

[ I ] 次の英文は、2015年末の「気候変動枠組み条約第21回締約国会議（COP21）」の開催に先立ち、ある企業の最高経営責任者が発表した見解である。英文を読んで設問に答えなさい。

Representatives of the world's nations will gather in Paris later this year to set a course that could determine whether we will be able to avoid the worst potential effects of global climate change. If <sup>(1)</sup>succeed, the 2015 Paris Climate Conference, also known as COP21, will result ( ア ) a new, legally binding global agreement to combat climate change, charting a course toward a low-carbon, green economy <sup>(2)</sup>power by renewable energy.

The government policymakers, diplomats and <sup>(3)</sup>elect officials who will gather in Paris in December know that the consequences ( イ ) doing nothing will be severe, including more floods, intense heat waves, droughts, hurricanes, and tornadoes. <sup>①</sup>They know climate change does not respect borders. Their goal is to limit global average warming ( ウ ) no more than a 2°C increase this century; the challenge is how to do that. Reaching a global, binding agreement will not be easy, but the business community recognizes the need for an orderly, <sup>(4)</sup>predict, and planned transition.

The country-by-country commitments that comprise the Paris agreement will not be enough by themselves to reduce greenhouse gas emissions ( エ ) a level that limits global warming. The support of the business community is essential. And let's be clear: the transition to a low-carbon economy will occur one way or another. It will either be an orderly transition ( オ ) the next two to three decades, or a disorderly one spurred by crises and human hardship. Further delay in <sup>(5)</sup>take global action will only ensure <sup>②</sup>the latter.

( カ ) the transition to be orderly, it will have to occur within the <sup>(6)</sup>exist financial and economic system so that it does not threaten or overwhelm the foundation of our market economy. It will not require aggressive government <sup>(7)</sup>intervene or centralized control. An orderly transition will provide an opportunity to create many winners, because adaptive and innovative companies will flourish. At the latest Group of Seven meeting in Bavaria, world leaders took a step ( キ ) the right direction by pledging to phase out fossil fuel emissions ( ク ) the end of this century. This made it clear to corporations and the markets that low-carbon technologies hold the promise of <sup>(8)</sup>be profitable long-term investments.

Many business leaders have already recognized the commercial and economic benefits of immediate action against climate change. In the auto industry, for example, there has been considerable innovation and investment ( ケ ) zero-emission vehicles, although more is <sup>(9)</sup>need. Today there are about 800 million vehicles on the world's roads, and it's <sup>(10)</sup>estimate this number will grow to more than 2 billion in the next 35 years or so. If we are to avoid the worst effects of climate change, we cannot continue to rely only on fossil fuels to power those vehicles and supply the bulk of our energy. ③ The auto industry already has proven and affordable solutions to cure drivers of their addiction to fossil fuels. The most prominent, ready, and affordable solution is the electric vehicle, the only zero-emissions vehicle that can run entirely ( コ ) renewable energy.

#### 設問

問1 下線部分(1)～(10)の単語をこの場所に入れるのにふさわしい形(1語)に変えなさい。

問2 (ア)～(コ)の空欄に入れるのに最もふさわしい前置詞を選び、その番号を解答欄に書きなさい。

- |              |        |          |         |
|--------------|--------|----------|---------|
| (ア) 1 for    | 2 from | 3 in     | 4 on    |
| (イ) 1 for    | 2 of   | 3 to     | 4 with  |
| (ウ) 1 for    | 2 of   | 3 on     | 4 to    |
| (エ) 1 at     | 2 on   | 3 to     | 4 until |
| (オ) 1 by     | 2 over | 3 until  | 4 to    |
| (カ) 1 Before | 2 For  | 3 Like   | 4 With  |
| (キ) 1 in     | 2 to   | 3 toward | 4 up    |
| (ク) 1 by     | 2 in   | 3 on     | 4 until |
| (ケ) 1 about  | 2 by   | 3 in     | 4 on    |
| (コ) 1 across | 2 by   | 3 into   | 4 on    |

問3 下線部分①はどのようなことを言っているのか、日本語30字以内で説明しなさい。

問4 下線部分②の内容を日本語30字程度で説明しなさい。

問5 下線部分③を日本語に訳しなさい。

[ II ] 次の英文を読んで設問に答えなさい。

Once a week, members of a New Zealand book club arrive at a café, grab a drink and shut off their cellphones. Then they sink into cozy chairs and read in silence for an hour. The point of the club isn't to ( A ) about literature, but to ( B ) from electronic devices and read, uninterrupted. The group calls itself the Slow Reading Club, and it is part of a movement populated by book lovers who miss old-fashioned reading.

(1) Slow reading advocates seek a return to the focused reading habits of years gone by, before smartphones and social media started stealing our time and shortening our attention spans. Many slow readers say they embraced the concept after becoming aware that they couldn't ( C ) it through a book anymore. (2) “以前ほどたくさんの本を読んでいないことに気がついた,” said Meg Williams, a 31-year-old marketing manager who started the club. (3) “私の人生でとても楽しい部分をなくしてしまったことを残念に思った.”

