2020 年度 明治大学 【国際日本学部】 解答時間 80分 配点 200点

II

英 語 問 題

はじめに、これを読みなさい。

(注意事項)

- 1. この問題冊子は、30 ページある。ただし、ページ番号のない白紙はページ数に含まない。
- 2. この試験時間は80分である。
- 3. 解答用紙に印刷されている受験番号が正しいかどうか、受験票と照合して確認すること。
- 4. 監督者の指示にしたがい、解答用紙の氏名欄に氏名を記入すること。
- 5. 解答は、すべて解答用紙の所定欄に記入またはマークすること。解答欄 以外のところには何も記入しないこと。解答欄は裏にもある。
- 6. 解答は、必ず鉛筆またはシャープペンシル(いずれも HB・黒)で記入すること。
- 7. 訂正する場合は、消しゴムできれいに消し、消しくずを残さないこと。
- 8. 問題に指定された数よりも多くマークしないこと。
- 9. 解答用紙は、絶対に汚したり折り曲げたりしないこと。
- 10. 解答用紙は、絶対に持ち帰らないこと。
- 11. この問題冊子は必ず持ち帰ること。
- 12. 解答をマークするときには、下記の記入例を参照すること。

(マークの記入例)

良い例	悪	Ŋ'n	例
		(X)	0

[[] 次の英文を読んで設問に答えなさい。

There's no denying that Japan, amid a severe labor crunch¹ and a shrinking population, will need to rely more on foreign workers in the coming years, and that's especially true for small and midsize companies. Because of language issues and cultural differences, smaller firms often struggle to integrate foreign workers. But (A) they overcome those hurdles, many find that the addition of foreign perspectives can lead to new opportunities.

Sakae Casting Co., a small aluminum cast² manufacturer in Hachioji in western Tokyo, learned this the hard way. But its experience may be an example of what other firms will have to go through in the coming years.

"For small companies like us to cultivate overseas markets, foreign employees are essential," said Sakae Casting CEO Takashi Suzuki, who (B) as leader of his family's business. "I also thought it was necessary to change the mindset of the Japanese workers. I wanted to do that by integrating non-Japanese workers into my company."

For more than 65 years, aluminum casting machinery has been whirring³ at Sakae Casting, located within an industrial park near Tokyo's famous Mount Takao. But it was the 2008 global financial crisis (C) forced Suzuki to adjust its business model — and that came just months after the death of his father, who used to be the president of the company. The death of his father, the main engineer at the firm, dealt a heavy blow to its operation, Suzuki said. At the same time, sales took a severe blow due to the financial crisis, forcing Suzuki to lay off some employees.

"Before then, our business orders were 100 percent from Japan. We were a 100 percent domestic subcontractor," Suzuki said of his firm, which now has 30 employees. "I'd never really thought of doing business in other countries. I don't even like to get on a plane. But I started feeling a sense of crisis — that we wouldn't be able to survive if we didn't expand our business overseas."

Four years later in 2012, Suzuki, exploring possible overseas opportunities, was served a wake-up call during a visit to Silicon Valley. When he toured a small manufacturer run by a Chinese owner, he felt that the quality of work was much lower than that of Japanese manufacturers. For instance, the firm would ship aluminum plates with burrs⁴, claiming they would be hidden in the finished products. (E) the quality issues, the owner told Suzuki that his company would be busy with orders for the next two years.

"I realized that we may have better technology, but we were far behind in terms of sales techniques," Suzuki said. "I couldn't sleep on the plane back to Japan." His mind was busy thinking about what was necessary to cultivate overseas markets. Suzuki came up with two answers — language skills and a mindset open to looking beyond Japan.

Later in the year, he started hiring foreign nationals who he hoped would bring fresh perspectives to the company and stimulate the Japanese staff. But right away Suzuki realized the company wasn't properly prepared to take in non-Japanese staff. Language limitations meant many had trouble communicating, which frustrated their Japanese co-workers tasked with training. That frustration piled up among the Japanese workers until one day the following year, it exploded. They demanded that Suzuki stop hiring foreign employees, threatening a walkout.

"It was choosing either them or foreign workers," Suzuki recalled. "Thinking of the company's future, I couldn't give up on the strategy to expand business overseas."

