

I. 次の会話の意味が通るように、もっとも適切なものを a～d のの中から選び、解答欄の記号をマークしなさい。

問1 A : Hey, have you tried the new Italian restaurant near the station?

B : No, I haven't. Is it any good?

A : ()

B : That sounds delicious. I'll have to check it out soon!

- a. I've had better food before.
- b. Yes, I had spaghetti and meat balls.
- c. It's supposed to be really affordable.
- d. It's not very far from here.

問2 A : Hey, are you coming to the party tonight?

B : ()

A : Great! It starts at 8 PM.

B : See you there!

- a. I have to study tonight.
- b. I can't make it.
- c. I'll be there!
- d. What time is it now?

問3 A : Did you finish the homework for biology class?

B : ()

A : Lucky you. I still have a few questions left.

B : If you need any help, just ask.

- a. Yes, I finished it last night.
- b. No, I didn't understand it at all.
- c. It was lucky we didn't have any homework.
- d. I was hoping you could help me.

問4 A : Have you heard about the new movie that's coming out next week?

B : No, I haven't. ()

A : It's supposed to be a romantic comedy starring some famous actors.

- a. What time does it start?
- b. What kind of movie is it?
- c. What kind of movies do you like?
- d. Where can we watch it?

問5 A : I'm thinking of going for a run in the park later. Want to join me?

B : Sure, what time are you planning to go?

A : ()

B : Great! I'll see you there around that time.

- a. Time runs so fast.
- b. I run around in circles.
- c. I plan to wear comfortable shoes.
- d. Probably a bit before lunch.

Ⅱ. 次の文章の意味が通るように、もっとも適切なものを a～dの中から選び、解答欄の記号をマークしなさい。

問1 A diet rich in fruits and vegetables is known to provide essential vitamins and minerals, which are crucial for maintaining good ().

- a. health b. stories c. height d. tools

問2 The library provides a wide range of services to its members, including the () of books, magazines, and digital resources.

- a. publication b. lending c. selling d. production

問3 The () of the ancient pyramids of Egypt still puzzles scientists and engineers today.

- a. construction b. destruction c. discovery d. disappearance

問4 In the city of Kamakura, near Tokyo, there is a problem with too many tourists, especially during busy times. The many visitors who come to see Kamakura's temples, gardens, and local life sometimes () the daily routines of people who live there. Streets get crowded, and it becomes harder for residents to move around or shop peacefully.

- a. improve b. facilitate c. disturb d. relieve

問5 In some beaches in Japan, there are many large birds that can be dangerous because they try to take food from people who are having a picnic. This is happening because in the 1990s, people used to feed these birds, and now they are no longer scared of humans. This has become a safety ().

- a. benefit b. opportunity c. atmosphere d. concern

Ⅲ. 次の文章を読み、それぞれの質問の解答としてもっとも適切なものを a～dの中から選び、解答欄の記号をマークしなさい。

The Mystery of D.B. Cooper

In the early 1970s, an extraordinary event captured the world's attention: a plane was taken over by a man known as D.B. Cooper. This mysterious figure boarded a Northwest Orient Airlines flight and quietly handed a note to the flight crew, claiming he had a bomb. (a)

Demanding \$200,000 in cash, Cooper received the money after the plane landed. Soon, he instructed the pilot to fly at a low height. Then, somewhere over the forests of the Pacific Northwest, he jumped out of the plane with a parachute* and vanished without a trace.

(A) extensive searches, his true identity remains unknown to this day. However, over the years, several clues have become clear. In 1980, a young boy discovered an old package containing \$5,800 in cash along the banks of the Columbia River. The numbers on the bills matched those of the money given to Cooper. (b) Moreover, some pieces of a parachute were found in the woods, but no evidence linking them to Cooper has been confirmed.

People from all (c) walks of life have been interested in the D.B. Cooper case. Some believe he may have been French-Canadian, as his English seemed unusual and he used the name "Dan Cooper," similar to a character in a popular French comic book about flying. Over the years, amateur detectives and fans have formed groups devoted to solving the mystery. They meet to share theories and analyze evidence, but (d) the truth seems to remain out of reach. Some in the media believe that if D.B. Cooper were still alive and were to reveal himself, he might not be charged for his crime, due to the age of the case, but this is far from certain. (c)

To this day, the mystery of D.B. Cooper continues to interest people around the world. While the truth may never be known, the legend of D.B. Cooper lives on, inspiring imagination for generations to come. (d)

(注) parachute : パラシュート

問1 第3段落の(A)に入るものとも適切な語を下から選びなさい。

- a. Because
- b. Despite
- c. Therefore
- d. However

問2 本文中の空欄 (a) ～ (d) のうち、次の文が入るものとも適切な箇所を選びなさい。

In spite of the difficult situation, Cooper remained polite and calm throughout the whole time.

