

愛媛大学

英語

問題

2019年度入試

【学部】	医学部
【入試名】	前期日程
【試験日】	2月25日
【試験時間】	120分



「過去問ライブラリーは、(株)旺文社が刊行する「全国大学入試問題正解」を中心とした過去問、研究・解答(解答・解説)を掲載しています。本サービスに関する知的財産権その他一切の権利は、(株)旺文社または各情報提供者に帰属します。本サービスに掲載の全部または一部の無断複製、配布、転載、譲渡等を禁止します。各設問に対する「研究・解答」は原則として旺文社が独自に作成したものを掲載しています。掲載問題のうち★印を付したものは、著作権法第67条の2第1項の規定により文化庁長官に裁定申請を行った上で利用しています。

裁定申請日 【2017年】8/1 【2018年】4/24、9/20 【2019年】6/20

問題 1. 次の文章を読み、設問に答えなさい。なお「*」の付いた語句は本文の後に語注があるので参考にしなさい。

①A recent study from the University of Manchester has seen microplastics* in the headlines: looking across 40 riverbeds* in urban, suburban and rural regions of northwest England, the team of researchers found that all but one of the sites they investigated were polluted with microplastic. Some contained more than 500,000 particles of microplastic per square meter - the highest concentration ever found in any body of water (a) date.

Microplastics are (A) than tiny pieces of plastic, less than 5 millimeters (b) diameter. The smallest microplastic particles detected, however, are considerably smaller than this - thousands could fit on a single pinhead. ②In fact, it is likely that very tiny plastic particles exist which are simply too small to detect using standard research methods. Most of us are familiar with the plastic items we use day-to-day as being relatively large - certainly larger than a microplastic particle. So where microplastic comes from may seem a bit of a mystery.

Generally speaking, ③microplastics are categorized as 'primary' or 'secondary' based on their origin. 'Primary' implies that microplastic particles were 'deliberately' produced as part of a manufacturing process. A large source of such microplastic particles are cleaning products. They are also widely used to manufacture medicines - microbeads* have versatile* properties which can be exploited, for instance, to help deliver drug components to particular sites in the body. Another important primary source of microplastics are textiles - tiny plastic fibers can rub off fabrics when they are washed.

'Secondary' microplastics arise when large plastic materials are progressively broken down into smaller fragments through environmental processes. There are two stages to this process. First, the plastics are degraded*. Usually, degradation* occurs during exposure of plastic to sunlight. When plastics are exposed to UV light* they undergo 'photo-oxidative degeneration' - breakdown through the action of light. The second stage to the process is fragmentation*. The weakened, fragile plastic will fall apart into tiny particles. Degradation and fragmentation occur very efficiently on beaches, where sand reaches high temperatures and the plastic is exposed to plenty of light. Plastics already in bodies of water, such as the sea, are at lower temperatures and are generally exposed to less UV light. Additionally, they tend to get coated in biofilms*, which makes the plastic more resistant to degradation. As such, the vast majority of secondary microplastics originate on beaches, and are subsequently washed in to the sea.

No matter where microplastics originate, the final common end-point in their journey is the

oceans. Microplastics from domestic and industrial use are collected in sewage* and wastewater, and can be washed out of riverbeds and off beaches during rainstorms. Often, they end up in the sea directly, either due to accidents during transport, or through human littering* of coastlines. As we already saw, because degradation occurs (B) efficiently once plastics are in the water, direct littering of the ocean is a much less important source of microplastic compared to beaches.

(c) present, it is not entirely clear what effect microplastics have on marine wildlife. Importantly, they are similar (d) size to phytoplankton*, which forms the staple diet of zooplanktons*. It has been observed in laboratory studies that zooplanktons do not differentiate* between phytoplankton and microplastic particles when feeding. Zooplanktons themselves are consumed by larger marine organisms, including fish. (C) , microplastics can have an effect on every level of the marine food chain.

Although there is a possibility that microplastics are directly toxic to marine organisms, this seems (D) - most organisms don't have the means to break down microplastics in their digestive tracts*, and as such, the particles are thought to be relatively inert*. However, microplastics usually contain precursors* left over from the manufacturing process, and also accumulate by-products* of degradation as they are exposed to heat and sunlight. Such compounds are thought to be toxic, and there is evidence that they 'leak out' of microplastics over time. This in itself contributes to the overall level of pollutants* in the ocean. It is also possible that such chemicals could reach harmful levels within marine organisms through the progressive build-up of microplastics in the food chain.