And that was what he told the Japanese employees. In the end, the plant chief whom Suzuki worked with for many years walked away. But the rest stayed. Suzuki believes his hard line—refusing to meet the workers' demand to stop hiring foreign staff—made the Japanese workers realize he was serious.

"From there, I think their mindset changed a bit," he said. Japanese workers started making efforts to create a work environment more friendly for

foreign employees, using English for some in-house communications and taking online English lessons that the company provided.

Now, ten foreign employees work at the company, successfully blending in. Meanwhile, the firm has expanded its business to South Korea, the United States, and the Philippines. Its main source of revenue now comes from business in South Korea, (H) it sells products such as aluminum cooling plates used for manufacturing semiconductors⁵. With 70 percent of sales coming from outside Japan, the firm saw a record profit in the last business year.

Sakae Casting has also opened an office in Idaho and, along with the University of Idaho, is jointly developing a vessel to store and cool spent fuel rod assemblies used at nuclear power plants. And (I) it has built up know-how related to hiring foreign workers, the company has partnered with colleges in other countries, such as the Philippines and South Korea, to accept interns for several months, giving them a chance to experience working at the company. It also gives the firm the opportunity to get to know them and how they might fit in.

Despite all the ups and downs, Suzuki says he is "absolutely certain" that he made the right decision to hire foreign workers.

Sakae Casting's move has influenced other local small and midsize businesses, with more companies of the Hachioji Future Association — a group of about 80 members from local businesses of which Suzuki is a founding member — having hired foreign workers in recent years.

Atom Seimitsu Co., a factory automation manufacturer, started thinking about hiring foreign employees several years ago to achieve two goals — securing manpower amid a labor shortage and shaking up its Japanese-only organization. "I wanted to hire foreign workers but I was also worried about how other employees would react," said Yasutaka Ichinose, president of Atom Seimitsu.

But to Ichinose's surprise, Japanese employees were positive about the move, with many closely looking after the newly hired foreign workers. "Japanese

workers need to thoroughly teach them how to do their jobs. This actually helps the Japanese workers improve their skills as well," Ichinose said. "Teaching others is actually a very effective way for them to learn as well."

The company now employs six foreign nationals, which is about 10 percent of the total workforce. The firm says it told other employees to communicate and take care of them from the beginning. (J), only one foreign employee has left the company and moved to another country for personal reasons.

(x) When she was an intern, the initial goal for Parnward Manakul, who was studying Japanese at her college in Thailand, was to improve her Japanese-language skills. But as she learned about Atom's business, she felt that selling factory automation devices was an interesting business and wanted to learn more.

"I want to learn more about the Japanese way of sales. I also want to learn about machines," she said. Asked if she would prefer working for a bigger and more well-known corporation, she said she thought she could learn more at a smaller firm. "There are a lot of people at a big company, which I think makes it harder to present my ideas and actually get them implemented," she said.

As a native of Hachioji, located about an hour by train from central Tokyo, Sakae Casting's Suzuki jokingly describes it as Tokyo's "countryside," where the residents don't really like leaving their city. But another member of the Hachioji Future Association is embarking on a new adventure after visiting the Philippines in 2017 along with other group members.

Fumihiko Shintani, who heads Human Life, a company that runs smartphone and computer repair stores, may have been what Suzuki calls a typical Hachioji resident — reluctant to go outside his comfort zone.

"I didn't even have a passport. I had no desire to travel outside of Japan," Shintani said, adding that he did not think there were opportunities for his business overseas. "But when I actually visited the Philippines, I realized there were," he said. 「たとえば、フィリピンで働いている外国籍の人たちで、高価な

コンピュータを使っているが地元の修理店の質を信頼していないかもしれない人 たちは、日本の店という理由でヒューマンライフにコンピュータを持ってきてく れるかもしれません。」

To run a store in Manila, Shintani hired a Filipina intern and trained her in Japan so she could learn to run the business. She will be overseeing the Manila store as its manager after it opens later this month.

"Now I don't need someone to nag6 me to get out of Japan," he said.

