

英 語

I. Read the following passage and answer the questions below.

Jill Smart, an executive at a technology consulting firm, was not convinced the first time she stepped into her firm's new videoconferencing room in Chicago for a meeting with a group of colleagues in London. However, the videoconferencing technology turned out to be an experience so lifelike, Smart recalled, that "10 minutes into it you forget you are not in the room with them."

Her company has installed 13 top-class videoconferencing rooms at its offices around the world and plans to have an additional 22 operating before the end of the year. In May alone, its consultants used virtual meetings to avoid 240 international trips and 120 domestic flights, which adds up to countless hours of tiring travel for its workers and millions of dollars saved annually.

As travel costs rise and airlines cut back service, companies large and small are rethinking the face-to-face meeting—and business travel as well. At the same time, the technology has matured to the stage where it is often practical, affordable, and more productive **(A) to move data instead of bodies**. By doing many product demonstrations online, one business software company estimates the travel costs of its sales force have been cut by 60 percent and their average time to conclude a sale has been reduced by 30 percent.

(B) No one suggests that the face-to-face meeting is becoming too old-fashioned. Companies talk about using digital tools mainly as a way of making business travel more selective and more productive. For instance, staff training and education is a field many companies are moving online, both to make the programs more effective and to cut travel costs. Darryl Draper, the national manager of customer service training for a car company, used to travel four days a week, nine months of the year, presenting educational programs to employees at the company's 600 dealers nationwide.

Today, Draper rarely travels and nearly all of her training is done online, and it has been transformed. When she was training face to face, Draper calculates that in six months she would reach about 220 people at a cost of \$300 a person. Using tools ranging from online conferencing to online learning materials, she now reaches 2,500 people every six months at a cost of 75 cents a person. "I'm everywhere," she said. "The training is always on."

In a teleconference room, the images of people on screen are life-size. At the end of meetings, participants have been known to walk to the screen to try to shake hands. A company which has more than 200 teleconference rooms said it was saving \$100 million in yearly travel costs, and reducing its greenhouse gas emissions from air travel by 10 percent. However, it remains an elite corporate product for now.

There is also a certain paradox in videoconferencing, in that this truly impressive technological achievement is all to simulate the richest form of human interaction ever devised: people talking to each other, face to face. Nor is **(C) it** a perfect alternative. Smart, who declares herself "just amazed" by the technology, still travels about 10 days a month. She is the chief of human resources for her company, and part of her job is to evaluate what skills the firm needs. As a result, she travels regularly to India, China, the Philippines, and elsewhere. "You don't learn about other cultures in videoconferencing," she said. "You **(D) get** things from being there, over breakfast and dinner, building relationships face to face."

I. 1. Choose the most appropriate title for this article.

- a. The Changing Face of Business Meetings
- b. Face-to-face Communication Threatened by Videoconferencing
- c. Companies Reluctant to Use Web-based Meetings
- d. Videoconferencing as Paradox of Modern Society

I. 2. Choose the most appropriate answer for each question.

- (1) Why does the author mention Jill Smart's experience in the first paragraph?
- To show how convincing face-to-face contact is.
 - To show how widespread videoconferencing is in the business world.
 - To show how positive the experience of videoconference is.
 - To show how someone forgets after experiencing something unnatural.
- (2) What will Jill Smart's company be doing at the end of the year?
- It will be saving a great deal of virtual meetings.
 - It will be increasing the number of offices around the world.
 - It will be doubling workers who can travel overseas as well as domestically.
 - It will be using more than twice as many videoconferencing rooms as now.
- (3) What does the underlined part (A) mean?
- To send files for meetings by email instead of sending them by regular mail.
 - To use virtual conferences instead of traveling in person.
 - To move companies instead of people.
 - To set up meetings instead of business trips.
- (4) How are digital tools changing business travel?
- Companies can concentrate on certain clients and travel to talk to them.
 - Companies can travel to more clients to make a deal.
 - People have to use trains or cars instead of airplanes to visit clients.
 - People have to train people to travel to other companies.
- (5) How did Darryl Draper's work change? (Mark all the correct answers.)
- She can reach over ten times more people than before.
 - The cost per person is over 300 times lower.
 - She can use online learning materials.
 - Training is done for eight hours a day.
- (6) What is the paradox the author talks about?
- Technology is trying to help people in conventional businesses.
 - Technological development is controlling human beings.
 - We cannot get anything new out of cutting-edge technology.
 - Technology is copying traditional human communication.
- (7) What does the underlined word (C) refer to?
- a. the paradox b. interaction c. videoconferencing d. the product