- a. (a)
- b. (b)
- c. (c)
- d. (d)

問3 第4段落の下線部 (1) にもっとも近い意味の語を下から選びなさい。

- a. walkers
- b. international
- c. elderly
- d. social groups

問4 第4段落の下線部 (2) の意味と近い文章を下から一つ選びなさい。

- a. They cannot discover the best theory.
- b. The truth seems to be revealed.
- c. The whole truth is still unknown.
- d. They are not close enough to reach each other.

問5 本文の内容と一致する文章を下から一つ選びなさい。

- a. Although the mystery of D.B. Cooper was solved, it continues to attract people.
- b. D.B. Cooper was found dead in the woods.
- c. Some of the money D.B. Cooper stole was found after he took over the airplane.
- d. D.B. Cooper is said to be French.

Ⅳ. 次の文章を読み、それぞれの質問の解答としてもっとも適切なものを a ～ dの中から選び、解答欄の記号をマークしなさい。

The Secret Language of Ants

Imagine a world where you could tell your friends about a great new restaurant simply by leaving a scented* trail behind you. Sounds like something out of a science fiction movie, right? Well, for ants, this is just everyday life. (a) Ants have developed a complex system of communication that helps them survive as a community, (A) they don't have smartphones or social media.

Ants primarily communicate through chemicals called pheromones*. When an ant finds food, it releases a trail of pheromones on its way back to (B). Other ants pick up on this chemical trail and follow it to (C). It's like a natural GPS system, guiding the colony's members directly to dinner. But pheromones aren't just used for finding food. Different pheromones can signal various messages, such as warnings about danger or directions to a new nest. (b)

Aside from chemical signals, ants also use touch and sound. Ants have antennae* that they use to 'talk' to each other by touching. (c) This method helps them exchange information about where they've been and what they've found. Some ants can even make sounds by rubbing parts of their bodies together, creating vibrations* that can be felt by other ants. These signals are crucial, especially in the dark tunnels of their nests where visual communication isn't possible.

What's truly fascinating is how these tiny creatures can organize and operate so well without a leader. (d) Instead, ants work together like a dream through (1) their sophisticated communication methods. Their ability to share information quickly and effectively ensures the survival of their colony.

In the end, the secret language of ants shows us that communication doesn't have to be a spoken language to be effective. These little insects remind us that sometimes, a simple touch or a trail of scent* can say more than a thousand words. And who knows, maybe one day we'll be leaving scented trails for each other too!

(注) scented : においのする pheromones : フェロモン antennae : アンテナ vibrations : 振動 scent : におい

問9 By the time we reached the hall, the concert ().

- a. had already started b. already starts c. started d. has already started

問10 Neither of us () going to work because it is Sunday today.

- a. are b. were c. is d. am

Ⅵ. それぞれの日本語の意味に合うように () 内の語を並べ替え、2番目と4番目に来る語の番号として正しい組み合わせを選んで、解答欄にマークしなさい。ただし、() 内の語は、文の最初に来る場合も小文字で書かれているので心得ておくこと。

問1 青い屋根が見える家が、我が家でした。

The (1. of 2. you 3. see 4. which 5. can 6. house) the blue roof was mine.

- a. 1 - 2 b. 2 - 3 c. 1 - 5 d. 4 - 5

問2 ケンはまもなくスマートフォンを使うのをやめた。

(1. not 2. before 3. it 4. long 5. Ken 6. was) stopped using a smartphone.

- a. 6 - 2 b. 5 - 1 c. 6 - 4 d. 5 - 2

問3 彼が素晴らしいアドバイスをくれたので、私は海外で勉強する気になった。

(1. to 2. great 3. motivated 4. advice 5. me 6. his) study abroad.

- a. 2 - 3 b. 2 - 5 c. 4 - 2 d. 6 - 5

問4 エイミイの大阪旅行は、期待していたものと違っていた。

Amy's trip to Osaka (1. different 2. had 3. she 4. what 5. from 6. was) expected.

- a. 2 - 3 b. 1 - 4 c. 4 - 2 d. 5 - 6

問5 終電を逃した時、私には歩いて帰るしか選択肢がなかった。

When I missed the last train, I (1. but 2. to 3. had 4. choice 5. walk 6. no) home.

- a. 6 - 1 b. 6 - 5 c. 2 - 4 d. 2 - 6