

I 次の英文を読み、下記の設問に答えよ。(配点 26)

Traditional Japanese washi paper made deep in the mountains of Toyama Prefecture is being used in a popular range of cute and colorful items. Items including peach-colored cases for business cards, yellow book covers and mint-green shopping bags are being developed by Sen Ishimoto and his team, who operate a facility offering washi-making classes.

The facility is located in Gokayama in Nanto, Toyama Prefecture. Gokayama is famous  its gassho-style thatched roof house village and is registered as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Washi paper making goes back 400 years in Gokayama, using the long, durable bark fibers of the kozo tree, a type of mulberry, that are  to tear or otherwise damage. The durability of this material is the reason why it is used to repair fusuma sliding door panels and byobu folding screens of cultural asset buildings and sewn together to make small items.

Employed at Gokayama Washi no Sato (Gokayama washi village), the 37-year-old Ishimoto is a \*washi-paper aficionado and has  fascinated by the paper since he was a student at Musashino Art University in Tokyo. He first came into contact with washi one summer in Gokayama during his fourth year at university when he stopped by the facility during a club trip. ( ア ) Since he was studying woodworking at the time, he had an interest in paper, as it is made from trees. His interest in washi grew at such a pace that he began making paper in the bathroom of his apartment. Later that year, he returned for two weeks and assisted in the papermaking process. He was eventually hired at the facility and began working there after graduating from university in 2008. ( イ )

A native of Yamaguchi Prefecture, Ishimoto was not familiar with the area, but the landscape greatly influenced his  to settle and work there. “With its steep mountains and deep valleys where rivers run through, Gokayama has fantastic landscapes similar to that of Yunnan Province in China, where I once visited,” he said. “I thought it would be nice to live here and make washi.”

Eight years ago, the Nanto city office asked the facility to make new products. Gokayama had previously been bustling with foreign tourists, but (① disappeared ② all but ③ the visitors ④ had ⑤ come) just one year after the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake. “I thought since people aren’t venturing into Gokayama, we should create products that can be sent out,” Ishimoto said. He decided to ask two designers, who he knew from his university days, to help him out.

( ウ ) The designers toured the area and noted that the colors of man-made objects, such as the farmers’ blue vinyl tarps and the fluorescent tape that climbers wrapped around certain trees, worked well with nature and offered a “nice pop color” to the area. These patterns led Ishimoto and the designers to combine traditional handmade washi paper with vivid colors. The

team named their brand Five, which uses the kanji “go” from Gokayama, meaning “five.” Also, the human hand has five fingers. So the branding gives the impression of something handmade.

( エ ) The products were also showcased at a trade fair in Paris, where buyers from all over the world snapped up Five’s offerings. The brand received orders from 20 companies, mainly in Europe.

注 \*washi-paper aficionado 和紙をこよなく愛する人

(Source: Japanese washi paper shows new colors (The Japan News, Nov 20, 2020))

(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 from    | ② because  | ③ for      | ④ on          |
| <input type="text" value="2"/> | ① easy    | ② willing  | ③ unique   | ④ hard        |
| <input type="text" value="3"/> | ① being   | ② been     | ③ will be  | ④ be          |
| <input type="text" value="4"/> | ① problem | ② tendency | ③ decision | ④ familiarity |

(2) 下線部 (① disappeared ② all but ③ the visitors ④ had ⑤ come)を文脈に合うように並べかえる際、 unnecessaryなものが1つ含まれている。その番号をマークせよ。

(3) 次の文は本文中の空所 ( ア ) ~ ( エ ) のどこに入れるのが最も適切か、次の中から1つ選び、その番号をマークせよ。

The following year, Five’s products were exhibited at a general merchandise trade fair in Tokyo, where the products’ unexpected color and material garnered attention.

- ① ア                      ② イ                      ③ ウ                      ④ エ

(4) 本文の内容に合わないものを次の中から1つ選び、その番号をマークせよ。

- ① イシモト氏が初めて和紙に興味を持ったのは、大学生のときであった。
- ② 五箇山の風景は、イシモト氏の生まれ故郷を思い起こさせるものであった。
- ③ Five というブランド名は手作りであるという印象を与える。
- ④ Five の製品は既に海外からも注文が来ている。

Ⅱ 次の英文を読み、下記の設問に答えよ。(配点 22)

Researchers believe they have found 1) a previously unknown kind of whale in waters off Mexico's western coast. If others confirm the finding, the new whale would be an important discovery among giant animals. The team of researchers came  three unusual whales while following a rare group of beaked whales on Nov. 17. The whales were near Mexico's distant San Benito Islands, about 500 km south of the U.S. border. Beaked whales usually avoid contact with humans.

