岡山大学 一般前期

平成２３年度入学試験問題

英　　語

注　　意

1　問題冊子は１冊，解答用紙は５枚です。

2　すべての解答用紙に受験番号を記入しなさい。

3　解答は，すべて解答用紙の指定されたところに書きなさい。

4　試験終了後，問題冊子は必ず持ち帰りなさい。

問題訂正

外国語
英語

3

6ページ下から8行目
（下線を句点までのばす）

誤　　大きい。

正　　大きい。

1 次の英文を読んで，下記の問いに答えなさい。

In the middle of the last century, TV and cars went together perfectly. TV showed you a world of exciting things—atomic bombs in Las Vegas; beautiful young women on water skis in Cypress Gardens, Florida; Thanksgiving Day parades in New York City—and cars made it possible to get there.

No one understood this better than Walt Disney. When he opened Disneyland on sixty acres of land near the nowhere town of Anaheim, twenty-three miles south of Los Angeles, in 1955, people thought he was out of his mind. Amusement parks were dying in America in the 1950s. They were a refuge for poor people, immigrants, sailors on shore leave, and other people with no place to go. But Disneyland was of course different from the start. ①First, there was no way to reach it by any form of public transportation, so people of modest means couldn't get there. And if they did somehow manage to reach the gates, they couldn't afford to get in, anyway.

But ②Disney's genius was to use television to its full potential. A year before the park even opened, Disney launched a television series that was essentially a weekly hour-long commercial for Disney enterprises. The program was actually called *Disneyland* for its first four years and many of the programs in the series, including the very first, were devoted to celebrating and drumming up interest in that paradise of fantasy and excitement that was swiftly rising from the orange groves at the smoggy end of California.

By the time the park opened, people couldn't wait to get there. Within two years it was attracting 4.5 million visitors a year. The average customer, according to *Time* magazine, spent $4.90 on a day out at Disneyland—$2.72 for rides and admission, $2 for food, and 18 cents for souvenirs. ③That seems pretty reasonable to me now—it is awfully hard to believe it wasn't reasonable then—but evidently these were shocking prices. The biggest complaint of Disney customers in the park's first two years, *Time* reported, was the cost.

From our neighborhood you only went to Disneyland if your father was a brain surgeon or a dentist. For everyone else, it was too far and too expensive. It was entirely out of the question in our case. My father was a maniac for piling us all in the car and going to distant places, but only if the trips were cheap, educational, and celebrated some forgotten aspect of America's glorious past, generally involving slaughter, uncommon hardship, or the delivery of mail at a gallop. Riding in spinning teacups at 15 cents per person didn't fit into any of that.

The low point of the year in our house came every midwinter when my father retired to his room and vanished into a giant heap of road maps, guidebooks, old volumes of American history, and brochures from communities, to select the destination for our next summer vacation.

When he made his decision, my father would spread out a map of the western United States on the kitchen table, and point to some dry corner of Kansas or the Dakotas that no outsider had ever willingly visited before. We nearly always went west, but never as far as Disneyland and California.

（1） 下線部①を日本語にしなさい。

（2） 下線部②が示す内容を具体的に日本語で説明しなさい。

（3） 下線部③を日本語にしなさい。

（4） 筆者の家庭では Disneyland に行くかわりに何をしたのか，日本語で述べなさい。

2 次の英文を読んで，下記の問いに答えなさい。

What causes a language to disappear? Once a language is gone, what happens to the people and the culture that once used that language and lived in that society? These are important questions for anyone interested in the state of the world's languages today. Some linguists believe that of the 6,200 known languages, as many as 90% may disappear over the next 100 years. Other linguists believe that ①this is an alarmist figure. While they agree that languages are disappearing more rapidly than in the past, they do not believe that the loss of languages will be as rapid as these predictions suggest.

So what causes languages to disappear? The traditional argument in linguistics is that languages die because their speakers die. To demonstrate, we could note natural phenomena such as a volcanic eruption, earthquake, or disease that eliminates the entire population of an area and with it the language. Diseases brought by European settlers to America in the 16-19th centuries dramatically decreased the number of native American tribes.

There are also man-made causes such as war. Eliminate the enemy and you also eliminate their language. This too happened in America with battles between the westward moving white settlers to America and many of the native American tribes they encountered. This is also responsible for the weakened state of the Ainu language in Japan where battles in the 1600s, followed by Japanese expansion to Hokkaido, and eventually disease eliminated a majority of the Ainu population by the end of the 19th century.

Today, however, there are new ways in which languages are disappearing. ②Technology and a desire for material wealth have caused some smaller linguistic communities to abandon their traditional language for English. Their belief is that their children will have a better chance of success with English rather than a language that may only have 100 speakers. It's hard to say that they are wrong. We all want the best for our children, but we must consider the cost to the society.

