

英 語

(解答番号 ~)

I Read the sentences and complete each one with the most appropriate vocabulary item.

次の文(問1～5)の空所に入れるのに最も適当なものを、それぞれ下の①～④のうちから一つずつ選べ。

問1 There was tremendous in science and technology in the 20th century, which made people's lives richer and more comfortable.

- ① wealth ② status ③ progress ④ knowledge

問2 Kevin was for his little sister while their parents were away. He cooked dinner, helped with homework, and read her a story before bed.

- ① suitable ② responsible ③ notable ④ capable

問3 Spending a weekend camping in the mountains and enjoying the beauty of nature can our lives. It reduces stress and restores energy.

- ① enrich ② share ③ decide ④ measure

問4 Haruki's team finally won the baseball championship after a long journey to victory. That night, he felt relieved and fell happily in bed.

- ① asleep ② awake ③ upfront ④ upright

問5 These days, global warming is one of the most serious problems on earth. It causes higher temperatures and rising sea levels. To make matters , burning fossil fuels and deforestation continue to accelerate climate change.

- ① steady ② worse ③ stronger ④ tougher

Ⅱ

Read the dialogs and complete each one with the most appropriate choice.

次の対話文(問6～8)の空所に入れるのに最も適当なものを、それぞれ下の①～④のうちから一つずつ選べ。

問6 (In a classroom)

A: I had a big fight with my mom this morning about my screentime.

B: Oh, how much time do you spend online every day?

A: Not that much. About eight hours a day.

B: What? 6. It's a third of the day! You're wasting your time.

① I spend more

② It's a splendid idea

③ That's crazy

④ I do the same

問7 (On the street)

A: Hurry up! Otherwise, we'll miss the bus.

B: I can't run anymore. Can't we just wait for the next one?

A: Seriously? I don't want to. It won't come for another hour.

B: Alright, 7, but I'm not sure how long I can last.

① I'll keep going for now

② we need to stop and rest now

③ the bus might be late

④ waiting an hour would be fine

問8 (At a restaurant)

A: Good evening. Welcome. Do you have a reservation?

B: No, we don't, but could we have a table for five?

A: We're quite busy this evening, but I think we can get a table ready in 30 minutes.

B: 8. We don't mind waiting. We really appreciate it.

① I'll try another time

② It seems difficult

③ That might be fun

④ That's perfectly fine

Ⅲ

Read the passages and select the most appropriate choice for each blank.

次の文章(問9～11)を読み, 空所に入れるのに最も適当なものを, それぞれ下の①～④のうちから一つずつ選べ。

問9 The world is changing faster than ever before. New technologies are now able to handle vast amounts of information, learn from it, and make human-like decisions. We can find them in everyday life from navigation apps to medical tools. This technology, known as artificial 9, is spreading rapidly across industries. Experts say it may transform society in ways that are still difficult to predict.

- ① impression ② influence ③ interaction ④ intelligence

問10 Mental 10 is the ability to use the full power of the mind and will. It enables individuals to remain calm in the face of difficulty and to concentrate fully on the challenge at hand. People with this ability can keep going even when things become stressful or uncertain. They are able to control their emotions and stay focused on what needs to be done.

- ① equality ② hardship ③ toughness ④ inspiration

問11 The solar system is the part of the universe where we live. It is composed of the Sun, eight planets, and many smaller objects. With modern telescopes, scientists have detected numerous planets around other stars. These discoveries raise questions about whether 11 could exist beyond Earth, which is believed to be the only planet where living things survive in our solar system.

- ① atmosphere ② energy ③ environment ④ life

IV

Read the passage and select the most appropriate choice for each blank.

次の文章の空所(問12～17)に入れるのに最も適当なものを、それぞれ下の①～④のうちから一つずつ選べ。

Visitors to Cartagena* come for its history and amazing sights. There's also one attraction that will leave you happy as a pig in mud.

Start in the historic Walled City. Strolling through here is like 12 through history. Visit the Palace of the Inquisition, a museum about the Spanish Inquisition. See historical instruments used during the Inquisition and learn about this difficult period in Catholic history. Visit the Plaza de Bolivar, 13 its statue of the military officer who won independence from Spain for Colombia, among other countries. The Walled City's original main city gate has a grand clock tower, and is a perfect shot for your album.

From the Walled City, take a taxi to San Felipe de Barajas Castle. This fortress on a hill was built in 1639 and 14 down on the city and Cartagena Bay. The views are best at sunset. Explore narrow corridors in the fortress that the city's defenders would have rushed through when Cartagena was under threat from pirates and the British.