Jay Barlow studies sea animals at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in San Diego. He said, "These animals popped to the surface right next to the boat." He noted that it was a very unusual meeting. "It's very rare to even see a beaked whale, and to find a friendly group of beaked whales, it's even rarer," he said.

Barlow said he and other researchers did not realize they were seeing a possible new kind of whale until later. The group, led by the non-profit Sea Shepherd Conservation Society, saw something different about the whales' teeth when they studied photos they took of the animals. The underwater recordings of the whales' calls also suggested they were different from all others. The researchers are now waiting for test results on water they collected near the whales. There could be skin cells in the water from the whales. If so, they will examine the DNA to confirm whether the whales are a new species.

Beaked whales get that name because of their pointy noses. They live mostly in waters far away from the mainland, such as off the San Benito Islands.  up to 5 meters long, they can be hard for scientists to see. That is because they usually swim and eat at depths of around 914 meters. They only come up at times for air. In the deep water, the animals can stay away from their main enemy, killer whales.

Andrew Read is a marine biologist at Duke University. He said, "The fact that they were looking for a very rare whale, and that they happen to find something completely different, is remarkable and wonderful, and just the joy of doing science. That's what we all live for." Read said that finding a new species is a rare event. Barlow's team has evidence about the whales that looks like a new discovery. Read said the DNA testing would help confirm it.

Barlow was  about the chance of confirming the beaked whales as a new species. That would bring the number of known beaked whale species to 24. Barlow said the whales are as big as a horse. He noted that it is hard to 2) (① not ② that ③ seeing ④ imagine ⑤ something ⑥ big ⑦ people) on land, "But there's a lot of mysteries in the sea."

(Source: Reseachers think they found new kind of whales by Jill Robbins, VOA Learning English, Dec 10, 2020. Reproduced with permission of Voice of America.)

(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="8"/>  | ① to     | ② along     | ③ upon      | ④ after   |
| <input type="text" value="9"/>  | ① Though | ② Because   | ③ Without   | ④ Unless  |
| <input type="text" value="10"/> | ① afraid | ② depressed | ③ regretful | ④ hopeful |

(2) 下線部 1) “a previously unknown kind of whale”と考えられた理由として本文の内容に合わないものを次の中から1つ選び、その番号をマークせよ。

- ① 珍しく人に寄ってきたため
- ② 歯の形が異なっていたため
- ③ 鳴き声が異なっていたため
- ④ DNA が異なっていたため

(3) 下線部 2) (① not ② that ③ seeing ④ imagine ⑤ something ⑥ big ⑦ people) の①～⑦を並べかえて英文を完成させ、5番目にくるものの番号をマークせよ。

(4) 本文の内容に合わないものを次の中から1つ選び、その番号をマークせよ。

- ① beaked whale の DNA 検査には、皮膚細胞が用いられることもある。
- ② beaked whale は、空気を吸うために時々海面に出てくる。
- ③ beaked whale は、シャチが天敵であるため、基本的に深海に生息している。
- ④ beaked whale は、24種存在していることが確認されている。

Ⅲ 次の会話を読み、下記の設問に答えよ。(配点 22)

Stuart and Ricky are at a study abroad fair.

Stuart: Excuse me. Did I hear you say you'd studied in Britain?

Ricky: Yes. That's right. I studied there for a year and just came back last month.

Stuart: Great. I'm thinking about going there too.

Ricky: Really? Have you decided where you'll go yet?

Stuart: Not yet. But I'm interested in London. I love concerts and the theatre.

Ricky: You're going to the right place then. I often visited London on weekend trips while I was there. I always had a fantastic time.

Stuart: Where were you?

Ricky: I was in Canterbury. Have you heard of it? It's in Kent and it's about an hour from London on the train.

Stuart: No, I haven't. May I ask why you chose there?

Ricky: Actually, my teacher recommended it. But I'm glad I went. It's a beautiful old town. It's also a great place to study English. A lot of students go there from all over the world.

Stuart: Did you find living in England expensive?

Ricky: Yes and no. Some aspects were expensive. Rent was quite high, I thought. But other things like food were pleasantly cheap. Of course, it also depends on the area. Rents in London can be particularly expensive.

Stuart: That's what I'd heard. To be honest, I'm worried whether I can afford to live in London. It's no use living in London if I can't do the things I want to do because I'm spending all my money on renting an apartment.

Ricky: But if you study somewhere like Canterbury that is outside London, you find the cost of living is much lower. And you can travel to London on the weekend.

Stuart: That might be a good idea. Was it easy to find a place to live?

Ricky: It's not so easy in London. I had friends there and they said it was very difficult to find a good economical place to live. The university I studied at helped me find a place in Canterbury and so, for me, it was very easy. I shared a house with other students from the university. Some of them were British and some were foreign students.

