

英語

— 2024年2月7日 —

【注意事項】

- 試験開始の合図があるまで、問題の内容を見てはいけません。
- 解答用紙への記載はH Bの黒鉛筆、H Bの黒芯シャープペンシルを使用してください。
- 解答にあたっては、所定の解答用紙内に解答してください。
- 解答用紙には解答欄以外に記入欄があります。氏名と受験番号を正しく記入してください。さらに受験番号を【受験番号マーク欄】にマークしてください。
- スマートフォン・携帯電話・ウェアラブル端末等の電子機器類の使用を禁止します。また、時計としての使用も認めません。辞書・電卓・通信機能等の有無が判別しづらい時計の使用も認めません。
- 中途退室は許可しません。試験中の発病またはトイレ等やむを得ない場合には、手を挙げて試験監督者の指示にしたがってください。
- 試験室においては、すべて試験監督者の指示にしたがってください。したがわない場合は、退場させることがあります。

次の英文を読み、問1、問6、問7、問10、問11は問い合わせに答え、問2～問5、問8、問9は文を完成させなさい。
答えは最も適切なものを、それぞれA～Eの中から一つ選びなさい。問12は指示に従ってTかFを選びなさい。

Each new scientific discovery forces us to revisit old theories, sometimes reworking them to acknowledge new evidence and other times discarding them entirely. The story of the discovery of life forms from the Ediacaran geological period is a good example of how scientific ideas evolve over time. Before they were accepted as evidence, it was believed that the first animals appeared in the Cambrian period, which spanned between 538 and 485 million years ago. Few could have imagined that complex life actually existed in a part of the Pre-Cambrian era that would later be called the Ediacaran period.

In 1946, Reginald Sprigg, an Australian geologist working alone at an abandoned copper mine in the Flinders' Mountain Range of Australia, was busy eating lunch when he absent-mindedly turned over a nearby rock. When he looked more closely, he noticed that one side had curious circular markings; some were no more than a few millimeters across while others were almost ten centimeters from side to side. Sprigg could see that they were not just a feature of the stone, but potentially the fossilized remains of living creatures. Sprigg was fascinated; the creatures vaguely resembled jellyfish that he had seen on beaches near his South Australian home of Yorke town. At the same time, he knew that the rock itself had been formed more than 538 million years ago, making the fossils Pre-Cambrian.

Calling the creatures Ediacara after the local aboriginal name of the area where they were first discovered, Sprigg was determined to share his discovery with the scientific community. After studying the fossils, he wrote about his findings and submitted a paper for publication to the prestigious journal *Nature*. It was rejected. None of his colleagues believed that he had found fossils of animals that were more than 538 million years old and thus Pre-Cambrian. He even attempted to show what he had found to the Prime Minister of Australia, who ignored him. Realizing that the world was not ready for his discovery, he gave up trying to convince people and took a job searching for oil.

In the summer of 1957, over a decade after Sprigg's discovery, three young boys, Richard Allen, Richard Blatchford, and Roger Mason, were playing in England's Charnwood Forest. Mason found some unusual feather-like impressions in some of the rocks there, so he and his father, not knowing what they were, took them to a geologist named Trevor Ford, who was equally puzzled. Although the forest's rocks were older than 538 million years old, geologists had previously surveyed the area and concluded that there were no fossils to be found. Ford was sure that they were, in fact, fossils predating the earliest known Cambrian fossils by tens of millions of years.

After carefully authenticating and analyzing them, Ford called the fossils discovered by the boys *Charnia masoni* after the place where they had been found and the boy who had originally noticed them. [1], the scientific community took greater interest in the fossils, and two years later, Martin Glaessner made a connection between Sprigg's "jellyfish" and two other frond-like fossils from Namibia that had been discovered in the 1920s. Because the fossils had been discovered in geological layers of stone found below Cambrian rocks, this pushed the time of the earliest known life to between 630 and 538 million years ago.

The attention Glaessner paid these fossils sparked renewed interest among geologists and paleontologists in the

origins of life on Earth. The fossils represented a wide variety of shapes and sizes, some evoking pepperoni pizzas, (B) long feathers, flat jellyfish, or slugs with no identifiable fronts or backs. These resemblances were, at best, superficial; none of them seemed to have an equivalent to any animal living today. As of 2023, scientists have still learned little about the life cycles of these ancient creatures.