What do we lose when a language dies? It is our belief that we lose not only the cultural practices and rituals of that society, but also the collective body of knowledge that that society has accumulated over time. In addition to the knowledge that is lost, we also lose the diversity that makes the world such an interesting place. The world would be a much less exciting place if we all spoke a single language.

Once we have recognized how languages contribute to the diversity of our world and what is lost when languages (and cultures) disappear, it then becomes important to understand what can be done and is being done to protect the world's languages. Yet, no matter how much we might want to preserve all of the world's languages, this simply is not possible. There are too many languages with too few speakers and not enough time. Understanding this, there are generally two active approaches to endangered languages. The first is language preservation and the second is language revitalization.

Language preservation often occurs when the language has been reduced to very few living speakers. In this type of work, linguists try to record as much information about the language and culture as is possible, knowing that once these remaining speakers are gone the language is dead. Because of this kind of work, it is sometimes called linguistic salvage work.

The second approach is language revitalization. Language revitalization occurs when there is awareness in the linguistic community of the need to promote the language. It must be the linguistic community that takes an active role in seeing that the language is used in the home and in education, trade, and in the media. If the community is not interested in saving the language, then in many cases the best linguists can do is preservation of information.

As more and more distinct linguistic communities realize the importance of preserving the language and culture of their people for future generations, more languages are likely to be saved. It is possible to bring a language back from near destruction. However, it requires efforts from all sides including the learners, the

elders, the government and linguists.

（1） 下線部①はどういうことか，日本語で説明しなさい。

（2） 下線部②を日本語にしなさい。

（3） 消滅危機言語に対する２つの取り組みについて，その違いがわかるように，日本語で説明しなさい。

3 次の文章を読んで，下線部①，②を英語にしなさい。

〈円周率１０万けた暗唱〉などの報に触れるたび，人間の底知れぬ能力に圧倒される。今回も驚くばかりだが，審査員には音の差がしっかり届いたらしい。米国の高名なピアノコンクールで優勝した辻井伸行さん（２０）だ。

快挙は〈全盲の日本人が優勝〉と伝えられた。ニュース価値はそこにあっても，競演の結果に「全盲の」は要らない。それは奏者の重い個性だけれど，審査上は有利でも不利でもない。勝者が「たまたま」見えない人だったのだ。

録音を何度も聴いて曲を覚えるという。耳で吸収した音は熟成され，天から降ると称される響きで指先に躍り出る。「目が見えた場合」と比べるすべはないが，音色だけ見えているかのような集中は，不利を有利に転じる鍛錬をしのばせる。

師は「驚き以上の感動を伝えるため，彼は勉強を重ねてきた」と言う。①全盲ゆえの賛辞は，実力を曇らす「二つ目のハンディ」だったかもしれない。体ではなく，音の個性が正当に評価された喜びは大きい。

２０年前，ご両親は「生まれてよかったと思ってくれようか」と悩んだ。やがて，母が台所で口ずさむ歌をおもちゃの鍵盤で再現し，同じ曲でも演奏家を聴き分けてみせた。その才をいち早く見抜いたのは親の愛だ。

②かつて息子は「一度だけ目が開くならお母さんの顔が見たい」と口にしたそうだ。母は今，「私に生まれてきてくれてありがとう」と涙する。「できない」ではなく，「できる」ことを見つめ続けたご褒美。世界が「生まれてよかった」と祝す才能は，どれもそうして開花する。

4 次の会話を読んで，下線部①，②，③，④を英語にしなさい。

「どこへいらっしゃるの」

「軽井沢。でも，二晩ばかりよ」

「わア，いいんだ」

「①よくもないの。お友達のうちだから，退屈だわ。まあ，とうもろこしでも食べてくる位のことね」

「ああ，そうか。名物ね，とうもろこし」

「②運転手さん，もう少し，そこ閉めてくれない？」

と，きん子が風を避けた。

「③あたし，きん子さんに，とうもろこしで，お人形作ってもらったことがあるわ」

「そうかしら。なんだか変ね，おばさんみたいで」

「赤毛で，とても可愛いかったわ」

「いつごろのこと？」

「さあ，ずいぶん小さい時。ヨウピンが，やっかんで・・・・」

明子はその口ですぐ，

「④そういえば，ヨウピンのこと，みき子さんに聞いたわ。元気？」

と，話題を転じた。

「あなたのとこへ，絵葉書よこさない？」

「ううん，まだ」

「なにをしてるんだか，人騒がせな子よ」

（注）ヨウピン： 洋一の愛称

5 次の英文を読んで，あなたの答えを，理由とともに１０行程度の英語で書きなさい。

There are many poor people in the world who lack the money to buy food, clothing, shelter, and medicine. If you were to donate $100 to a charity such as Oxfam, then some of these people would get what they desperately need and you would thereby increase happiness. But if you were to donate all of your spare income each month, then even more people would get what they desperately need and you would produce even more happiness. Should you donate all of your spare income to charities such as Oxfam? Would it be wrong not to do so?

（注）Oxfam：１９４２年に設立された英国の慈善団体