(Adapted from "Foreign staff bring new perspectives to smaller firms in Japan" by Kazuaki Nagata, *The Japan Times*,

https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2019/04/21/business/foreign-staff-bring-new-perspectives-smaller-firms/#.XMeu 6 fZuKhw, 2019)

(注)

- 1 crunch 危機
- 2 cast 鋳型
- 3 whir (機械などが)ブンブン音を立てて回る
- 4 burrs (金属の)荒い削り目
- 5 semiconductors 半導体
- 6 nag (人)に(…するように)うるさく小言を言う

1 次の各問の答えを①~④の中から1つ選び、その番号を解答欄にマークしな さい。 (1) 空欄(A)に入れる最も適切なものは次のどれか。 1 although 2 because (3) once 4 until (2) 空欄(B)に入れる最も適切なものは次のどれか。 1 took in took on took over **(4)** took to (3) 空欄(C)に入れる最も適切なものは次のどれか。 that 2 this 3 when 4 where (4) 下線部(D) lay off の意味に最も近いものは次のどれか。 (1) fire

2 harass

(3) hire

4 train

(6)	下線部(F) walkout の意味に最も近いものは次のどれか。	
1	move	
2	raise	
3	strike	
4	unemployment	
(7)	下線部(G) <u>hard line</u> の意味に最も近いものは次のどれか。	
1	firm alliance	
2	solid agreement	
3	strict policy	
4	tough penalty	
(8) 2	空欄(H)に入れる最も適切なものは次のどれか。	
1	how	
2	where	
3	which	
4	why	
(9) 2	空欄(I)に入れる最も適切なものは次のどれか。	
1	even though	
2	in case	
3	now that	
4	provided that	
	-	

(5) 空欄(E)に入れる最も適切なものは次のどれか。

① According to

② Apart from

4 In spite of

3 Due to

- (10) 空欄(」)に入れる最も適切なものは次のどれか。
 - ① As a result
 - ② Besides
 - 3 However
 - 4 On the other hand

? 次の文が入る最も適切な場所を本文の (ア) ~ [<u>(エ)</u> の中か
ら1つ選び、その番号を解答欄にマークしなさい。	
That was where foreign workers would come in.	
① (7)	
. ② (1)	•
③ (ウ)	
(4) (I)	
・ 下線部(K)「たとえば,フィリピンで働いている外国籍の人	たちで、高価なコ
ンピュータを使っているが地元の修理店の質を信頼していな	いかもしれない人
, = 3 (-1)	ータを持ってきて
くれるかもしれません。」を英訳すると、たとえば次のような	
	英文になる。
くれるかもしれません。」を英訳すると、たとえば次のような	英文になる。 ines,(②) use
くれるかもしれません。」を英訳すると、たとえば次のような "For (①), foreign nationals working in the Philipp expensive computers but may not (③) the quality of	英文になる。 ines,(②) use of (④) repair
《れるかもしれません。」を英訳すると、たとえば次のような "For (①), foreign nationals working in the Philipp expensive computers but may not (③) the quality of shops, may want to bring their computers to Human Life	英文になる。 ines,(②) use of (④) repair
くれるかもしれません。」を英訳すると、たとえば次のような "For (①), foreign nationals working in the Philipp expensive computers but may not (③) the quality of	英文になる。 ines,(②) use of (④) repair

- 4 本文の内容について、次の質問に対する最も適切な答えを①~④の中から1 つ選び、その番号を解答欄にマークしなさい。
- (1) What does the text <u>NOT</u> say about the reason why Sakae Casting CEO Suzuki made his first decision to hire foreign staff?
 - ① The operation of the company declined after his father's death.
 - ② The global financial crisis negatively affected his company.
 - 3 He thought the mindset of the Japanese workers needed to be changed.
 - ④ There were no Japanese candidates who wanted to work at the firm.
- (2) After his visit to Silicon Valley in 2012, what did Suzuki decide?
 - ① His firm needs to produce products with better quality.
 - ② His firm needs to cooperate with local companies in Hachioji.
 - 3 His firm needs to expand business overseas.
 - 4 His firm needs to decrease production costs.
- (3) According to the text, what happened to the Japanese workers of Sakae Casting when foreign workers came in for the first time?
 - ① They built up a friendly relationship very soon.
 - ② They were frustrated because of communication troubles.
 - 3 They were afraid that their jobs might be taken.
 - 4 They were interested in the different cultures of the foreign workers.
- (4) According to the text, when did the Japanese workers of Sakae Casting start to change their mindset?
 - ① When they found it possible to communicate with the foreign workers.
 - ② When they appreciated CEO Suzuki's acceptance of their request.
 - 3 When they understood the importance of overseas markets.
 - ④ When they realized that CEO Suzuki would not change his ideas.