Eventually, the scientific community began to recognize that there had been many other discoveries of Ediacaran fossils as early as 1868. However, it was not until *Charnia masoni* that scientists began to consider that the period itself was characterized by life. In 2004, the International Union of Geological Sciences (IUGS) finally called the 96-million-year long period Ediacaran, acknowledging that Sprigg's discovery had helped to rewrite both evolution and geology.

問 1 Which statement best summarizes the content of the first paragraph?

- ア. The tale of the Ediacaran fossils illustrates that scientific ideas are dynamic.
- イ. Most people sought to determine the exact duration of the Cambrian period.
- ウ. There was no evidence of complex life prior to the discovery of Cambrian life forms.
- エ. Scientists have always disagreed about whether life began 538 million years ago.

問 2 According to the second paragraph, Sprigg _____.

- ア. mined for copper along the beach
- イ. discovered jellyfish in his hometown
- ウ. came across some interesting fossils
- エ. found mineral deposits in stone markings

問 3 In the second paragraph, absent-mindedly is closest in meaning to _____.

- ア. somewhat anxiously
- イ. somewhat impatiently
- ウ. without waiting
- エ. without thinking

問 4 According to the third paragraph, _____.

- ア. Sprigg's colleagues did not find his argument compelling
- イ. many researchers had already shared similar findings
- ウ. Sprigg published his ideas in a respected scientific journal
- エ. the Australian government was interested in the findings

問5 According to the fourth paragraph, it can be inferred that _____.

- ア. Ford did not expect anyone to find fossils in the forest
- イ. the three boys were looking for fossils in Charnwood
- ウ. Mason's father was an expert on the Cambrian period
- エ. the fossils could not be dated to the Pre-Cambrian era

問6 Which of the following best replaces [1] in the fifth paragraph?

- ア. Unfortunately
- イ. Clearly
- ウ. Subsequently
- エ. Occasionally

問7 According to the fifth paragraph, which statement is true about the fossils?

- ア. They were named by the boy who had found them.
- イ. They challenged scientists' long-held beliefs.
- ウ. They were found to be Cambrian after careful checking.
- エ. They were dated to before 630 million years ago.

問8 In the sixth paragraph, evoking is closest in meaning to _____.
(B)

- ア. attracting people to
- イ. warning people about
- ウ. guiding people toward
- エ. reminding people of

問9 According to the sixth paragraph, the fossils _____.

- ア. were largely ignored by scientists studying life's origins
- イ. were ancient versions of animals existing now
- ウ. have helped us fully understand the creatures' life cycles
- エ. showed a broad range of dimensions and forms

問10 According to the last paragraph, what prompted the recognition of the Ediacaran period?

- ア. the 1868 discoveries
- イ. Glaessner's discovery
- ウ. Mason's discovery
- エ. the IUGS discoveries

問11 Which would be the best title for the passage?

- ア. Shifting Perspectives on the First Life on Earth
- イ. Sprigg's Reevaluation of the Ediacara
- ウ. A Boy and a Fossil: Roger Mason's Story
- エ. What Came After the Cambrian Period?

問12 According to the passage, mark "T" if the statement is true and mark "F" if the statement is false.

- 1. "Ediacara" is the name of a place in England.
- 2. The Ediacaran fossils in Charnwood Forest were not the first ones from the Ediacaran Period to be discovered.
- 3. The discovery of additional fossils in the 20th century changed the history of the evolution of life.
- 4. More than 70 years after Sprigg found the fossils, the Ediacaran period was officially established as a geological period by the scientific community.