Stuart: But travelling to London on the weekends will be expensive with the train fare and the hotel charge, won't it?

Ricky: Not necessarily. Trains are cheaper on the weekend and very cheap if you book a month in advance. Hotels can be expensive but you can find good deals if you book in advance. I often didn't bother staying and just went on day trips. The trains run until quite late.

Stuart: Yes, I imagine I'd prefer to do that rather than stay over.

Ricky: There are plenty of other cities within travelling distance to London. Why don't you check up on them and find the best place for you?

Stuart: That sounds great. You've given me something to think about.

Ricky: I'm glad I could be of help. I hope it works out for you.

(1) Which of the following sentences about Stuart is NOT true? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet.

- ① Stuart has already decided to study in London.
- ② Stuart is interested in seeing concerts in London.
- ③ Stuart has heard that it is expensive to live in London.
- ④ Stuart is considering living outside London and travelling in on weekends.

(2) Which of the following sentences about Ricky is NOT true? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet.

- ① Ricky stayed in a place about 60 minutes from London by train.
- ② Ricky chose Canterbury because it is a beautiful old town.
- ③ Ricky found the price of food in England low.
- ④ Ricky was assisted by his university in finding accommodation.

(3) Which of the following has the same meaning as "I'm glad I could be of help"? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet.

- ① I'm lucky you helped me.
- ② Thanks for helping me.
- ③ It's good that I could help you.
- ④ I'm happy that I was helped.

(4) According to the conversation, which of the following sentences is NOT true? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet.

- ① It is more expensive to rent an apartment in London than in Canterbury.
- ② The price of train tickets is usually higher on weekdays than on weekends.
- ③ Reserving a hotel room in advance can make a trip less expensive.
- ④ The cost of living is generally higher outside London than in the capital.

(5) Which of the following best summarizes the conversation? Choose the best answer and mark the number on the answer sheet.

- ① Stuart asks Ricky about options for living in Britain. As Ricky tells him about his experiences in Canterbury, Stuart becomes more interested in living outside London.
- ② Ricky describes the advantages of living and studying in Canterbury. As a result, Stuart is persuaded to go to Canterbury.
- ③ Stuart and Ricky discuss their plans for studying in Britain. Even though the cost of living is more reasonable in Canterbury, Stuart plans to live in London and visit Ricky in Canterbury on the weekends by booking cheap tickets in advance.
- ④ Stuart is advised by Ricky to think carefully before deciding where to live in Britain. Ricky enjoyed living in Canterbury, but he feels another city outside London would be more suitable for Stuart.

Ⅳ 図を参照しながら、次の Bill Gates による英文を読み、下記の設問に答えよ。(配点 30)

Two decades ago, I would never have predicted that one day I would be talking in public about climate change, [ 19 ] writing a book about it. My background is in software, not climate science, and these days my full-time job is working with my wife, Melinda, at the Gates Foundation, where we are super-focused on global health, development, and U.S. education.

I came to focus on climate change in an indirect way—through the problem of energy poverty.

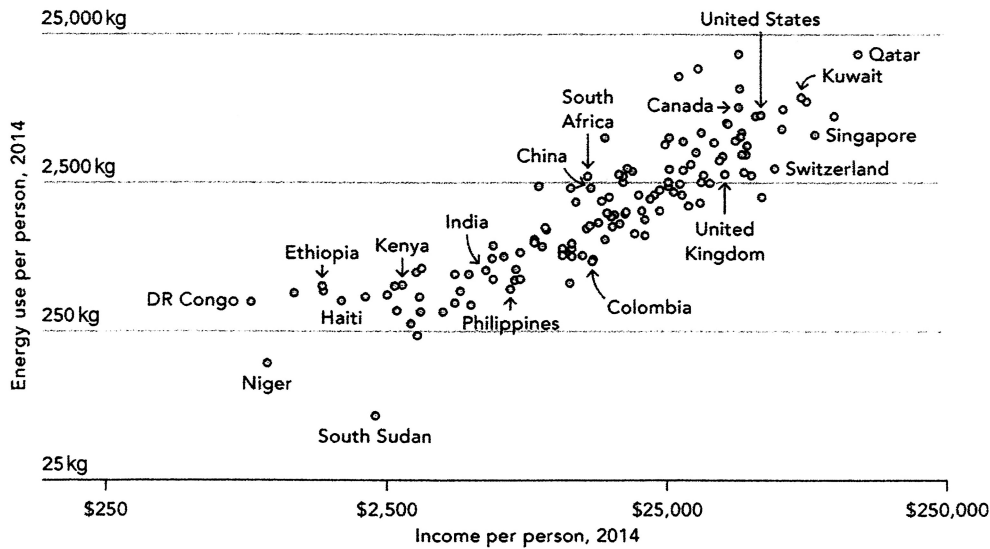
In the early 2000s, when our foundation was just starting out, I began traveling to low-income countries in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia so I could learn more about child mortality, HIV, and the other big problems we were working on. [ 20 ] my mind was not always on diseases. I would fly into major cities, look out the window, and think, *Why is it so dark out there? Where are all the lights I'd see if this were New York, Paris, or Beijing?*

