

英語

— 2024年2月8日 —

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1

次の英文を読み、問1、問2、問4、問5、問7、問8、問10は文を完成させ、問3、問6、問9、問11は問い合わせてください。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。

Nowadays, we can listen to our favorite tunes in both analog and digital formats. Analog recordings, which all use physical media, have a long history, with the earliest recordings dating from the late 1800s. Discs made from shellac, a resin derived from insects, were popular from the early to mid-1900s. Long playing albums (LPs) made from vinyl became popular in the 1940s because they could store about 20 minutes of music on each side, in contrast to the three to five minutes on a shellac record. In the mid-1960s, cassette tapes, another analog format, appeared on the market. They helped make music more mobile and reached their peak in popularity in the late 1980s, according to the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA).

Historically, however, the format generating the highest overall sales for recorded music has been in digital format on physical media, namely the compact disc (CD), which first appeared in the early 1980s. CDs led music sales from 1990 to 2010. Downloadable music first appeared in the late 1990s, and 2018 saw streaming music services account for more than 75 percent of the music industry's overall revenue. When a new music format appears, the older formats usually become less popular. [1], in 2021, vinyl LPs became more popular than CDs for the first time since the mid-1980s and now are one of the fastest-growing areas in music sales.

Vinyl LPs store sound signals as continuous, varying waveforms. This analog format captures the full range of frequencies and nuances in the original source material, providing what many find to be a warm and natural sound. One problem, however, is that analog recordings may degrade over time and can be affected by noise and distortion. For example, dust on the surface of a vinyl LP can cause a popping sound when the record is played, and a scratch can cause it to skip or return to a section already played.

In contrast, digital audio recordings convert sound into binary code, consisting of a series of zeros and ones that represent the original sound signals. These digital files are stored in various formats such as MP3 or WAV files, and can be easily copied, edited, and transmitted without losing quality. Digital recordings are known for their accuracy and clarity, experiencing little to no deterioration over time, unlike vinyl LPs. Many fans of digital music feel that analog sound is not as clear as digital; in response, fans of analog say that digital sound lacks the warmth of analog. This may be one reason why more people have become interested in buying vinyl LPs in the last few years. Chairman and CEO of the RIAA Mitch Glazier credits vinyl LPs' stronger sales to its characteristic sound as well as the deeper connection with musicians that listeners feel when playing them.

The increased sales may also be due to the fact that younger people are buying vinyl LPs for reasons other than sound quality. A survey by the International Federation of the Phonographic Industry in 2022 reports that listeners aged 11 to 26 years old are 25% more likely to buy a vinyl LP than other listeners. Half of the young people who buy them do not actually own a record player; it turns out that many are simply attracted to album cover art. It may also be that the recent COVID-19 pandemic forced people to stay at home; since they were not able to go to live music events, many people began collecting vinyl LPs as a new hobby.

Some record companies have been turning their attention to making special-edition albums that appeal to

potential consumers. Luminate Data, the entertainment industry's preeminent data, analytics, and insights company, listed the top ten best-selling vinyl LPs in 2022 in the U.S. The line-up included a mix of younger artists like Taylor Swift and Harry Styles, along with classic albums such as the Beatles' *Abbey Road* (1969), Fleetwood Mac's *Rumours* (1975), and Michael Jackson's *Thriller* (1982). The recorded music industry overall is worth nearly \$16 billion and is constantly changing, but with their sales increasing every year since 2007, it seems that vinyl LPs are here to stay.

問1 According to the first paragraph, _____.

- ア. the RIAA reported on the sales of cassettes
- イ. shellac records were able to hold more music than later formats
- ウ. cassette recordings were the earliest digital format
- エ. recordings of music have been made for less than a century

問2 According to the second paragraph, _____.

- ア. people have been able to download music for over 40 years
- イ. streamed music made up over three quarters of 2018 sales
- ウ. non-digital music's popularity has been dropping in the 2020s
- エ. older formats typically compete well against newer formats

問3 Which of the following best replaces [1] in the second paragraph?

- ア. Needless to say
- イ. Nonetheless
- ウ. Because of this
- エ. Likewise

問4 The purpose of the third paragraph is to _____.

- ア. persuade readers to keep their vinyl LPs clean
- イ. explain why vinyl LPs are still being made
- ウ. outline the characteristics of vinyl LPs
- エ. present vinyl LPs as the best listening format option

問5 In the fourth paragraph, deterioration is closest in meaning to _____.

- ア. loss of quality
- イ. increase in popularity
- ウ. style of music
- エ. change in taste

問6 According to the fourth paragraph, which statement is **NOT** true about digital audio recordings?