2

次の1～10の英文の空所に入る最も適切な語(句)を、それぞれA～Eの中から一つ選びなさい。

1. When I () back, I'd better not find you asleep on the sofa again!

A. am getting B. will get C. got D. get

2. What do you say to () around Lake Yamanaka? It's only about an hour north of here.

A. drove B. driving C. have driven D. having driven

3. My aunt is proud of () a cheerleader back when she was in college.

A. having been B. will have been C. been D. to have been

4. Jacob was sitting quietly () a pair of expensive-looking headphones on.

A. in B. at C. with D. under

5. Due to last night's typhoon, about twenty people () or destroyed.

A. their homes had damaged B. had damaged their homes
C. had their homes damaged D. had their damaged homes

6. This book covers most of Hollywood's early history; it's exactly () I was looking for.

A. which B. of which C. of what D. what

7. Reducing the amount of food we waste is vital; let's try to throw away as () as we can.

A. littler B. little C. few D. fewer

8. I have been visiting this national park since my childhood and hope that it remains () forever.

A. protecting B. protected C. will protect D. having protected

9. It's going to be impossible for us to go out tomorrow if this terrible weather continues, ()?

A. will we B. won't we C. is it D. isn't it

10. Air pollution is a serious problem; the more fuel we use, the () the air becomes.

A. more dirtiest B. more dirtier C. dirtier D. dirty

3

次の1～10の英文を読み、下線部の意味に最も近い語(句)を、それぞれA～Eの中から一つ選びなさい。

1. Our newspaper's readers were inclined to disbelieve the politicians' election promises.
 ア. had time イ. had a right ウ. had orders エ. had a tendency
2. Environmental agencies work hard to develop systems that inform the public about catastrophes.
 ア. disasters イ. scams ウ. offences エ. infections
3. Sam spent the night playing computer games instead of proofreading an article for work.
Accordingly, it contained a number of errors.
 ア. As ever イ. As a whole ウ. As a result エ. As yet
4. Our parents wanted to build a new life, so they immigrated here, where my sister and I were born.
 ア. transmitted イ. passed ウ. visited エ. moved
5. At the start of their first day, all new personnel must have their pictures taken for their ID cards.
 ア. staff イ. citizens ウ. athletes エ. guests
6. Alegna had always lived with her family, so the likelihood that she would have to get her own apartment made her nervous.
 ア. schedule イ. recommendation ウ. probability エ. task
7. My father has been following a demanding exercise routine every morning for years.
 ア. thrilling イ. challenging ウ. fascinating エ. surprising
8. The invention of the smallpox vaccine made it possible to wipe out the disease in most countries.
 ア. replace イ. eradicate ウ. condemn エ. inject
9. Whether summer is an enjoyable season or not depends upon your perspective.
 ア. viewpoint イ. character ウ. temperature エ. location
10. Masato worried about being late when his train was momentarily delayed at Ueno Station.
 ア. eventually イ. luckily ウ. briefly エ. suddenly

4

次の2つの会話文を読み、1, 2, 4, 5, 7は意味・内容に合うように文を完成させ、3, 6, 8は問い合わせに答えなさい。

答えは最も適切なものを、それぞれA～Eの中から一つ選びなさい。

Madison: Thanks for coming so quickly. I just texted you a minute ago!

Taylor: No worries! I was just across the street, and your text seemed urgent.

Madison: Not urgent. Well, not really. My new boss really gave me an earful this morning, and I needed someone to talk to about it.

Taylor: Do you mean the new project manager? You mentioned the last time we met that you didn't get along with her.

Madison: Yeah. That's the one. Samantha. She's so much stricter than Jason ever was.

Taylor: I liked him as a manager when I worked there; he was so good at his job.

Madison: Well, today we got our quarterly financial report, and it could've been better. The number of downloads of our software app is declining. Too many other companies on the market offer similar products. Samantha blamed Jason's lack of leadership as a manager. She said that he should've been fired.

Taylor: Considering how the higher-ups treat the people in that company, it's not surprising that he just quit. I know that you're a senior developer, but the fact that you regularly work 70 hours a week is ridiculous.

Madison: Don't remind me! But that isn't what set me off. She also accused me of being lazy! I didn't go home last night until after 10:00 p.m. because of a software update for the app.

Taylor: She said that to you? She has no idea how much you do for that company! If you really were only doing the bare minimum, that app wouldn't have launched or done as well as it has. It's not your fault that other companies are making similar apps.

Madison: Thanks. I guess you're right.

Taylor: On the other hand, maybe it's time you started looking for a place that values what you bring to the table. You know, working for people who recognize how skilled and hardworking you are.

Madison: I don't know. I believe in what the company does. That app helps a lot of people with disabilities.

Taylor: You know, you and I worked well together when I was there. Now that I'm freelance, I only pick projects I care about and don't set unrealistic deadlines. My small customer base is growing, and I'm happy with my work. What do you think? Want to come work with me?

