

I 次の英文を読み、下の問いに答えなさい。

Global economic trends during the 1990s were remarkably strong, but environmental trends were disastrous. An economic system that worked well in times past when the demands of a smaller economy were well within the capacities of the earth's ecosystems is no longer working well. We face a future where a continuing worsening of the environment almost certainly will lead to economic decline. The challenge is to redesign the economic system so that it will not destroy its environmental support systems, so that economic progress can continue.

The time has come for what science historians see as a shift in the theory. They observe that as the scientific understanding of reality in a field advances, reaching a point where existing theory no longer adequately explains reality, then theory has to change. It has to be updated, replacing the old theory with a new one. Perhaps history's best known example of this is the shift from the Ptolemaic view of the world in which the sun revolved around the earth, to the Copernican view, which argued that the earth revolved about the sun. Once the Copernican model was accepted, relationships not only within the solar system but between the solar system and the rest of the universe suddenly made sense to those who studied the heavens, leading to an era of steady advances in astronomy.

We are now facing such a situation with the global economy. The market is a remarkably efficient device for balancing supply and demand, but it does not respect the speed at which nature can renew itself. In a world where demands of the economy are pressing against the limits of natural systems, relying exclusively on economic statistics to guide investment decisions is a recipe for disaster. Historically, for example, if the supply of fish was inadequate, the price would rise, encouraging investment in additional fishing boats. This market system worked well. But today, with

the fish catch already exceeding the number of fish born each year, investing in more fishing boats in response to higher seafood prices will simply accelerate the collapse of fish populations.

The gap between economists and ecologists in their perception of the world as the new century begins could not be wider. Economists see a world economy that has grown by leaps and bounds over the last half-century, but ecologists see growth based on the burning of vast quantities of cheap fossil fuels, which is disturbing the climate. They are keenly aware that someone buying a gallon of gasoline pays the cost of pumping the oil, of refining it into gasoline, and of distributing the gasoline to the service station, but not the cost to society of the future effects of pollution. While economists see ^(B) booming economic growth, ecologists see an economy that is altering the climate with consequences that no one can foresee.

問1 下線部(A), (B)を日本語に訳しなさい。

問2 下線部 a shift in the theory の内容を, 本文に即して日本語で説明しなさい。

II 次の英文を読み、下の問いに答えなさい。

Lots of people don't like beavers. They block streams, flood land, and kill trees. Often they will plug up a drain, turning a road into a dam and softening the surface of the road. The people who don't like beavers see their activity as bad, while beavers seem to see it as the only way of making a living in the world. With the exception of man, the beaver shapes its environment more than any other species. And like human beings, the beaver occupies a home which is extensively of its own making. Species such as beaver, which have a much greater influence upon their environment than what would be expected from their individual use of energy, are known as 'keystone species'.

(1) When the beaver floods a forest, it begins a cyclic process which takes more than a human lifetime to complete. We usually only recognize the disturbance which begins the process.⁽²⁾ Initially the beaver creates a pond causing the trees, which are not adapted to the newly raised water level, to die. The beaver builds its home within this pond. It further uses the pond to travel safely to and from its food supply. In relatively flat locations, they dig canals for the transport of cut logs. In many instances these canals are hundreds of feet long and equipped with dams.

And because the beaver prefers certain tree species as food over other species they greatly alter the surrounding forest composition. Beavers have been said to 'farm' their environment, producing the conditions which are necessary to cause their environment to produce the species of plants which form the basis of their food supply. Within the pond, beaver disturbance begins a process of change beginning in a watery environment. Over time, as mud is deposited in the pond, it becomes shallower and shallower. The pond passes from an area of open water through a period of (a), and finally forms a (b). By this time the beaver has long since been forced to abandon the site and the filled pond becomes a lasting feature of the (c). Many areas of eastern North America are thought to be the product of beaver activity over thousands of years.