In Lagos, Nigeria, I traveled down [ 21 ] streets where people were huddling around fires they had built in old oil barrels. In remote villages, Melinda and I met women and girls who spent hours every day collecting firewood so they could cook over an open flame in their homes. We met kids who did their homework by candlelight because their homes didn't have electricity.

I learned that about a billion people didn't have reliable access to electricity and that half of them lived in sub-Saharan Africa. (The picture has improved a bit since then; today roughly 860 million people don't have electricity.) I thought about our foundation's motto—"Everyone deserves the chance to live a healthy and productive life"—and how it's hard to stay healthy if your local medical clinic can't keep vaccines [ 22 ] because the refrigerators don't work. It's hard to be productive if you don't have lights to read by. And it's impossible to build an economy where everyone has job opportunities if you don't have massive amounts of reliable, affordable electricity for offices, factories, and call centers.

Around the same time, the late scientist David MacKay, a professor at Cambridge University, shared a graph with me that showed the relationship between income and energy use—a country's per capita income and the amount of electricity used by its people. The chart plotted various countries' per capita income on one axis and energy consumption on the other—and made it abundantly clear to me that the two go together:





The World Bank: Energy use (kg of oil equivalent per capita) 2014,  
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$) 2014

As all this information sank in, I began to think about how the world could make energy affordable and reliable for the poor. It didn't make sense for our foundation to take on this huge problem—we needed it to stay focused on its core mission—but I started kicking around ideas with some inventor friends of mine. I read more deeply on the subject, including several eye-opening books by the scientist and historian Vaclav Smil, who helped me understand just how critical energy is to modern civilization.

At the time, I didn't understand that we needed to get to zero. The ( ア ) countries that are responsible for most emissions were starting to pay attention to climate change, and I thought that would be enough. My contribution, I believed, would be to advocate for making reliable energy affordable for the ( イ ).

For one thing, they have the most to gain from it. Cheaper energy would mean not only lights at night but also cheaper fertilizer for their fields and cement for their homes. And when it comes to climate change, the poor have the most to lose. The majority of them are farmers who already live on the edge and can't withstand more droughts and floods.

(Source: Excerpt(s) from HOW TO AVOID A CLIMATE DISASTER: THE SOLUTIONS WE HAVE AND THE BREAKTHROUGHS WE NEED by Bill Gates, copyright © 2021 by Bill Gates. Used by permission of Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of the Knopf Doubleday Publishing Group, a division of Penguin Random House LLC. All rights reserved.)

(1) 空所 19 ～ 22 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。

- |    |           |             |           |             |
|----|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| 19 | ① no more | ② much more | ③ no less | ④ much less |
| 20 | ① Though  | ② But       | ③ As      | ④ So        |

- 21 ① unlit            ② neatly            ③ brighten            ④ securely
- 22 ① warm            ② rotten            ③ cold            ④ unsafe

(2) 下線部 “*Where are all the lights I’d see if this were New York, Paris, or Beijing?*” と文脈を変えずに置きかえられるものとして最も適切なものを次の中から1つ選び、その番号をマークせよ。

23

- ① *I can’t find such lights here as I see in New York, Paris, or Beijing.*
- ② *Can I see lights not in this area but in New York, Paris, or Beijing?*
- ③ *I find it difficult to know whether people in New York, Paris, or Beijing live with no electricity.*
- ④ *In New York, Paris, or Beijing, you can also enjoy life with electricity like in this city.*

(3) 空所(ア)と(イ)に入る語の組み合わせとして最も適切なものを次の中から1つ選び、その番号をマークせよ。 24

(ア) — (イ)

- ① rich — poor
- ② poor — rich
- ③ rich — rich
- ④ poor — poor

(4) 本文及び図の内容に合うものを次の中から2つ選び、その番号をマークせよ。ただし、解答の順序は問わない。 25 26

- ① Twenty years ago, Bill Gates believed that he would be writing on climate change and injustice around the world.
- ② According to the graph, the relationship between energy use and income per person in countries seems to be inversely proportional.
- ③ Bill Gates found that culture-modernization relies significantly on energy such as electricity.
- ④ The graph shows that energy use per person in South Africa is slightly higher than that in China.
- ⑤ Melinda Gates says that income per person does not vary as much as energy use per person.