Madison: That's a very interesting idea! Let me see how the rest of this week goes.

Taylor: Sure. Just let me know.

1. When Madison says, “gave me an earful,” she most likely means _____.

- ア. listened to my opinions
- イ. criticized me harshly
- ウ. offered me some advice
- エ. answered me loudly

2. According to the dialogue, Madison feels that her new boss _____.

- ア. appreciates her effort
- イ. is happy with the app sales
- ウ. is tougher than her old boss
- エ. respects Jason for his work

3. According to the dialogue, what does Taylor suggest that Madison do?

- ア. work for 70 hours a week
- イ. complain about Samantha's behavior
- ウ. show off her leadership skills
- エ. leave the company

4. According to the dialogue, Taylor _____.

- ア. has worked at the same place as Madison
- イ. has a similar management style to Samantha
- ウ. has never worked with Jason before
- エ. has a boss who is similar to Madison's

Janet: Hailey, were you able to get Lucas into the day-care center you applied for?

Hailey: It was a challenge, but we did manage to get a spot.

Beth: I heard that it's close to your home, right?

Hailey: It is, Mom. It's on the way to the train station, which is convenient because it means Danny can drop Lucas off on his way to work and I can pick him up on my way home.

Janet: When I was raising Beth, there weren't that many day-care centers, especially ones near the house we were living in. You kids are lucky that your neighborhood is so great.

Hailey: We can't complain, Grandma. But I can't say that it's cheap. Putting Lucas in day care for five days a week is costing us a pretty penny.

Beth: You and Danny both make good money. You'll be fine.

Janet: You know Hailey, you're quite lucky; Danny's a good husband. He takes an active role in taking care of Lucas. Your grandfather never changed any of your mom's diapers.

Beth: Those were different times, Mom. Even when I was raising Hailey, John left most of the childcare to me. He did help out sometimes, but usually only on the weekends.

Hailey: Danny's great with Lucas. He changes his diapers, feeds him, and goes to him when he cries. I really appreciate him.

Janet: Oh, that reminds me. Did you get the new stroller your grandfather and I picked out online for you? It was supposed to be delivered to your house last week.

Hailey: We did! Thanks. It has so many nice features. Danny loved it right away! It has such a good safety rating, too. He couldn't stop talking about it.

Beth: Things have certainly changed. Your first stroller was just a folding one. It didn't have any pockets or even real brakes.

Janet: I didn't even use a stroller for you, Beth. I pretty much carried you everywhere.

Hailey: Well, since Lucas is beginning to eat solid food now, I should go home and prepare his dinner.

Janet: You know Hailey, Danny's not the only one who can help you with Lucas. You can call your mom or me any time.

Hailey: Thanks! That means a lot. I should get going. Danny will be getting home with Lucas from the park soon.

5. When Hailey says, "costing us a pretty penny," she most likely means _____.

- ア. certainly beautiful
- イ. overly complicated
- ウ. extremely expensive
- エ. fairly convenient

6. According to the dialogue, who is John most likely to be?

- ア. Hailey's father
- イ. Beth's son
- ウ. Janet's husband
- エ. Danny's grandfather

7. According to the dialogue, _____.

- ア. Hailey never rode in a stroller
- イ. Janet used a stroller for Beth
- ウ. John bought the stroller online
- エ. Danny was happy with the new stroller

8. According to the dialogue, how have the generations in Janet's family changed over time?

- ア. Mothers demand less from their husbands.
- イ. Fathers are more involved with childcare.
- ウ. Children are more dependent on their grandparents.
- エ. Parents give less advice than they have received.

5

次の問1～問3の英文を読み、話の流れに沿って意味が通るように並べ替えた場合、最も適切なものはどれか。それぞれA～Eの中から一つ選びなさい。

問1 1. People use it when advising someone else not to get upset over something that has already happened and cannot be changed.

2. It first appeared in print as “No weeping for shed milk” in Welsh historian James Howell’s 1659 book of proverbs *Paramoigraphy*.

3. Do you know the proverb “It’s no use crying over spilled milk?”

4. Instead, it is better to move forward and focus on preventing similar occurrences in the future.

ア. 3 → 2 → 1 → 4

ウ. 3 → 2 → 4 → 1

イ. 3 → 4 → 1 → 2

エ. 3 → 4 → 2 → 1

問2 1. Ada Lovelace was an English mathematician born in 1815.