Now it's time to get 15. Take a day trip to El Totumo, an active mud volcano about an hour's drive northwest. The volcano is popular with locals, 16 believe that soaking in the mud can help with rheumatic problems and beautify the skin. Take a swimsuit and old shoes, and soak your cares away.

Finally, head back to Cartagena before the sun dips to enjoy the trendy entertainment district of Getsemaní. 17 known for its troubled past, it's now been revitalized. Walk down Umbrella Street, check out the colorful houses and outdoor art, and taste some of the best coffee you'll ever have.

(The Japan Times Alpha, August 29, 2025を一部改変)

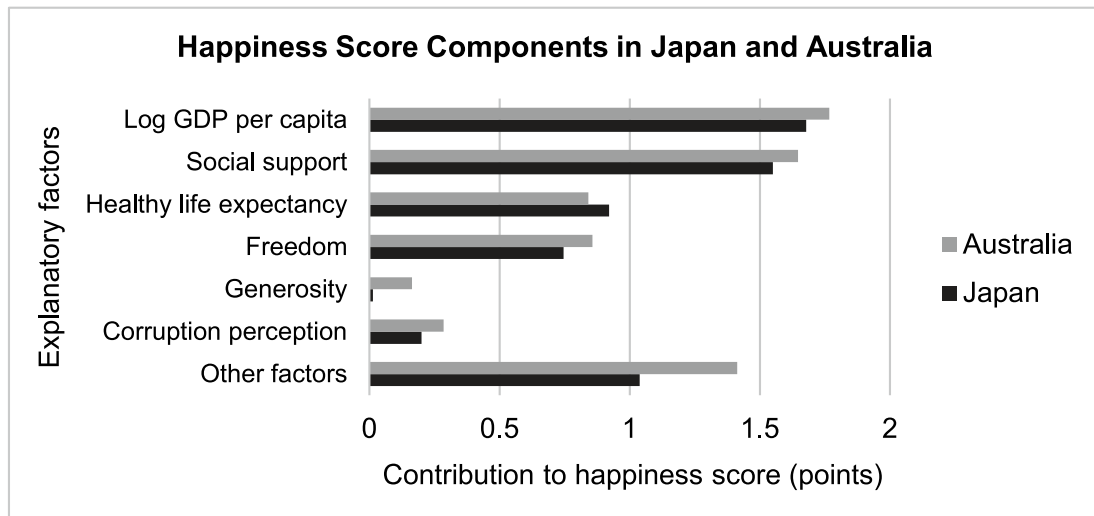
*Cartagena: コロンビア北部の都市

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|
| 問12 | ① feeling | ② seeking | ③ traveling | ④ seizing |
| 問13 | ① at | ② of | ③ on | ④ with |
| 問14 | ① look | ② looks | ③ looking | ④ looked |
| 問15 | ① hot | ② muddy | ③ dry | ④ serious |
| 問16 | ① who | ② which | ③ that | ④ whose |
| 問17 | ① When | ② If | ③ Once | ④ Since |

V

Read the graph and the passage, and answer the questions.

次のグラフと文章を読み、問い(問18～21)の空所に入れるのに最も適当なものを、①～④のうちから一つずつ選べ。



Source: World Happiness Report 2025

I have always wondered what true happiness means, so I chose the World Happiness Report (WHR) to introduce and share my thoughts. In this report, people in many countries are asked to rate their lives on a scale from 0 to 10. Australia, where I am studying now, ranks 11th with a score of 6.97, while Japan, my home country, ranks 55th with 6.15. I felt disappointed to see Japan ranked so low, so I created the bar chart above with WHR data. It shows that happiness is made up of multiple factors rather than a single number and highlights our countries' strengths.

Australia stands out in areas such as freedom, generosity, and social support. People here seem encouraged to speak openly, make their own choices, and help others. I experienced this directly at school, where my classmates warmly welcomed me even though I was nervous at first. This generosity showed me how openness and kindness can quickly foster happiness in everyday life.

Japan, on the other hand, shows strength in healthy life expectancy. This may come from a balanced diet and good healthcare system. However, I believe it also comes from a deeper sense of happiness. Japan's true values, such as community ties and caring for each other, are not always visible in the numbers. Even if they don't raise the score, these values shape a quiet and lasting happiness, which leads to healthy life expectancy.

From these points, I realized that happiness cannot be fully measured by statistics. The report allows us to compare countries, but real happiness is also found in everyday actions and cultural values. I hope to carry these lessons into my life and use them to guide my own pursuit of happiness.

問18 According to the bar chart, Japanese people feel people are in their country than Australians.

- ① more supported
- ② less healthy
- ③ freer
- ④ less generous

問19 The author thought that on the World Happiness Report.

- ① Australia was below Japan in the ranking
- ② Japan's ranking was disappointing
- ③ few factors were related to the results
- ④ happiness depended on just one element

問20 The author in Australia.

