

I 次の英文(A)と(B)を読み、それぞれの下線部の意味を日本語で表しなさい。

(A) One of the most interesting forms of insect behavior is exhibited by the social insects, which, unlike the majority of insect species, live in organized groups. The social insects include wasps, bees, and ants. Characteristically an insect society is formed of a parent or parents and a large number of offspring. The individual members of the society are divided into groups, each having a specialized function and often exhibiting markedly different bodily structures.

(B) Research is hard work, but like any challenging job well done, both the process and the results bring immense personal satisfaction. But research and its reporting are also social acts that require you to think steadily about how your work relates to your readers, about the responsibility you have not just toward your subject and yourself, but toward them as well, especially when you believe that you have something to say that is important enough to cause readers to change their lives by changing what and how they think.

II 次の英文を読んで、以下の設問に答えなさい。

In 1898, in "The War of the Worlds," H. G. Wells imagined Earth invaded by space ships bearing monstrous conquering Martians. All human defenses prove impotent, but the Martians sicken and die when attacked by Earth's humblest living creatures, microbes. This nifty science-fiction insight is suddenly relevant in the real world. We are invading Mars and planning to bring materials back. Are the tables turned? Could our planet be destroyed by forms of Martian life? We can hope that any organisms dwelling on Mars will have originated and evolved so differently that they cannot survive, reproduce and threaten living beings here. But we cannot be sure.

Certainly, the idea that Mars once harbored life no longer seems absurd: Mars used to have briny ponds. And though the place now seems dead, there are several reasons to suppose that life, if it was ever there, could persist to this day. The place may still have water. Beneath the surface, it looks as though there might even be lakes, raising the possibility that Martians might be thriving underground.

Perhaps the strongest reason to think the planet could be home to something (A) is that over the past 20 years, we've learned that many inhabitants of Earth live in environments as peculiar as those on Mars. Here, some organisms exist inside rocks — in the chilly wastes of Antarctica, or a mile deep in the ground. Others live in ice sheets, or breed in the strongest acids. If it can happen here, it could possibly happen on Mars, too. Finding life on Mars obviously would be thrilling. It would, in a small way, ease our (a). In addition, it might illuminate that great mystery, the origin of life on Earth. But the possibility of life on Mars also suggests that we should approach the place with caution. If something is living there, then bringing Martian rocks back to Earth could be a mistake if not undertaken very carefully.

The history of first-time meetings between organisms is a sobering one.

When the Spanish came to the New World, they brought smallpox and measles, which killed 90 percent of the people in Mexico within 50 years. Nor is it just viruses that are troublesome. When animals and plants arrive in a new place, they can have devastating effects.

Given this, it seems rash even to entertain the notion of bringing Martian rock samples to Earth. So what's the argument in favor? The main one is that we could do a much more exhaustive analysis of the rocks here than robots sent to Mars could do on our behalf. We would therefore be much more likely to find life, or evidence of it. Moreover, some say the exercise can't be that risky because we've already been exposed to Martian soil: roughly 90 pounds of rocks from the planet hit Earth every year.

This shouldn't necessarily be taken as a sign that Martians aren't dangerous, however: arriving in a nice comfortable space ship should offer a better chance of survival than a fiery ride through Earth's atmosphere. Of course, maybe nothing would happen if we did bring rock samples back. The planet may, in fact, be home to no one. Even if it holds life, the organisms might not find Earth to their liking. Besides, no one is suggesting opening a box and releasing Martians in the middle of the rain forest.

But what if something went wrong? There could be an accident on arrival or problems with the containment facility. The scale of the disaster could be (⑥). Even if Martians didn't cause human diseases, they might irrevocably destroy earthly ecosystems.

And, in the end, doesn't the experiment seem a little premature? It's impossible to overstate our ignorance of life, even life on Earth. We continue to find microbes living in places that we didn't think could support life, and many of these organisms get their energy in ways we never imagined were possible. In February 2004, for example, the journal *Nature* reported the discovery of bacteria that seem to live off electrons directly obtained from metallic iron. Our chances of recognizing Martians, whatever they are, will surely be greater when we know

more about life here. So for the time being, let's cancel our invitation to the Martians and concentrate on exploring our own planet and understanding the amazing diversity of life forms on Earth.

設問(1) 本文中の下線部①～③を他の語で書き換えるとすれば、どれが最も適切か。それぞれ(イ)～(ニ)からひとつ選び、記号で答えなさい。

- ① (イ) birthing (ロ) carrying
(ハ) defending (ニ) enduring

- ② (イ) drowning (ロ) hiding
(ハ) mining (ニ) prospering

- ③ (イ) calculated (ロ) disappointing
(ハ) disastrous (ニ) favorable

設問(2) 本文中の下線部(A)の意味を日本語で表しなさい。

設問(3) 本文中の空所④と⑤を埋めるのに最も適切な語をそれぞれ(イ)～(ニ)からひとつ選び、記号で答えなさい。

- ④ (イ) conscience (ロ) excitement
(ハ) loneliness (ニ) risk

- ⑤ (イ) spectacle (ロ) spectacular
(ハ) spectator (ニ) speculate

設問(4) 本文中の下線部(B)の This の意味内容を日本語で簡潔に説明しなさい。

設問(5) 本文中の下線部(C)の意味を日本語で表しなさい。

Ⅲ 次の指示に従って、70 語程度の英文を書きなさい。

Describe one scene in a book, movie, comic, or animated cartoon that taught you a valuable lesson about life.

IV 次の日本語(A)と(B)の意味を英語で表しなさい(下線がある場合は下線部のみ)。ただし、(B)では、文学部の志願者は(イ)を、文学部以外の学部の志願者は(ロ)を選んで解答しなさい。

(A) (すべての学部の志願者)

私たちは電話やファックスや電子メールで一瞬のうちに他人から連絡を受けることに慣れてしまったので、手書きのメモはかえって新鮮だ。誰かが時間や考えや努力をついやして、個人的な温かみを添えようとしたことが分かるというものだ。

(B)

(イ) (文学部の志願者)

そこで、自分の言葉の才能の芽を育てようと思えば、やはり本を読むことなんです。できるだけ広い分野で本を読む。それも、早く読むよりはゆっくり読んで、その文章をしっかり受けとめることをしていけば、その人の人生にとって有効な才能として、言葉への才能が残っていく。そして、ほかの分野に行っても、その人は魅力的な人になって、自分らしい人生をつくり出されるのではないかと思います。

(ロ) (文学部以外の学部の志願者)

最近にいたって、私は自分が余りにも物を知らなさすぎることを、そしてまた、残念なことに余りにも多く誤って物事を知りすぎていることを痛感するようになった。知らないことはご愛嬌だが、間違っって知っていることはどうにも救いようがない。