2. About 10 years later, Lovelace translated an article about Babbage’s Analytical Engine from Italian to English.

3. In 1833, she was introduced to Charles Babbage, known today as “the father of computers.”

4. She supplemented this translation with a series called *Notes* featuring what many consider the world’s first algorithm designed for a machine to carry out.

ア. 1 → 2 → 3 → 4

ウ. 1 → 2 → 4 → 3

イ. 1 → 3 → 2 → 4

エ. 1 → 3 → 4 → 2

問3 1. Cultural relativism is the idea that a person’s beliefs and behaviors should be understood in the context of their own culture, rather than judged by the standards of another culture.

2. Cultural relativists argue that it is important to respect the unique values and practices of other cultures, while not imposing one’s own cultural biases onto others.

3. On the other hand, some critics of cultural relativism argue that there should be some universal standards for ethical behavior.

4. In other words, we must recognize that what is considered unacceptable in one culture may not be so in another culture.

ア. 1 → 3 → 2 → 4

ウ. 1 → 3 → 4 → 2

イ. 1 → 4 → 2 → 3

エ. 1 → 4 → 3 → 2

6

次のグラフを見て、英文の空所(1)～(4)に入る最も適切なものを、それぞれア～エの中から一つ選びなさい。

Student Majors at University X in 2022

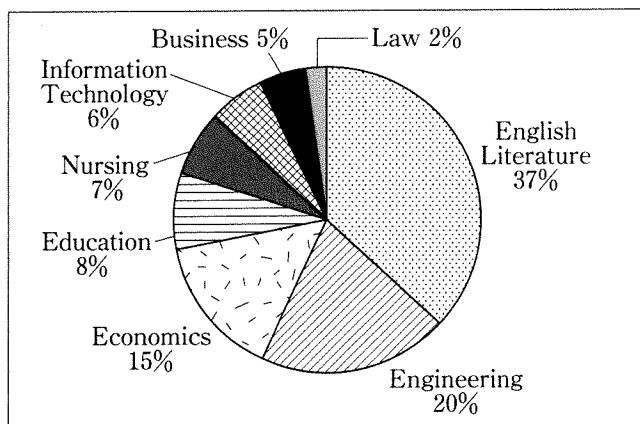


Figure 1 Undergraduate Student Majors

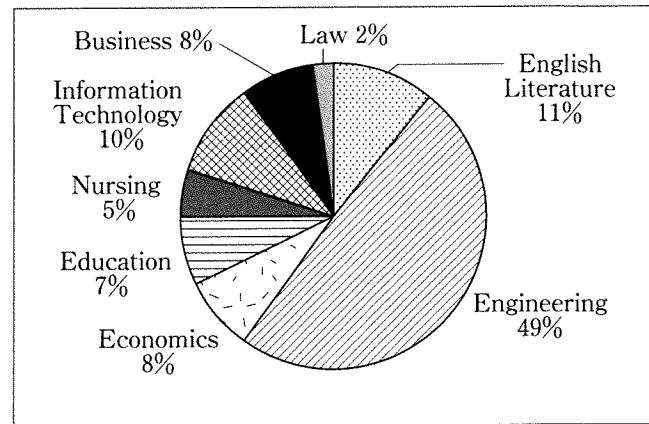


Figure 2 Graduate Student Majors

――上記のグラフは架空のものです――

The two pie charts above show the percentages of students majoring in various fields at University X in 2022. Figure 1 presents the percentages of undergraduate students majoring in each field, and Figure 2 gives the percentages of graduate students. English literature, engineering, and economics were the most popular majors among undergraduate students, accounting for a total of (1) percent of all undergraduates. On the other hand, for graduate students, the top three majors were engineering, English literature, and (2). Nearly half of all graduate students were majoring in engineering; however, only (3) of undergraduates were doing so. Among graduate students, nursing majors were the (4) group of students.

(1) ア. 37	イ. 57	ウ. 72	エ. 80
(2) ア. economics	イ. education	ウ. nursing	エ. information technology
(3) ア. one-fifth	イ. a quarter	ウ. one-third	エ. half
(4) ア. smallest	イ. second-smallest	ウ. second-largest	エ. largest