- ① experienced a friendly welcome
- ② spoke up to make her own choice
- ③ had a healthy diet
- ④ felt a sense of community

問21 At the end, the author understood that true happiness .

- ① is judged by statistics and data
- ② comes from daily life and cultural values
- ③ appears clearly in numbers
- ④ is compared across different countries

VI Read the passage and answer the questions.

次の文章を読み、問い(問22～25)の答えとして最も適当なものを、①～④のうちから一つずつ選べ。

Makoto never meant to fall in love with music. But now, he cannot live without it.

When he started high school, music was the only elective class left open. He had no real interest in it—he just needed the credit. But his music teacher, Ms. Ota, was unlike any teacher he had ever met. She was not just teaching notes and theory; she was sharing her passion. She brought in a variety of instruments and let her students explore freely, not worrying about who had talent or who did not. One day, Makoto picked up a dusty acoustic guitar almost by accident. It felt unfamiliar and awkward in his hands. The first time his fingers awkwardly tried to form a chord, something inside him quietly shifted. It was not much—a faint flicker, barely noticeable—but it was enough to make him pause. Ms. Ota noticed his curiosity right away.

“Music isn’t just for those born with talent,” she told him with a smile that made it sound like a secret. “It’s for those who keep playing.” Makoto took those words to heart, even though he was not sure he believed them yet. He began practicing bit by bit. At first, it was frustrating. His fingers hurt, the strings buzzed, and his singing was weak and shaky. More than once, he thought about giving up. He did not think he had what it took. But Ms. Ota kept encouraging him, offering gentle advice and cheering him on like she already believed in the version of him he could not see yet. Slowly, the noise began to turn into music. He learned to move his fingers with more confidence, to play the guitar with rhythm, and to sing without feeling embarrassed. Without realizing it, Makoto started looking forward to music class more than anything else in his day.

By the time he entered university, music had become part of who he was. He did not major in it, but he could not leave it behind. Something about writing songs helped him feel grounded. Once a month, he started performing near a local train station. It was not glamorous. In the beginning, no one paid attention. People walked past him without stopping. Some gave him puzzled looks. Rain soaked his clothes and his guitar. Cold wind numbed his hands until he could barely press the strings. His voice wavered, but he kept singing. He came back every month, determined to play no matter what.

Eventually, things began to change. A child stopped to dance to his music, laughing in the middle of the station. A woman dropped a few coins into his guitar case and mouthed, “Thank you.” Two high school students recorded a video and posted it online with the caption: “Found this guy singing with his soul.” Little by little, people started to listen. A small crowd gathered each time he played. Strangers began to recognize him. Makoto began to believe that maybe—just maybe—his songs mattered, even if only to a few.

One evening, after he finished performing, a man approached him. He wore a dark coat and had kind eyes that seemed to understand more than he said. “Your lyrics,” the man said, “they come from the heart.” He introduced himself as Mr. Matsuda from a music agency. “If you’re interested,” he said, “I’d like to talk about your future.” Makoto was shocked. After years of quiet effort, invisible progress, and self-doubt, someone had finally noticed him. He signed a contract after graduating from university and made his official debut.

However, the road was not easy. Makoto’s first single did not sell well. There are nights he lies awake, staring at the ceiling, wondering if he made the wrong decision. Makoto is not a successful singer yet, but he believes in himself and dreams of the day he will be. He sings in cafés, at small festivals, and sometimes still by the station where it all began. He still carries with him the words of Ms. Ota: “Music isn’t only for those born with talent — it is for those who never stop playing.”

問22 What kind of teacher was Ms. Ota?

22

- ① She focused mainly on discipline and expected students to follow strict rules.
- ② She believed music should be about passion and exploration, not just talent.
- ③ She preferred working only with students who already showed musical ability.
- ④ She emphasized competition among students to push them to improve.

問23 What does music mean to Makoto?

23

- ① A hobby he enjoys occasionally but can live without.
- ② A career path he chose only because of quick success.
- ③ A part of his identity that gives him purpose and grounding.
- ④ A subject he took only to earn extra credits in university.

問24 Which of the following is true about Mr. Matsuda?

24

- ① He was a university professor who introduced Makoto to songwriting.
- ② He was a passerby who criticized Makoto’s music harshly.
- ③ He worked at a music agency and offered Makoto a chance to debut.
- ④ He was one of Makoto’s classmates who posted a video online.

問25 Which of the following is true about Makoto?

25

- ① He still performs by the station just like when he first started.
- ② He quit performing after his debut single sold poorly.
- ③ He only performs at large international music festivals now.
- ④ He gave up guitar and focused only on working in a music café.