Slow readers list numerous benefits to a regular reading habit, saying it improves their ability to concentrate, reduces stress levels, and deepens their ability to think, listen, and empathize. (4) The movement echoes revivals of other old-fashioned, time-consuming pursuits that offset the ever-faster pace of life, such as cooking and knitting by hand.

The benefits of reading from ( D ) through late adulthood have been documented by researchers. A study of 300 elderly people published by the journal *Neurology* last year showed that regular ( E ) in mentally challenging activities, including reading, slowed rates of memory loss in participants' later years. A study published last year in *Science* showed that reading literary fiction helps people understand others' mental states and beliefs, a crucial skill in building relationships. Research published in *Developmental Psychology* in 1997 showed that first-grade reading ability was closely ( F ) 11th-grade academic achievement. Yet reading habits have declined in recent years. In a 2015 survey, about 76% of Americans aged 18 and older said they had read at least one book in the past year, down from 79% in 2011.

Attempts to revive old reading habits can be seen in many places. Groups in Seattle, Brooklyn, Boston, and Minneapolis have hosted so-called silent reading parties, with comfortable chairs, wine and classical music. Diana La

Counte of Orange County, California, set up what she called a virtual slow-reading group a few years ago, with members discussing the group's book selection online, mostly on Facebook. "When I found I was spending more time reading Twitter than books, I knew it was time for ( G )," she said.

( H ) we spend so much time in front of computer screens, our reading patterns have changed from the linear, left-to-right sequence of years past to a wild skimming and skipping pattern as we ( I ) for key words and information. One 2006 study of the eye movements of 232 people looking at Web pages found they read in an "F" pattern, scanning all the way across the top line of text but only halfway across the next few lines, eventually sliding their eyes down the left side of the page in a vertical movement toward the bottom. None of this ( J ) for our ability to comprehend deeply, scientists say, and several studies have shown that reading text full of links leads to weaker comprehension than reading plain text. <sup>(5)</sup>A 2007 study involving 100 people also found that watching multimedia presentations that mixed words, sounds, and moving pictures led to lower comprehension rates than reading plain text.

#### 設問

問1 (A)～(J)の空欄に入れるのに最もふさわしい語句を、選択肢から選び、その番号を解答欄に記しなさい。

- |                    |                 |               |              |
|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------|
| (A) 1 discuss      | 2 examine       | 3 review      | 4 talk       |
| (B) 1 avoid        | 2 get away      | 3 keep        | 4 move out   |
| (C) 1 browse       | 2 finish        | 3 make        | 4 read       |
| (D) 1 an early age | 2 juvenile      | 3 young       | 4 young age  |
| (E) 1 appointment  | 2 commitment    | 3 engagement  | 4 placement  |
| (F) 1 attached to  | 2 combined with | 3 joined with | 4 linked to  |
| (G) 1 action       | 2 fun           | 3 others      | 4 reading    |
| (H) 1 As long as   | 2 Now that      | 3 Once        | 4 When       |
| (I) 1 ask          | 2 call          | 3 hunt        | 4 send       |
| (J) 1 is bad       | 2 is good       | 3 isn't bad   | 4 isn't good |

問2 下線部分(1)を日本語に訳しなさい。

問3 下線部分(2)と(3)の日本語を英語に訳しなさい。

問4 下線部分(4)を日本語に訳しなさい。

問5 下線部分(5)を日本語に訳しなさい。

問6 Which of the following is not cited in the passage as a benefit of old-fashioned reading?

- (A) It helps people focus their attention better.
- (B) It helps people understand others better.
- (C) It improves people's vocabulary.
- (D) It contributes to stress relief.

問7 Which of the following is not true, according to the text?

- (A) Reading isn't the only activity that can help reduce memory loss in old age.
- (B) Even though reading is recognized to be beneficial, Americans' reading habits seem to be in decline.
- (C) It isn't possible to combine the use of modern social media with old-fashioned slow-reading activities.
- (D) The widespread use of computers has led us to adopt reading patterns that negatively affect our understanding of text.

[III] Read the passage below and answer the questions that follow it.

Even after a depression that has wiped out a quarter of its economy, Greece's population is still not the worst off in the Eurozone\*. GDP\* per person (a very <sub>[1]</sub>rough indicator of living standards) in Greece remains higher than it is in Latvia, and is roughly level with Estonia, Portugal, Slovakia and Slovenia. And income per head is also still much higher than in Brazil, India and China. So why, then, are the Greeks complaining so much? Why did they have to be rescued when, in a global context, they are still reasonably well off? Part of the answer is that expectations matter. Research shows that it's psychologically much more painful to go from something to nothing than it is to go from nothing to nothing. Thus, ( A ) has made the Greeks so angry is the <sub>[2]</sub>huge downward shift in their country's national income in the past five years: it's the change in income, not the absolute level, that matters.

