

I 次の対話文の空所に入れるのに最も適当なものを、それぞれア～エから一つ選べ。

[A]

A: Thank you for coming to parent-teacher conferences today. It's very nice to meet you. I believe I met your husband last time.

B: That's right! Thank you for all your hard work. I apologize for my daughter not attending as well. She had the flu last week and is still recovering.

A: Here are Nozomi's grades for the previous term. You can see that her _____ 1 _____.

B: She is good with numbers and dates. Writing *kanji* characters is another story. Do you have any suggestions regarding how she might improve?

A: Have you thought about cram school or a private tutor? I know of another option, too: elderly volunteers who work with students individually.

B: Which would be the most beneficial and cost-effective?

A: _____ 2 _____

B: I've heard good things about the lessons you've mentioned. The fact that they donate their time shows how much they care about the students, too.

A: I agree. Do you have any additional questions?

B: Yes, I do. What's Nozomi like in the classroom?

A: Well, Nozomi is a _____ 3 _____. Overall, however, I have only good things to say about her.

B: You're right that she has a great imagination, and I agree she can struggle to concentrate. Thank you for speaking with her!

1. ア. history and Japanese scores have increased, but not her math score
イ. history and math scores have increased, but not Japanese
ウ. Japanese has improved, but her math and history scores are the same
エ. math score is higher, but her Japanese and history scores are worse
2. ア. A private tutor is costly, but she would get individual instruction.
イ. Cram school group lessons are cheaper but provide little feedback.
ウ. The volunteers are retired teachers and charge a minimal, one-time fee.
エ. To be honest, none of these options are ideal, so you should choose.
3. ア. daydreamer, and we have talked about staying focused
イ. dedicated student and never fails to submit her homework
ウ. serious person, though she is well-liked by everyone
エ. talker and can distract her classmates at times

[B]

A: That concludes our campus tour. Are there any questions?

B: Yes, you said that the library closes at 11 p.m. What happens if we want to study later?

A: 4 Remember, you'll need to use your student card to get in.

B: Great, thanks. I'll use that space because I don't want to bother my roommate.

A: That's thoughtful. Why don't you join us for our study group that meets Fridays?

B: 5, so I may take you up on your offer. Right now, I need to find a restroom.

A: Sure, there's one on the second floor of Orwell Hall, that building on the left.

B: Oh, OK. Do you know if it's wheelchair accessible?

A: Yes, you can use the rear entrance, and 6.

B: Thanks. So, I need to go around the back of the building on the left?

A: That's right. Do you need any help?

B: No, I'll be fine.

4. ア. After 11 p.m. the study space closes for the night.

イ. Students can access the study rooms 24 hours a day.

ウ. The only option is to study in your room.

エ. We've had complaints about how early the library closes.

5. ア. I always prefer to study by myself
イ. I plan to leave campus right after class on Fridays
ウ. I'm sure I'll need some help with my courses
エ. I'm unavailable after classes on weekdays
6. ア. the stairs are to the right of the door
イ. the steps will take you to the basement
ウ. there's an elevator just down the hall
エ. there's an escalator to the second floor

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Ⅱ 次の英文の空所に入れるのに最も適当な語を、ア～クから選べ。ただし、同じものを繰り返し用いてはならない。

Marcos was just a boy, but he had to grow up quickly. His father had passed away a long time ago, (7) him with his mother, grandmother, and sister. Despite his young age, he knew that he had to do something to help his family (8) poverty. During the day, Marcos would gather garbage from the streets and alleys around his neighborhood. He would separate the recyclable (9) from the trash and sell them to recycling centers for a small amount of money. Although it was not much, the money he (10) helped his family put food on the table. At night, Marcos would attend classes (11) by volunteers who came to his community. They taught him and other children how to read and write. Marcos loved (12), and he knew that education was the key to a better future. Despite the challenges, Marcos never gave up. With his hard work and perseverance, Marcos was slowly but surely making a difference in his family's life.

ア. construction

イ. earned

ウ. escape

エ. learning

オ. leaving

カ. materials

キ. owed

ク. run

Ⅲ 次の各英文の空所に入れるのに最も適当な語句を、ア～エから一つ選べ。

13. The plan sounded good, () it did not work very well.

ア. as イ. despite ウ. otherwise エ. yet

14. We needed to get the washing machine () as soon as possible.

ア. be fixed イ. fixed ウ. fixing エ. to fix

15. The amount of local vegetables harvested during the last three years
() less than anticipated.

ア. has イ. have ウ. was エ. were

16. As fuel prices rose, () did the airfares last month by more than
20 percent.

ア. but イ. neither ウ. or エ. so

17. Shortly after check-in, the guest complained to the front desk about
his room () too cold.

ア. been イ. being ウ. for being エ. to be

18. Many studies have revealed that second-hand smoking is () to
be feared than direct smoking is.

ア. far more イ. more serious
ウ. much worse エ. yet further

19. There were () interesting things to do in Paris, but I could do
only a couple of them during my stay there.

ア. few イ. much ウ. not a little エ. quite a few

20. More than 50 percent of the () have less education than is required for their jobs.

ア. employ イ. employed ウ. employing エ. employment

IV 次の各英文の意味に最も近いものを，ア～エから一つ選べ。

21. The buyer is interested in the house, but no money has changed hands.

ア. The buyer has interest in the property, but she has never handled money.

