

Follow instructions in sections A-C and answer the following items. Ensure that your choices correspond to the correct number on the marksheet.

(A) Complete the following sentences with the best word.

He didn't think he'd like skiing, but he soon took (1) it.

(1) ア in イ on ウ to エ after

A: "Our club funds are almost gone."

B: "Then, we'd better (2) our budget for next year's event."

(2) ア pay イ spend ウ inflate エ tighten

Eager to learn its benefits, he decided to (3) the new technology.

(3) ア inform イ embrace ウ confront エ stimulate

She tried to (4) a catchy phrase for the campaign.

(4) ア coin イ lead ウ imply エ result

(B) Choose the answer that is closest in meaning to the underlined phrase.

(5) The ancient castle was all but destroyed by the powerful earthquake that struck the region last night.

ア roughly

イ entirely

ウ severely

エ virtually

(6) The CEO's plan to cut costs by outsourcing was met with criticism, but he stood his ground during the board meeting.

ア softened his position

イ defended his decision

ウ reconsidered his objections

エ left his discussion unresolved

(C) Complete the following paragraphs with the best word.

About one-third of the carbon dioxide (CO₂) emitted by human activities is absorbed by terrestrial ecosystems. These carbon sinks, along with the oceans, slow the (7) of atmospheric CO₂ and the pace of global warming. The locations where the absorbed emissions are stored (8), the long-term stability and management of carbon pools—those places in Earth's biosphere that can accumulate, store, and release carbon. (9), how carbon is dispersed across different pools on land remains unclear.

(7) ア input イ spread ウ buildup エ reduction

(8) ア avoid イ govern ウ prevent エ restrict

(9) ア Yet イ Also ウ Thus エ Hence

Lurking in our nonstick pans, our rain jackets, and even our drinking water are toxic compounds known as perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), also called “forever chemicals.” They can take hundreds of years to (10) down in the environment and are increasingly being detected in human blood and bodily tissues—where, research suggests, they can lead to cancers, reproductive disorders, thyroid disease, and a weakened immune system. Scientists have been (11) for ways to remove PFAS before they reach human bodies. But one team may now

have found a way to tackle them afterward. Bacteria commonly found in the human gut could potentially be used to gather up PFAS and (12) them out as waste. Maybe our bacteria—that have been our companions for thousands of years—may already be (13) us do something about it.

- | | | | | | | | | |
|------|---|---------|---|-----------|---|------------|---|-------------|
| (10) | ア | slow | イ | turn | ウ | settle | エ | break |
| (11) | ア | blaming | イ | proposing | ウ | presenting | エ | scrambling |
| (12) | ア | hand | イ | carry | ウ | point | エ | figure |
| (13) | ア | making | イ | helping | ウ | prompting | エ | instructing |

The brain is like an (14)—thousands of different types of cells connect to form one big, interdependent web. And just as biologists document species of plants and animals, neuroscientists have spent decades (15) different “species” of neurons and other brain cells that support them.

- | | | | | | | | | |
|------|---|---------|---|------------|---|-------------|---|-------------|
| (14) | ア | idea | イ | entity | ウ | engine | エ | ecosystem |
| (15) | ア | growing | イ | networking | ウ | cultivating | エ | identifying |

Read the passage below and follow instructions in sections D and E. Ensure that your choices correspond to the correct number on the marksheet.

P1: The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced this week that it deployed a generative AI tool called Evidence-based Learning System Assistant (ELSA). After a low-profile pilot that delivered measurable gains, ELSA is now in use by staff across the agency, several weeks ahead of its original schedule. FDA commissioner Dr. Marty Makary shared a major outcome: “Today, we met our goal ahead of schedule and under budget,” he said. “What took one scientific reviewer two to three days [before] now takes six minutes.”

P2: The FDA has thousands of reviewers, analysts, and inspectors who deal with massive volumes of unstructured data such as clinical trial documents, safety reports, and inspection records. Automating any meaningful portion of that stack creates outsized returns. ELSA helps FDA teams speed up several essential tasks. Staff are already using it to summarize adverse event data for safety assessments, compare drug labels, generate basic code for nonclinical database setup, and identify priority sites for inspections, among other tasks. This last item, using data to rank where inspectors should go, could have a real-world impact on how the FDA oversees the drug and food supply chain, and how the FDA delivers its services. Importantly, however, the tool isn’t making autonomous decisions without a human in the loop. The system prepares information so that experts can decide faster. It cuts through the routine, not the judgment.

P3: One of the biggest questions about AI systems in the public sector revolves around the use of data and third-party AI systems. Makary addressed this directly by saying that “All information stays within the agency. The AI models are not being trained on data submitted by the industry.” That’s a sharp contrast to the AI approaches being taken in the private sector, where many large language models have faced criticism over training on proprietary or user-submitted content. In the enterprise world, this has created mounting demand for “air-gapped” AI solutions that keep data locked inside the company. That makes the FDA’s model different from many corporate tools, which often rely on open or external data sources. The agency isn’t building a public-facing product. It’s building a controlled internal system, one that helps it do its job better.

(D) Find the underlined words in the passage and choose the best substitute.

(16) Which choice is closest in meaning to outsized in paragraph 2 (P2)?

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|
| ア futile | イ greater | ウ moderate |
| エ automated | オ comprehensive | |

(17) Which choice is closest in meaning to autonomous in paragraph 2 (P2)?

- | | | |
|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| ア sweeping | イ automatic | ウ important |
| エ unlimited | オ independent | |

(18) Which choice is closest in meaning to mounting in paragraph 3 (P3)?