A much bigger area of concern is the way in which microplastic particles interact with pollutants in the water. The biggest culprits* involved in this interaction are chemicals known as 'Persistent Organic Pollutants*' or POPs. POPs become accumulated on the surface of microplastic particles, and achieve concentrations many times higher than in the surrounding water. Due to ④this effect, POP-coated microplastic particles are likely to have toxic effects on marine microorganisms, such as planktons. POPs then gradually accumulate in tissues and organs of larger marine species. They particularly seem to collect in fat tissues. The extent of damage this could cause is still unclear, but all consensus* is that it is likely to have a considerable impact on marine ecosystems.

An issue with microplastics is that they do not biodegrade* - or at the very least, biodegrade at extremely slow rates. This means that once present, they cannot be removed from the environment through natural processes. (E) , they are often too small to be efficiently

removed through mechanical means from the bodies of water that they occupy. This means that the best way to limit the damage done by microplastics is to ensure that they do not enter marine ecosystems in the first place.

As recognition of microplastics as a major ecological concern grows, scientists, governments, and industries are slowly beginning to catch up with attempts to limit the harm done. However, as the study from the University of Manchester shows, we still have a long way to go in our understanding of the true scale of microplastic pollution, and the magnitude of the effect this is having on natural ecosystems.

出典 ; Isabelle Cochrane, Microplastics: why the big deal? The Naked Scientists Science Features (13 April 2018) より抜粋、一部改変

[語注]

microplastic マイクロプラスチック

riverbed 河床、川底

microbead ビーズ状の微細プラスチック

versatile 多用途の

degrade 質を下げる

degradation 分解、劣化

UV light 紫外線

fragmentation 破砕、断片化

biofilm バイオフィルム、菌膜

sewage 下水

littering ごみの投棄

phytoplankton 植物プランクトン

zooplankton 動物プランクトン

differentiate 区別する

digestive tract 消化管

inert 不活性の

precursor 前駆物質

by-product 副産物

pollutant 汚染物質

culprit (好ましくない状況の) 原因

Persistent Organic Pollutant 残留性有機汚染物質

consensus 一致した意見

biodegrade 生分解する

[設問 1] 本文中の空所 (A) から (E) に入る語句として最も適切なものを、それぞれの選択肢ア～オから 1 つ選び、その記号を答えなさい。

(A) ア. nothing more イ. anything more ウ. something less
 エ. everything less オ. anything less

(B) ア. more and more イ. no more ウ. no less
 エ. much less オ. more or less

(C) ア. In this way イ. On top of that ウ. On the contrary
 エ. In comparison オ. For the meanwhile

(D) ア. acceptable イ. predictable ウ. probable
 エ. reasonable オ. unlikely

(E) ア. Additionally イ. Continuously ウ. Fortunately
 エ. Incredibly オ. Increasingly

[設問 2] 本文中の (a) から (d) に入る適切な前置詞を一語で答えなさい。

[設問 3] 下線部①の研究により、どのようなことが判明したか。句読点を含めて 75 字以内の日本語で答えなさい。

[設問 4] 下線部②を日本語に訳しなさい。

[設問 5] 下線部③の primary 及び secondary は、マイクロプラスチックの生成過程に関して具体的に何を意味しているのか。両者の違いが分かるように、句読点を含めて 75 字以内の日本語で答えなさい。なお、その際、primary は「前者」、secondary は「後者」と表記しなさい。

[設問 6] 下線部④は具体的にはどのようなことを指しているか。句読点を含めて 60 字以内の日本語で答えなさい。

[設問 7] マイクロプラスチックを薬品に添加することにより得られる利点は何か。句読点を含めて 30 字以内の日本語で答えなさい。

[設問 8] 以下のア～クの文のうち、本文に一致するものを全て選び、その記号を答えなさい。

- ア. 英国のある地域では、マイクロプラスチックの拡散状況が解明され、生態系への悪影響が報告されている。
- イ. 海棲動物はプラスチックを消化せずに排出するため、マイクロプラスチックの汚染を心配する必要はほとんどない。
- ウ. 海中のプラスチックは紫外線にさらされることが少なかったり、バイオフィルムで覆われたりするため、比較的劣化しにくい。
- エ. プラスチックの劣化によって生成される物質は、毒性があり、環境中に放出されると考えられている。
- オ. 問題視される POPs の多くはプラスチックに由来し、プラスチックの微細化により、その発生が促進される。
- カ. 濃縮された POPs は筋肉組織に集積し、生物にとって重大な悪影響があることが実証されている。
- キ. マイクロプラスチックの拡散に対処する最善の方法は、投棄されたプラスチックを劣化前に回収することである。
- ク. マイクロプラスチックに関して、汚染の規模や生態系への影響の研究はあまり進んでいない。

問題 2. 著作権等の都合で問題掲載を見合わせております。