(8) What has the closest meaning to the underlined word **(D)**?

- a. buy b. understand c. catch d. accept

(9) Which one of the following is NOT mentioned as an advantage of videoconferencing?

- a. Companies can save traveling costs. b. Workers don't have to spend so much time traveling.
c. Workers don't have to have meetings. d. Companies can reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

(10) Which one of the following is NOT mentioned about videoconferencing?

- a. People on the screen are their actual size.
b. People try to shake hands with the images of people on the screen.
c. More and more people are using virtual meetings.
d. People feel uneasy about talking to the screen for a long time.

I. 3. Translate the underlined part **(B)** in the passage into Japanese.

I. 4. Do you agree or disagree with Jill Smart when she says, "You don't learn about other cultures in videoconferencing"?
State the reason in about ten more words.

II. From sentences A to G below, choose the most appropriate combination to complete the paragraph.

(1) (2) (3) One of these unwelcome hitchhikers, a bird virus has recently reminded authorities of the balancing act necessary in the islands. (4) (5) (6) The challenge for the Galápagos Islands now requires the efforts of both scientists and politicians to protect the islands while ensuring that people can still experience such an extraordinary place for years to come.

- A. The Galápagos Islands are one of the last nearly complete ecosystems on the earth, but even here the human footprint is getting larger.
B. Getting this balance right between access and protection has always been difficult.
C. The Galápagos Islands lie some 600 miles off the Pacific coast of South America and are governed by Ecuador.
D. Every year they have 140,000 visitors who come to enjoy their biological richness.
E. Unfortunately, wherever human beings go, unwelcome pests also go.
F. In recent years, however, the islands have become an ongoing experiment in how to preserve a fragile ecosystem while still making it available to tourists.
G. In the past, the assumption was that the best way to protect a natural resource was to create interest in it and a use for it.

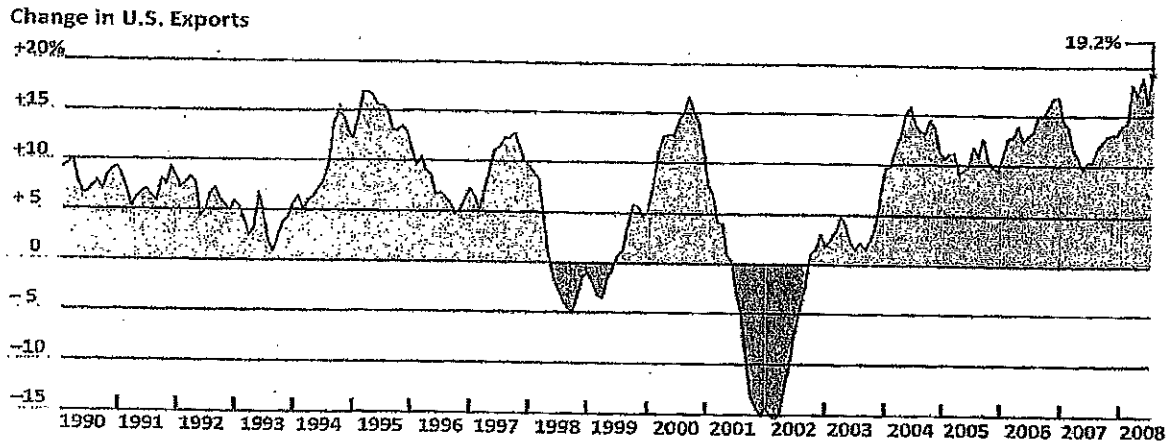
II. 1. (1)-(2)-(3)