- | | | |
|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| ア framing | イ growing | ウ inspiring |
| エ structured | オ precipitous | |

(E) Choose the best answer to the following:

(19) According to the passage, why did the FDA decide to develop a generative AI tool?

- ア to reduce human error
- イ to oversee supply chains
- ウ to compete with the private sector
- エ to compensate for a reduced workforce
- オ to partially automate the review process

(20) According to the passage, which task does ELSA NOT perform?

- ア compile drug labels
- イ assemble safety reports
- ウ automate clinical trial records
- エ process mass unstructured data
- オ provide coding to setup nonclinical databases

(21) Which of the following statements is best supported by the information provided in the passage?

- ア ELSA was less expensive to produce than originally anticipated.
- イ ELSA has received widespread criticism from the private sector.
- ウ ELSA is currently used by multiple teams across several agencies.
- エ ELSA is a generative AI tool that incorporates an evidence-based learning assistant.
- オ ELSA proved its effectiveness by significantly increasing work efficiency, even though its launch was delayed.

(22) According to the passage, which drawback of AI systems is addressed by ELSA?

- ア It reduces the need for human interaction.
- イ It incorporates third-party AI systems seamlessly.
- ウ It uses training data supplied by the private sector.
- エ It establishes a system that is contained wholly in-house.
- オ It uses a model that includes open and external data sources.

(23) According to the passage, what is a practical outcome of implementing ELSA?

ア eliminating judgmental tasks

イ streamlining essential FDA services

ウ providing a service accessible to the public

エ eliminating the need for reviewers, analysts and inspectors

オ providing competition to AI approaches used in the private sector

Read the passage below and follow instructions in sections F and G. Ensure that your choices correspond to the correct number on the marksheet.

P1: A record 98.1 percent of students who graduated from university this spring had received job offers as of the April 1 start of the new fiscal year, the labor and education ministries said. Noting that more companies are actively recruiting in the face of a continuing labor crunch, ministry officials said the figure shows that the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on hiring has almost disappeared. The employment rate is calculated through a sampling survey. Figures have only been kept since 1997. The employment rate for those who graduated in 2011 was the lowest ever at 91 percent as job seekers were most severely affected by the 2008 collapse of U.S. investment bank Lehman Brothers.

P2: In the years that followed, the figure moved on an upward trajectory, reaching its highest ever rate of 98 percent for those who graduated in 2018 and 2020. And then the pandemic hit, and the figure started trending downward. For the class of 2021, the rate of job offers was 96 percent, and the following year, 95.8 percent. In 2023, the figure was 97.3 percent. According to a labor ministry official, the “seller’s market” that favors students is expected to continue for some time after next spring.

P3: The ministries sampled data from 4,770 students. The students were from 24 public universities and 38 private universities. The employment rate for liberal arts students was 97.9 percent and 98.8 percent for science students. By region, universities in Chugoku and Shikoku scored the highest with 99.6 percent, while those in Hokkaido and Tohoku scored the

lowest with 95.4 percent. The rate for junior colleges, from which only female students were sampled, was 97.4 percent. The rate for technical colleges, from which only male students were sampled, was 100 percent.

P4: As of the end of March, the rate for high school students who graduated this spring was 98 percent, unchanged from last year. “Students now have more options,” labor minister Keizo Takemi said at a news conference. He added that the ministry “will provide detailed employment support for those who have not found jobs, by working in cooperation with universities.”

(F) Find the underlined words or phrase in the passage and choose the best substitute.

(24) Which choice is closest in meaning to in the face of in paragraph 1 (P1)?

- | | | |
|---------------|----------------|-----------|
| ア before | イ behind | ウ despite |
| エ in front of | オ resulting in | |

(25) Which choice is closest in meaning to trajectory in paragraph 2 (P2)?

- | | | |
|-------------|------------|----------|
| ア mode | イ orbit | ウ growth |
| エ direction | オ movement | |

(26) Which choice is closest in meaning to favors in paragraph 2 (P2)?

- | | | |
|-----------|------------|-----------|
| ア biases | イ prefers | ウ enables |
| エ selects | オ benefits | |

(G) Choose the best answer to the following:

(27) According to the passage, how did the COVID-19 pandemic affect hiring practices in Japan?

- ア It fixed hiring.
- イ It boosted hiring.
- ウ It alleviated hiring.
- エ It diminished hiring.
- オ It strengthened hiring.

(28) According to the passage, which of the following years previously marked a high point for the hiring rate for college graduates?

- | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|
| ア 2008 | イ 2011 | ウ 2020 |
| エ 2021 | オ 2023 | |

(29) Which of the following statements is best supported by the information provided in the passage?

- ア Currently, students who do not attend college have more hiring options.
- イ More students graduate with science degrees than with liberal arts degrees.
- ウ Hiring rates for university graduates in Japan are only affected by regional events.
- エ Hiring rates for recent graduates were calculated by sampling employer records.
- オ There are programs in place to assist university graduates who have not secured jobs.

(30) According to the passage, which of the following groups experienced the highest hiring rates?

- ア male graduates
- イ female graduates
- ウ technical college graduates
- エ public university graduates
- オ private university graduates

(31) According to the passage, what factor contributed to the lowest hiring rate in the past decade?

- ア the Lehman brothers
- イ high employment rates
- ウ the COVID-19 pandemic
- エ saturation of university graduates
- オ the collapse of the U.S banking system

Read the article below and follow instructions in section H. Ensure that your choices correspond to the correct number on the marksheet.

（（H），（32）～（39）は著作権の都合上，
掲載しておりません。）