- (5) Which of the following is NOT stated in the text?
 - ① After the introduction of foreign staff, Sakae Casting eventually achieved a record profit.
 - ② At Atom Seimitsu Co., the Japanese workers took a positive attitude toward foreign staff from the beginning.
 - (3) Manakul, who works at Atom Seimitsu Co., prefers working at a smaller company because she can build up a closer relationship with coworkers.
 - ④ Under the influence of Sakae Casting's move, other local small and midsize businesses started to change their mindset.

[Ⅱ] 次の英文を読んで設問に答えなさい。

When it comes to color, most people fall into one of two camps: those who use their clothing to express themselves and those who don't care at all.

Whether or not you are consciously aware of how color impacts your decision-making, self-confidence, or impressions of others, however, is irrelevant. At the end of the day your color choices matter, especially when it comes to dressing appropriately for significant, <u>high-pressure</u> situations in the workplace.

"I feel that color can have a huge impact on the outcome of every business situation," says David Zyla, an Emmy award-winning stylist and best-selling author. "Even the person that says 'I'm not (B) fashion. I don't care what I wear' makes choices based on color."

Zyla explains that whether consciously or not, everyone has a preferred color. People have certain outfits that they feel best match certain occasions. In addition, they usually have a basic sense of what looks good on them, based on a lifetime of comments and compliments from others.

(7) "Each person is the subject of a great portrait, and we've been painted already," Zyla says. "We have certain colors in our eyes, hair, and skin, and if we pull those colors out and think of it as our background, then clothing, accessories, and makeup are just there to illuminate what is there already."

Presenting and Public Speaking

When dressing for a public speaking event or delivering any workplace presentation, Zyla recommends seeking your "power color," like a blue, green, or purple.

"Everyone has a personal version of this color and it is pretty simple to find individually," he says. "It's the dominant vein color in your wrist. It could be turquoise, it could be blue violet, or it could be emerald green. And that is the

color that says 'look at me, listen to me, I'm worth hearing out."

Working in Groups

When working on collaborative activities in groups, however, Zyla recommends staying away from power colors, or anything that (C) too heavily from the crowd. "If you want to appear trustworthy in a meeting, wearing a color that reflects the darkest color in your eye does that, because it illuminates the eyes, which are the window to the soul," Zyla says. "It's very open, very honest, very collaborative; it says to your group, 'I'm part of this give-and-take, we're a team."

"If you become too colorful, you distract from the work you're doing," adds Leatrice Eiseman, the director of the Eiseman Center for Color Information & Training and executive director of the Pantone Color Institute. "If you're going to be wearing too many distracting colors, the eye is going to be drawn to that outfit, rather than the job (D)."

Job Interviews

For the job interview, Eiseman believes color choices should be related to the job and industry itself. Darker colors like navy, black, and charcoal convey a sense of seriousness and trustworthiness. These colors are best suited for roles and industries that value consistency and reliability. "With a darker color, though, it is advisable to pair it with something that will make you more memorable," advises Eiseman. She adds that it's difficult to create a good impression when you dress like every other applicant.

She suggests wearing the darker colors with something that will attract attention. For a man, it may be a tie, and for a woman it may be a piece of jewelry or an accessory that will contrast with the darker colors of navy, black, and charcoal.

(ウ) Other industries, however, might value a deeper

expression of personality and individuality, particularly in more creative fields. "If you're applying for a role at a cosmetic company or a design firm that is known for doing quirky, contemporary designs, you don't want to just rely on some convention that says you should always wear black or gray or charcoal," says Eiseman. "What you have to think of is the industry and their expectations and what you want to get across to them."

Performance Review Interviews¹

Though similar to job interviews, dressing for a performance review interview is somewhat distinct, as there's already a sense of familiarity with the other party. At the same time you can't get too comfortable, as it could suggest you're not taking the interaction seriously enough.

"It's important to remember that although you're familiar with the business and how it works, a performance review is still a formal occasion," explains Nicole Cavin, the digital marketing assistant for U.K.-based retail giant Quiz Clothing. Cavin says that while there are plenty of options, you can't go wrong with white, a tone that conveys an empty canvas with limitless possibilities.

"A white tone is perceived to be the least arrogant color and makes you look optimistic about your future, which is a positive attribute to have when discussing the next steps of your career," she says.