問1 下線部(1)の 'keystone species' はどのような性質をもつものをいうか、本文に即して日本語で説明しなさい。

問2 下線部(2)はどのような内容を指しているか、本文に即して日本語で述べなさい。

問3 文中の空所 (a) ~ (c) に入れるのに最もふさわしい語句を、次の中から一つずつ選んで番号で答えなさい。ただし、同じものを重複して選んではならない。

- (1) shallow wetland (2) valley floor (3) wet meadow

Ⅲ 次の英文を読み、文中の空所①～⑧に当てはまる適切な文を、下の(a)～(h)から一つずつ選び、記号で答えなさい。ただし、同じものを重複して選んではならない。

“It’s like a cinerary casket,” Lin muttered to himself. He referred to a small oak box underneath Manna’s clothes in the wardrobe. A bronze lock always secured its lid. He couldn’t help wondering what was inside. Probably money, or her bankbook, or the certificates of merit she had received. Somehow that box had begun to occupy his mind lately:

One evening he asked her in a joking tone, “ (①) ”

“What are you talking about?”

“The oak box in the wardrobe.”

“Oh, nothing’s in it. (②)” She smiled.

“Can I see what’s inside?”

“Uh-uh, unless you promise me something.”

“What?”

“ (③) ”

“Of course I won’t.”

“Promise that from now on you’ll tell me all your secrets.”

“Sure, I won’t hide anything from you.”

“ (④) ”

She got up from the bed, went over to the wardrobe, and took out the box. Opening the lock, she lifted the lid. A roll of cream-colored sponge puffed out, from on top of the other contents. She took the roll out and unfolded it on the bed, displaying about two dozen Chairman Mao buttons, all fastened to the sponge.

“Wow, I never thought you loved Chairman Mao so much,” Lin said with a smile. “ (⑤) ”

“I collected them.”

“Out of your love for Chairman Mao?”

“I don’t know. (⑥)”

He was puzzled by her admiration. He realized that someday these little things might become valuable indeed, as reminders of the revolution. They would become relics of history. But for her, they didn’t seem to possess any historical value at all. Then it dawned on him that she must have kept these buttons as a kind of treasure. She must have collected them as the only beautiful things she could own, like jewelry.

He glanced at the box, in which there were about two dozen letters held together by a blue rubber band. “What are those?” he asked.

“Just some old letters from Mai Dong.” She seemed to keep her head low, avoiding his eyes.

“Can I see them?”

“Why are you so persistent today?”

“(⑦)”

“There’s no secret in them. If you want, you can read them. But don’t do that in front of me.”

“(⑧)”

“I won’t lock the box then.”

“Sure, I’ll read them and see what a romantic girl you were.”

In his heart he was eager to go through the letters, though he didn’t show his eagerness. Never had he seen a love letter except in novels; never had he written one himself. Now he could see a real love letter.

(注) cinerary casket 骨壺^{つぼ}, Chairman Mao 毛沢東主席

- (a) They look gorgeous, don't they?
- (b) Why are you so curious?
- (c) If it bothers you, I don't have to see them.
- (d) Promise you won't laugh at me.
- (e) All right, I won't.
- (f) Okay, then I'll let you see.
- (g) What are you hiding from me in the box?
- (h) Where did you get so many of these?

IV 次の日本語を読み、下の問いに答えなさい。

米国の代表的スポーツ、たとえば野球やバスケットボール、アメリカンフットボールは、「適者生存」のダーウィニズムの影響が濃いのだそうだ。競技とは生存競争に他ならず、勝利するのは適者である。こういう考え方からメンバーチェンジの発想が生れた、とある研究者は指摘している。最適の人間を最適のときに活用するという考え方は、裏を返すと使い捨て思想につながる。メンバーチェンジの思想はスポーツだけではない。日本社会の中にも根を下ろしている。

問1 下線部を英語に訳しなさい。

問2 上の日本語を参考にして、社会における生存競争について、答案用紙に指定された範囲内で、英語で意見を述べなさい。