the semester. My schedule is already packed with classes and assignments. Don't you think so?

Cathy : I understand how you feel, Emma, but volunteering can be a valuable experience. It helps us develop a sense of empathy and gives us a chance to positively impact our community.

Emma : I know, but I'd much rather choose how I spend my limited free time, especially when I'm already dealing with so much academic pressure.

Cathy : Universities sometimes demand too much of us. They encourage us to work hard for classes and exams while urging us to make more use of volunteer opportunities.

Emma : This makes me feel very overwhelmed. () the entire concept of requiring students to volunteer.

Cathy : Well, if the university clearly explains how volunteer work is connected to our specific studies and relevant to our future, then it will be more meaningful.

- ① I feel resistant to
- ② I agree with
- ③ I'm indifferent to
- ④ I'm content with

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

My friend Ken works in an office in Tokyo. He is considering relocating to a new residence that is nearer to his workplace. Given his limited financial resources, he aims to achieve the most cost-effective move possible. Yesterday, he contacted a moving company and received information regarding budget-friendly moving options from them. He believes that selecting a weekday in the summer is optimal due to lower demand. Ken discovered that moving companies tend to have more adaptable schedules during this season, as people are generally less inclined to relocate during hot summers. Therefore, I recommended that he choose a plan in August, which is (low-cost / for / and / the most / like him / suitable month / movers / cost-effective).

28

Last Sunday, I faced a serious situation while visiting my 75-year-old grandmother's home, where she resides separately from my family. I discovered that she was suffering from dehydration due to prolonged exposure to a high-temperature environment. She was unable to operate the air conditioning units correctly at home. It became apparent that her lack of knowledge prevented her from adjusting the temperature appropriately and selecting the best mode. Thus, she frequently doesn't (set / the air conditioning / temperature / to / that / an uncomfortable / she has / notice), resulting in leaving her in an unsuitable living space.