イ. The buyer has interest in the property, but she has not saved enough money.

ウ. The property appeals to the buyer, but there has been trouble with money.

エ. The property appeals to the buyer, but there has not been a transfer of money.

22. The politician had egg on his face because the interview did not go well.

ア. The politician reconsidered his opinion after the interview did not go well.

イ. The politician regretted his actions after the interview did not go well.

ウ. The politician was depressed after the interview did not go well.

エ. The politician was embarrassed after the interview did not go well.

23. Ana is in hot water with her teacher for her behavior during class.

ア. Ana is being evaluated by her teacher because of her behavior in class.

イ. Ana is being praised by her teacher because of her behavior in class.

ウ. Ana is experiencing trouble with her teacher because of how she behaved in class.

エ. Ana is meeting with her teacher because of how she behaved in class.

24. When I sang karaoke with my clients, I lost face.

ア. I became popular with my clients by singing karaoke with them.

イ. I disgraced myself by singing karaoke with my clients.

ウ. I sang karaoke with my clients, and they gained new respect for me.

エ. I sang karaoke with my clients, and they were amazed.

V 次の(a)に示される意味を持ち、かつ(b)の英文の空所に入れるのに最も適した語を、それぞれア～エから一つ選べ。

25. (a) having a surface that is not even or regular

(b) Mountain bikes are built for riding over () terrain.

ア. fair イ. plain ウ. rough エ. slender

26. (a) very bad or unpleasant

(b) Some commuters find it () to keep standing in the train after a long day at work.

ア. drastic イ. fragile ウ. horrible エ. ordinary

27. (a) important or well-known

(b) Many () figures in the fashion industry will attend the upcoming trade show.

ア. proficient イ. profound ウ. prominent エ. proper

28. (a) the height of an object or place above the sea

(b) The aircraft flew stably at a high () of 40,000 feet.

ア. altitude イ. degree ウ. frequency エ. ratio

29. (a) to be doing or to become involved in an activity

(b) Recent surveys show that many adults do not have enough time to () in regular exercise.

ア. consist イ. engage ウ. interfere エ. settle

Ⅵ 次の [A]～[D] の日本文に合うように、空所にそれぞれア～カの適当な語句を入れ、英文を完成させよ。解答は番号で指定された空所に入れるもののみをマークせよ。なお、文頭に来る語も小文字にしてある。

[A] オフィスを出るときに、すべての照明を消していただけますか。

Will you ()(30)()()(31)() all the lights off when you leave the office?

ア. as

イ. be

ウ. kind

エ. so

オ. to

カ. turn

[B] 従業員が会議室に集まる手間を省いてくれるビデオ会議を導入する企業が増えている。

An increasing number of companies are introducing video conferences ()(32)()()(33)() assembling in meeting rooms.

ア. employees

イ. of

ウ. spare

エ. that

オ. the

カ. trouble

[C] 自分が幸せになることなら何でもすることが、ストレスを軽減する最善の方法だ。

Doing ()(34)()()(35)() happy is the best way to reduce your stress.

ア. is

イ. it

ウ. makes

エ. that

オ. whatever

カ. you

[D] その新入社員が会議に参加するかどうかは重要ではない。

(36)()()(37)()() participates in the meeting or not.

ア. does

イ. it

ウ. matter

エ. not

オ. the new employee

カ. whether

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VII 次の英文を読み、あとの問いに答えよ。

The Rubik's Cube was invented in 1974 by its namesake, Ernő Rubik, a Hungarian inventor, architect, and professor of architecture. He originally came up with the idea for the three-dimensional combination puzzle as a learning tool for students in a class he taught called "Descriptive Geometry." Rubik made the first prototype by hand with nothing more than wood and rubber bands to hold the contraption together. Rubik was pleased to see that his students immediately took a liking to the crude prototype.

Rubik realized that because of the simple construction, it would be easy to manufacture. After obtaining a patent for the device, he set out to find a manufacturer in Hungary to mass-produce it. This proved to be difficult because of the inflexible planned economy of communist Hungary at that time. After an exhaustive search, he found a small manufacturing company in Hungary that made plastic chess pieces. They agreed to initially produce 5,000 of the devices made entirely of plastic.