Confidence Always Comes First

No matter the situation, however, what's most important is that the clothes you wear make you feel confident. One way to nurture confidence is by wearing what feels comfortable to you. "Feeling uncomfortable projects a bad energy and it's almost guaranteed that you'll not be presenting the best version of you, and the people around you will notice," Cavin says.

(x) Eiseman agrees, adding that feeling confident and positive in your own clothes should trump all other trends and expectations.

"That always has to be considered," she says. "Never force yourself to wear a color just because it's a trend color or someone advised you to wear it; wearing something that you feel good in is most important."

(Adapted from "This is what your clothing color says about you at work" by Jared Lindzon, https://www.fastcompany.com/90329063/this-is-what-your-clothing-color-says-about-your-at-work, 2019)

(注)

1 performance review interviews 勤務評定面談

- 次の各問の答えを①~④の中から1つ選び、その番号を解答欄にマークしなさい。
 下線部(A) high-pressure の意味に最も近いものは次のどれか。
 ① engaging
 ② exciting
 ③ relaxed
 ④ stressful
 - (2) 空欄(B)に入れる最も適切なものは次のどれか。
 - 1 about
 - 2 against
 - 3 beyond
 - 4 into
 - (3) 空欄(C)に入れる最も適切なものは次のどれか。
 - ① stands off
 - ② stands on
 - ③ stands out
 - 4 stands up
 - (4) 空欄(D)に入れる最も適切なものは次のどれか。
 - 1 at hand
 - ② off hand
 - 3 off target
 - 4 on target

(4)	unusual
(6) ① ② ③ ④	下線部(F) <u>attribute</u> の意味に最も近いものは次のどれか。 approval characteristic color job
(7) (1) (2) (3) (4)	下線部(G) <u>projects</u> の意味に最も近いものは次のどれか。 builds conveys hinders nurtures
(8) (a) (b) (a) (a) (b) (a) (b) (c) (d) (d) (d) (d) (d) (d) (d) (d) (d) (d	下線部(H) <u>trump</u> の意味に最も近いものは次のどれか。 praise surpass trick unite

— 17 —

(5) 下線部(E) quirky の意味に最も近いものは次のどれか。

① beautiful

dull

traditional

2	次の文が入	る最も適切な場所を本文の- (ア)	~	(工)	の中か
		その番号を解答欄にマークしなさい。			

When it comes to finding the colors that suit us best, however, we should start by considering our own physical appearance.

- (I) (T)
- (2) (イ)
- (3) (ウ)
- (4) (I)
- 3 本文の内容について、次の質問に対する最も適切な答えを①~④の中から1 つ選び、その番号を解答欄にマークしなさい。
- (1) Which of the following is stated in the text?
 - ① Colorful clothing choices are wise in all situations.
 - ② Confidence and comfort are unrelated in choosing clothes.
 - ③ In job interviews, darker colors are best suited for jobs in creative industries.
 - ④ In performance review interviews, it is important to balance familiarity with formality in making color choices.
- (2) Which of the following is stated in the text?
 - ① Everyone is concerned about expressing themselves through clothing.
 - 2 People usually have a sense of what colors suit them.
 - ③ The color of your clothing is more important than feeling confident.
 - When working in groups, people are too busy to think about color choices.

- (3) Which of the following is \underline{NOT} stated in the text?
 - ① Color choices can express trustworthiness.
 - ② Color choices in clothing influence business situation outcomes.
 - 3 Darker colors should be paired with something brighter in job interviews.
 - 4 White color tones suggest a lack of interest in fashion.

(以下の空欄に入れる最も適切なものを①~④の中から1つ選び,その番号を解
2	客欄にマークしなさい。
	(1) I tried to () Pierre not to eat too much chocolate because he has
	diabetes, but he never listened to me.
	① discourage
	② make
	③ persuade
	④ speak
	(2) I'm sorry, but you must be () me with someone else. We've
	never met before.
	① confused
	② confusing
	3 mixed
	(4) mixing
	(3) You might () well report to the president right away because she
	really wants to know how the negotiation went.
	① as
	② better
	③ go
	④ so
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