- a. A-D-E b. A-E-D c. C-D-E d. C-E-D

II. 2. (4)-(5)-(6)

- a. B-F-G b. B-G-F c. F-G-B d. G-F-B

III. Based on the graph and the tables below, choose the most appropriate answer to fill in each blank.



Share and Growth of U.S. Exports

LARGEST TRADING PARTNERS			OTHER MAJOR COUNTRIES			REGIONS		
	SHARE	GROWTH		SHARE	GROWTH		SHARE	GROWTH
Canada	20.8%	12.3%	Britain	4.2%	11.7%	N. America	32.2%	11.8%
Mexico	11.3	10.7	Brazil	2.2	42.8	Europe	24.8	20.2
China	5.6	17.6	Australia	1.7	24.3	Pacific Rim	23.9	15.0
Japan	5.2	10.2	India	1.6	42.8	Latin America	9.9	40.6
Germany	4.2	18.4	Russia	0.7	39.9	Africa	2.1	35.3

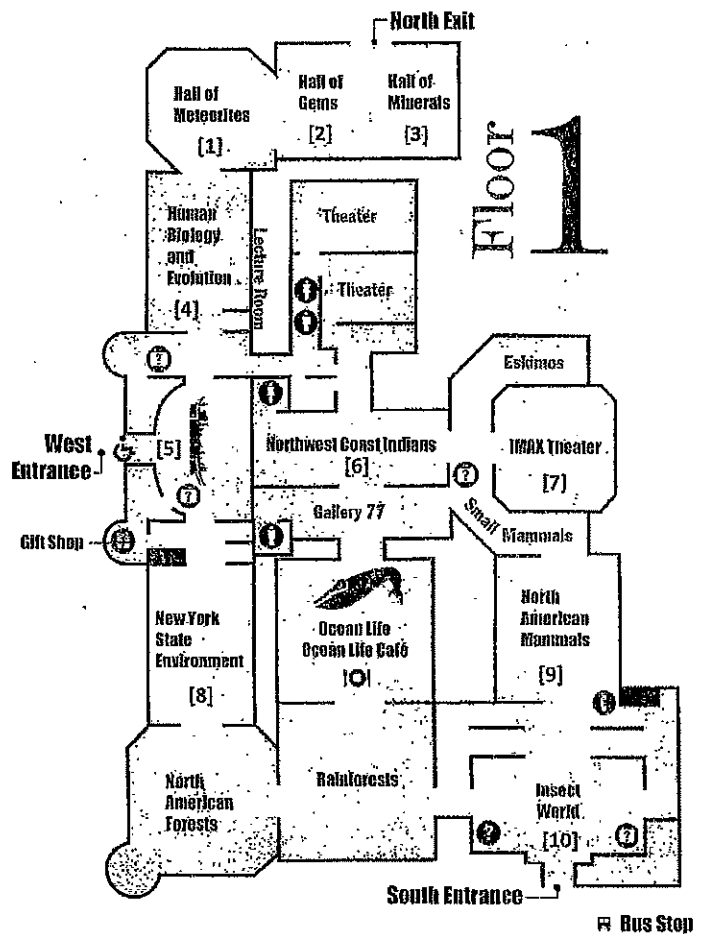
The U.S. (1) its highest peak this century in export rates (19.2% over the previous year) aided by a weak dollar and rising food export prices. (2), when exports were falling at rates below the -15% mark, the recovery is impressive. The increase in U.S. exports had only exceeded the 15% mark in four of the previous seventeen years, (3) between 9 % and 17% mark from 2004 to 2007.