The cube was originally known as the Magic Cube, and it had limited distribution mainly in Hungary and then in the United Kingdom under contract to a company called Pentangle Puzzles. Hungary was behind the Iron Curtain* at the time, and exports were strictly controlled. Unsatisfied with the slow pace of sales in limited markets, Rubik decided to attend international toy fairs on his own volition. One day at the Nuremberg Toy Fair in Germany, he met Tom Kremer, a marketer for an American toy company. Kremer was so taken by the strange toy that he decided on the spot to bring it to America.

Ideal Toy Company was the name of the company that Kremer worked for. They rebranded the Cube as the Rubik's Cube, which is the

name that has been used for it ever since. It became an instant hit after it was introduced internationally to the public in 1980. There have been over 450 million Rubik's Cubes sold worldwide since then.

So, how long does it take for you to solve the cube? Many people give up in frustration after their first attempt to solve it. To date, the fastest person to ever solve the standard 3x3x3 Rubik's Cube is Max Park of the USA with a blistering speed of 3.13 seconds on June 11, 2023.

Recently, researchers deciphered the standard 3x3x3 Rubik's Cube, ⁽⁴³⁾calculating that the cube could be solved from any of the 43 quintillion possible orientations in 20 moves or less. Do you have what it takes to solve the puzzle in record time?

*Iron Curtain 「鉄のカーテン」(冷戦時代において、共産主義のソビエト連邦およびその周辺と反共産主義の西欧諸国とを隔てた国境線)

問1 本文の第1段落の内容に合うものとして最も適当なものを、ア～エから一つ選べ。(38)

- ア. The first working model of the Rubik's Cube was manufactured by machine.
- イ. The initial prototype of the Rubik's Cube did not connect right away with Rubik's students.
- ウ. The inventor of the Rubik's Cube named it after another well-known Hungarian named Ernő Rubik.
- エ. The Rubik's Cube was a puzzle created by Rubik for use with students in his class.

問2 本文の第2段落の内容に合わないものを, ア～エから一つ選べ。(39)

- ア. A small-sized manufacturer agreed to produce 5,000 Rubik's Cubes comprised of plastic and other materials.
- イ. After receiving the patent, Rubik sought a company in Hungary that would be able to produce the cubes he desired.
- ウ. Finding a manufacturer in Hungary was difficult for Rubik due to economic constraints there.
- エ. Rubik came to understand that the simplicity of the Cube's design made it easy to produce.

問3 本文の第3段落の内容に合うものとして最も適当なものを, ア～エから一つ選べ。(40)

- ア. Rubik actively sought to increase sales of the Cube by taking part in international toy exhibitions.
- イ. Sales of the first Cubes outside Hungary occurred without constraints.
- ウ. The Rubik's Cube, as it was originally known, came to be known as the Magic Cube.
- エ. Tom Kremer and Rubik first met at a toy fair in America.

問4 本文の第4段落の内容に合わないものを, ア～エから一つ選べ。(41)

- ア. Following its international expansion of marketing, the Rubik's Cube immediately became a popular item.
- イ. Ideal Toy Company renamed Rubik's invention the Rubik's Cube.
- ウ. Since 1980, hundreds of millions of Rubik's Cubes have been sold around the world.
- エ. Tom Kremer owned a business named the Ideal Toy Company.

問5 本文の第5段落の内容に合うものとして最も適当なものを、ア～エから一つ選べ。(42)

ア. Max Park's record for solving the Rubik's Cube was broken after June 11, 2023.

イ. People collectively solve the Rubik's Cube puzzle in the same amount of time.

ウ. The Rubik's Cube causes no irritation for the people who attempt to solve it.

エ. When he finished the Rubik's Cube puzzle on June 11, 2023, Max Park did so in less than four seconds.

問6 下線部(43)の内容として最も適当なものを、ア～エから一つ選べ。

ア. Researchers learned in recent years that the 3x3x3 Rubik's Cube puzzle could be solved in 20 or fewer moves, no matter which position it began in.

イ. Researchers recently discovered that the 3x3x3 Rubik's Cube puzzle could be solved in a total of 43 different ways.

ウ. Researchers recently guessed that the 3x3x3 Rubik's Cube puzzle was humanly impossible to complete.

エ. Researchers recently proved that completing the 3x3x3 Rubik's Cube requires more than 20 moves.

問7 本文の内容と合わないものを, ア～キから二つ選び, (44)と(45)に一つずつマークせよ。ただし, マークする記号(ア, イ, ウ,...)の順序は問わない。

ア. Ernő Rubik taught a geometry class in which he introduced his puzzle to students.

イ. The first version of what we now call the Rubik's Cube was comprised of rubber bands and wood.

ウ. Rubik located a company in Hungary that was able to produce the first Cubes.

エ. The company in Hungary where the first Cubes were manufactured produced chess pieces.

オ. Pentangle Puzzles sold the Cubes to customers exclusively in Hungary.

カ. Tom Kremer was amazed by the Rubik's invention and immediately decided to take it to America.

キ. The name "Rubik's Cube" has recently been changed to something new.

(以下余白)