(4) Kaori wanted to start a new life without any trouble. () to say, she
never became involved with the gang again.
① Need
② Need not
③ Needless
④ Needy
(5) I'm so grateful to you! () your advice, I would have been unaware
of the opportunity.
① According to
② But for
③ Thanks to
④ With
(6) Oh, we've run () of the handouts. Hold on. Let me go back to
(6) Oh, we've run () of the handouts. Hold on. Let me go back to my office and get some more.
my office and get some more.
my office and get some more. ① ahead
my office and get some more. ① ahead ② in
my office and get some more. ① ahead ② in ③ on
my office and get some more. ① ahead ② in ③ on
my office and get some more. ① ahead ② in ③ on ④ out
my office and get some more. ① ahead ② in ③ on ④ out (7) I'm not very happy () some of the papers you submitted last week.
my office and get some more. ① ahead ② in ③ on ④ out (7) I'm not very happy () some of the papers you submitted last week. There were a lot of quotations, but very few arguments of your own.
my office and get some more. ① ahead ② in ③ on ④ out (7) I'm not very happy () some of the papers you submitted last week. There were a lot of quotations, but very few arguments of your own. ① at
my office and get some more. ① ahead ② in ③ on ④ out (7) I'm not very happy () some of the papers you submitted last week. There were a lot of quotations, but very few arguments of your own. ① at ② before

(8) I	m open to new ideas and welcome any questions and comments you may
·hav	e. Don't () to speak up in class.
1	dare
2	hesitate
3	persevere
4	rush
(a) B	sefore you start writing your paper on Japan's population issue, please
() your thoughts based on what we learned in the last class.
1	create
2	delete
3	organize
4	regulate
(10) T	
(10) I ₁	n my class, regular attendance is required. Cell phones must be turned
off.	Academic (), such as cheating on assignments or exams, will
lead	I to a severe penalty.
1	commitment
2	competence
3	misconduct
4	misunderstanding

(IV)	以下の空欄に入る最も適切なものを①~④の中から1つ選び、その番号を解答
	欄にマークしなさい。
	(1) A: Hi Sarah. You look so tired. Is everything OK?
	B: Well, our team has been working () lately to meet the deadline
	of the project.
	① around the clock
	② at the clock
	③ on the clock
	4 through the clock
	(2) A: You're going to study abroad in the States this summer, aren't you?
	B: Exactly, so I have to () my English before going there.
	① brush up at
	② brush up in
	③ brush up on
	4 brush up with
	(3) A: Ken hasn't yet () for class this week. Do you know what
	happened to him?
	B: Well, I heard that he's got the flu so he can't go out.
	① shown at
	② shown in
	③ shown on
	④ shown up

(4) A: Good afternoon. How may I help you?
B: I'd like to open a bank account.
A: OK, please () this form.
① fill on
② fill out
③ fill up
④ fill with
(5) A: Have you prepared for your next presentation?
B: Yes. I hope it'll () as expected.
① work at
② work in
③ work out
4 work through
(6) A: You passed the entrance examination for the university! Congratulations!
B: Thank you so much, but now I have to () my parents'
expectations.
A: That's right. I'm sure you can do it.
① live up at
② live up on
③ live up through
④ live up to

(7) A: Could you () what Professor Long said about the	ne assignment
today?	
B: Not really. Maybe we need to visit her office to ask about	it.
① make in	
② make on	
③ make out	
④ make through	
(8) A: Kate, where shall I hang the new picture we bought yester	day?
B: Well, I haven't decided yet, so put it in the closet (
① for the time being	
② for the time coming	
③ for the time following	
④ for the time going	
(9) A: Hi, Phil! How's your business going?	
B: Well, I'm barely ().	
① getting by	
② going by	
③ letting by	
(4) making by	
(10) A: Maria, don't forget to () your next report on time.	
B: Certainly, Mr. Oyama. I'll definitely meet the deadline.	
① hand at	
② hand in	
③ hand on	
4 hand up	

[V] 次の(A)~(J)の空欄に入る最も適切なものを①~⑬の中から1つ選び、その番号を解答欄にマークしなさい。ただし、同じものを2度以上使ってはならない。

Writer Amy Chavez (AC) has lived in Japan for 25 years. She is well known for her "Japan Lite" column for "The Japan Times" and her books on Japan. Her latest book is "Amy's Guide to Best Behavior in Japan: Do It Right and Be Polite!" published in May 2018. Jeff Richards (JR) from "Japan Today" met Chavez, who lives on Shiraishi Island off the coast of Okayama, to find out a little more about her writing life in Japan, what it's like living on an island of only 500 people, and her thoughts on how visitors to Japan can avoid making any major mistakes during their travels.