The trading partners of the U.S. have also been undergoing change. Although the Latin American region demonstrated an unbeatable growth rate in imports of U.S. goods of 40.6%, with (4) alone boasting a 42.8% rise from last year, (5) kept an equally impressive pace, while occupying the second lowest share of the market of the countries cited. Even the region with the smallest share of U.S. exports, (6), posted the second highest growth rate, a clear 15% over its closest rival, Europe. A similarly dramatic rise in percentage growth was achieved by the country with the lowest cited share of the U.S. pie, (7). Despite a modest 0.7% share, its booming growth rate of almost 40% was in great part attributed to the high price of oil. The figures indicate that the countries with small shares of the U.S. export market are (8) of U.S. goods.

1. a. arrived b. raised c. passed d. reached
2. a. Based on the data ten years ago b. Compared to six years previously
c. In contrast to the two years 1998 and 1999 d. Unlike the last decade
3. a. fluctuating b. leveling c. diving d. soaring
4. a. Africa b. Brazil c. India d. Mexico
5. a. Africa b. Brazil c. India d. Mexico
6. a. Africa b. Europe c. Russia d. Pacific Rim
7. a. India b. Germany c. Mexico d. Russia
8. a. the slowest growing seller b. the slowest growing consumer
c. the fastest growing buyer d. the fastest growing seller

IV. Read the following dialogue and answer the questions below.

T: Marshal!
 M: Tom! Where have you been? It's almost (1). You're late!
 T: I've been waiting for you at the north exit. Sorry.
 M: We agreed to meet here. Anyway, you're here now. Did you have a nice morning?
 T: It's been amazing. There's so much to see. I spent ages at the dinosaur exhibits on the fourth floor. They have got to be the best thing here!
 M: (2). This floor's got an Ocean Life exhibit that's hard to beat. You should try to see it later.
 T: Sounds great. Where is it?
 M: Well, the entrance is behind us, right? If you take a right out of this hall, go through the next hall, and turn left, you go right into (3)! Take another left and you're there. You can't miss it. There's a thirty-meter whale spanning the room!
 T: I've got to see that.
 M: Maybe I can take a quick look at the dinosaurs at the same time.
 T: Where will we go for lunch?
 M: Well, (4). I got the information at the counter there. A food court downstairs or the Ocean Life Café. But you're going there later, aren't you?
 T: Yeah. So (5). What time are our IMAX tickets for?
 M: Three o'clock, and our bus is at four. (6), do you want to get souvenirs now? The shop is right here.
 T: No way! I don't want to carry them around all afternoon. Besides, I'm starving.
 M: Me too, but we won't have time later. It's a fifty-minute show.
 T: Sounds like we don't have much choice, does it? Let's get a move on, then.



IV. 1. Choose the most appropriate phrases or sentences to fill in blanks (1) through (6) to complete the dialogue.

- (1) a. ten past eight b. quarter past nine c. half past twelve d. ten to three
 (2) a. I couldn't agree more b. I wouldn't bet on it c. I might not be wrong d. I should count on it
 (3) a. Rainforests b. North American Mammals c. Northwest Coast Indians d. North American Forests
 (4) a. there are many alternatives near here b. there are two options near here
 c. there is only one place near here d. there are none near here
 (5) a. that was ridiculous b. that was where you are going
 c. that was difficult to decide d. that was an easy choice
 (6) a. Until that time b. Needless to say c. Come to think of it d. Unfortunately

IV. 2. Choose the most appropriate answer for each question based on the map and the dialogue.

- (1) Where are Marsha and Tom now?
a. [3] b. [5] c. [7] d. [10]
- (2) Where are they going right after this?
a. To the IMAX theater. b. To Ocean Life Café.
c. To the museum shop. d. To North American Forests.
- (3) Which hall is most likely to have a human skeleton model?
a. [1] b. [3] c. [4] d. [9]
- (4) Which hall is most likely to have a diamond display?
a. [1] b. [2] c. [6] d. [8]