We all have expectation reference points, and this psychology helps to

explain a <sup>[3]</sup>wide range of economic and social phenomena. Some argue that it's meaningless to talk about "poverty" in <sup>[4]</sup>advanced countries such as Britain. Those classified as "poor" are not starving or barefoot, as they were in former times. <sup>(a)</sup>彼らは、過去の貧しい人たちなら所有することを夢見ることさえなかっただろう車やコットンのシャツのような商品を持っている。 They also have access to technologies like smartphones and satellite television that were literally unimaginable to their ancestors. But the expectation reference point for "poor" people is not the living standards of <sup>[5]</sup>previous generations of poor people, but the living standards of other people in the country ( B ) they live (or actually, those of other people in that country ( C ) they come into contact). And changing people's reference points—as the British government is currently attempting to do by adjusting the technical definition of <sup>[6]</sup>poverty—isn't easy.

Before they vote to change the definition of poverty, MPs\* might like to consider that, with their £67,000 annual salary, they are <sup>[7]</sup>objectively better off than most of the population. But the expectation reference point of MPs is the pay of company executives and <sup>[8]</sup>senior bureaucrats—in other words, those ( D ) they consider their peers. That's why they feel desperately poor and demand higher salaries.

The expectation reference point also explains why migrants from poor countries are prepared to do jobs that workers in rich countries aren't particularly keen on. Picking apples for the minimum wage in Britain seems preferable to unemployment in Eastern Europe. Their reference point differs from that of the native-born population.

An example from history: the living standards of British settlers in America in the late 18th century were higher than those of the inhabitants of any other British colony, but it was these Americans and not, for example, the Indians, who rebelled in 1773 and demanded independence. How can we explain this? The reference point is the answer. <sup>(b)</sup>彼らは、英国の植民地の臣民よりもむしろ、母国に住む人たちと自分たちとを比較した。

Reference points aren't economically "rational". Classical economic models assume we make decisions based on an objective understanding of ( E ) will make us better or worse off in financial terms. So in classical economic models, recessions should be short and self-correcting. The kind of prolonged slump and mass unemployment seen in Greece recently, and also in America during the Great Depression of the 1930s, should not happen. Wages should fall until companies are able to start <sup>[9]</sup>hiring people again, after which unemployment

should disappear. But that doesn't usually happen, because the psychological reference point makes people strongly resist taking a pay <sup>[10]</sup>cut, even when this increases the risk that their company will go bankrupt and they will lose their job. Their reference point of a certain salary takes on a massive importance. It's not just about money, but dignity: their cash salary is the personal reference point ( F ) they judge how well off they are. It is important to understand how these reference points affect people's behavior, but unfortunately, there is sometimes no choice but to brutally introduce people to the real world.

### Questions

- 1 For each of the underlined words marked [ 1 ] to [10], give an English word with the opposite meaning. Your answers should reflect the context in which each word is used.
  
- 2 Select from the following to fill the blank spaces marked (A) – (F). Individual options may be selected once, more than once, or not at all. On the answer sheet, enter the numbers corresponding to the options you select.  
1 by which    2 by whom    3 in which    4 in whom    5 what  
6 which    7 whom    8 why    9 with which    10 with whom
  
- 3 Translate the Japanese sentences marked ( a ) and ( b ) into English.
  
- 4 According to the passage, are the following statements true or false? On the answer sheet, indicate those you consider to be true with an A, and those you think are false with a B. If you think it is impossible to tell from the passage whether a particular statement is true or false, indicate this with a C.  
( 1 ) Those who have never been rich will find poverty more difficult to tolerate than those who have.  
( 2 ) Perceptions of what it is to be poor vary from place to place and from generation to generation.  
( 3 ) MPs earn around three times more than the average Briton.  
( 4 ) MPs earn more than business executives and senior bureaucrats.  
( 5 ) The willingness of people from poor countries to do low-paid jobs in rich countries can be explained by expectation reference points.  
( 6 ) One reason classical economic models are often wrong is that people don't necessarily behave in their own best interests.

[IV] Robots are beginning to resemble humans more and more closely, not only in appearance but also in behavior. If you could design a robot, what would you make it capable of doing, and why? Write 100 words or so in English to explain your ideas.

## NOTES

**Eurozone** The group of countries that use the Euro as their currency

**GDP** Gross domestic product: the total value of goods produced and services provided in a country during one year

**MPs** Members of Parliament (equivalent to members of Japan's House of Representatives)

Adapted from *Oxford Dictionary of English* (2nd ed. rev.), etc.

[出典] 以下の資料に基づく

[I] Ghosn, Carlos. "COP21 deal critical for low-carbon economy." *The Yomiuri Shimbun* 29 October 2015 <<http://the-japan-news.com/article/0002519499>>.

[II] Whalen, Jeanne. "Read Slowly to Benefit Your Brain and Cut Stress." *The Wall Street Journal* 16 September 2014 <<http://www.wsj.com/articles/read-slowly-to-benefit-your-brains-and-cut-stress-1410823086>>.

[III] Chu, Ben. "It's not whether we're rich or poor, but what we expect that really counts." *The Independent* 6 July 2015 <<http://www.independent.co.uk/voices/comment/its-not/whether-were-rich-or-poor-but-what-we-expect-that-really-counts-10368872.html>>.