JR: You've lived in Japan for 25 years What inspired you to come?

AC: I came to Japan to teach English at a university.

JR: And how (A) writing full time?

AC: I always knew I wanted to be a writer, but when I was in college everyone said I'd never be able to make a living doing that. I have an undergraduate degree in creative writing. I also have a graduate degree in technical writing and teaching English as a second language (ESL). When I moved to Japan, I taught at a junior college in Okayama for four years, and then I quit teaching to concentrate on writing full time.

JR: You live on Shiraishi Island in the Seto Inland Sea in Okayama Prefecture.

How long have you been living there and what was the inspiration to move there?

AC: I wanted to live in Japan's countryside, so first I looked for a place around Okayama City. Then one day I visited this island and fell in love with "the old Japan": the traditional Japanese houses by the sea, the fishing boats moving slowly across the bay, the spiritual peace. When I was leaving the island, I asked the guy at the ferry port if there was any place I could rent. He took my phone number and said he'd call me if he found anything. Of course, I thought I'd _____(B) ____, but to my surprise, two days later he called and said there was a house available literally on the port (you can fish from my living room). The first thing I did _____(C) in April 1997 was buy a small sailboat, which I keep right outside of my house. After nine years, I finally convinced my landlord to sell me the house.

JR: You run a bar and cafe on the island, maintain an English-language news and events blog for the community, and handle accommodation reservations for foreign visitors. How did that all come about?

AC: I wanted to do something to help revitalize the island. The population was, and still is, declining rapidly. We now have fewer than 500 people living here, which is a huge drop from when I came here in 1997. The island is home to the Shiraishi International Villa, an accommodation built by the prefectural government to attract foreigners who want to see traditional Japanese life in the countryside.

I realized there wasn't much for foreigners to do (D) the island. So, I opened the Moooo! Bar in 2004, which became a place where visitors could find a native English speaker to whom they could ask all their questions!

I set up a website to help foreigners know more about the island before they got here, and I helped them book into the International Villa. Then the island started getting really popular, so I started booking people into other local accommodations. Since ____(E)___, I had to handle all the reservations, get the tourists to and from the accommodations, collect the money, and ____(F)___.

JR: So, moving on to your latest book, "Amy's Guide to Best Behavior in Japan," what convinced you to write about etiquette in Japan?

AC: This book is basically a response to all the people _____(G) ____ bad tourist manners. Every day in the Japanese and foreign media here you read about poor tourist behavior, and frankly I'm afraid there's going to be a negative reaction, like locals not wanting foreigners in their hotels or restaurants. It's my belief that people don't mean to be rude. They just don't know any better. So I decided to write a guide for people who are interested in Japanese manners and who want to know why the conventions (H)

Not everyone agrees with everything in the book, but I tried to find something that most Japanese people would agree on and that most tourists could comply with. I'm not telling people ____(I) ____ in the book. I'm just telling them what the standard is for Japanese people.

JR: How did you decide on the most important pieces of advice?

AC: I originally wanted to write a book that gave only the inside information that the Japanese people won't tell you and that takes foreign residents years to learn. But in the end, I had to include even the basics in order

to create a book that would also be useful to first-time visitors and to make it more attractive to a publisher. Many of the points in the book I'm hoping people will have fun trying out.

- JR: If you could give three of your most important common sense tips to first-time visitors to Japan, ___(J)___?
- AC: One, lower your voice. Two, speak English slowly. And three, never show your anger.
- JR: How has Japan changed for the better since you arrived 25 years ago, and how has it changed for the worse?
- AC: For the better, English is everywhere now, which is really nice to see! But on the other hand, I feel Japan is becoming more and more Western all the time.

(Adapted from "Doing it right and being polite: An interview with writer Amy Chavez" by Jeff W Richards, https://japantoday.com/category/features/lifestyle/doing-it-right-and-being-polite-an-interview-with-writer-amy-chavez, 2018)

- (1) are the way they are
- ② once they got to
- 3 complaining about
- 4 live here a long time
- (5) what would they be
- 6 tourists never came here
- nobody else here spoke English

- 8 did you get into
- 9 after moving here
- 10 they have to follow everything
- ① to be nervous about
- never hear from him again
- ① translate should any problems arise