- ア. LP fans find them lacking in warmth compared to vinyl LPs.
- イ. Many of their fans claim that they are clearer than vinyl LPs.
- ウ. When they are copied, their quality is often negatively affected.
- エ. They are produced with the use of a two-number code.

問7 According to the fourth paragraph, Mitch Glazier believes that _____.

- ア. digital files are more popular with consumers than vinyl LPs
- イ. listeners experience a greater bond with artists through vinyl LPs
- ウ. high-quality sound is hard to achieve with vinyl LPs
- エ. music on vinyl LPs is as stable as in a digital recording

問8 According to the fifth paragraph, _____.

- ア. people might have sought out vinyl LPs as a new pastime
- イ. consumers of vinyl LPs are limited to a specific age group
- ウ. the COVID-19 pandemic negatively impacted vinyl LPs' popularity
- エ. going to a live concert is trendier than listening to a vinyl LP

問9 Which statement best summarizes the content of the fifth paragraph?

- ア. Data shows that vinyl LPs are popular with people from 11 to 26 years old.
- イ. Some vinyl LP buyers are considering factors other than sound quality.
- ウ. Owning a record player is not necessary for those who buy vinyl LPs.
- エ. The International Federation of the Phonographic Industry did a 2022 survey.

問10 According to the final paragraph, it can be inferred that _____.

- ア. younger artists have little interest in making vinyl LPs
- イ. music executives do not see the need to produce vinyl LPs
- ウ. vinyl LPs may one day overtake other formats in popularity
- エ. the market for vinyl LPs will likely continue to exist

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

- ア. How Are Vinyl LPs Being Manufactured?
- イ. CDs: Keeping Digital Music Alive
- ウ. Vinyl LPs: Why Are They Popular Again?
- エ. The Superior Sound of CDs

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

1. The passage describes two types of analog recordings on physical media.
2. Shellac is a plant-based resin used for making records.
3. Recordings from the 1960s and 70s are now only available as digital downloads.
4. The classic albums named in the text are all over forty years old.

2

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

1. Jim has a lot of different cameras, and he doesn't mind () any of them.
 ア. my using イ. using me ウ. using mine エ. myself using
2. () largest shopping malls in downtown Hong Kong is conveniently located near a subway station.
 ア. One of the イ. One ウ. One of a エ. One of
3. I don't usually like sweet foods, but this cake's popularity is certainly ().
 ア. understand イ. understandably ウ. understandingly エ. understandable
4. I must admit that () he has accomplished as a branch manager is outstanding.
 ア. when イ. which ウ. how エ. what
5. You have to pull this handle to get the machine (); otherwise, it will shut down automatically.
 ア. having worked イ. worked ウ. will work エ. working
6. We use electricity as if it were unlimited; it's time we () thinking about how to rely on other sources of power.
 ア. will start イ. would start ウ. started エ. have started
7. Because of Jack's low score on the math test, his parents have forbidden him () trying out for the track and field team.
 ア. by イ. from ウ. to エ. for
8. I'm very sorry for () to watch your show. My sister just had a baby girl, and I couldn't wait to see my niece.
 ア. not coming イ. will not come ウ. not to have come エ. did not come
9. () his flight, William arrived at the conference too late to give his presentation.
 ア. Missed イ. Has missed ウ. Having missed エ. Misses
10. One thing I told you was that everyone in Europe speaks fluent English, () was my own misconception.
 ア. how イ. which ウ. what エ. that

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、それぞれア～エの中から一つ選びなさい。

1. Listening to English podcasts on the way to work was a fruitful use of Shintaro's time.

ア. exciting イ. productive ウ. clever エ. unique

2. New policies introduced by the team leader have really changed the atmosphere in the office.

ア. technology イ. interest ウ. mood エ. workload

3. Much to the principal's surprise, the class worked quietly with little teacher supervision.

ア. assigning イ. monitoring ウ. demonstrating エ. correcting

4. Some seeds are dispersed by high winds during the dry season.

ア. planted イ. raked ウ. scattered エ. measured

5. Many of the myths that have been collected in this book feature creatures that are immortal.

ア. live forever イ. move quickly ウ. use tricks エ. change shape

6. Living overseas is often a consequence of deciding to work for an international company.

ア. an outcome イ. an ambition ウ. an emergency エ. an intention

7. One amazing aspect of human cells is their ability to regenerate.

ア. restrict themselves イ. release themselves

ウ. resist themselves エ. renew themselves

8. A passport, warm clothes, and contact details were among the items specified.

ア. repeated イ. mentioned ウ. banned エ. delivered

9. Moving from one city to another is always a difficult transition.

ア. accomplishment イ. assignment ウ. arrangement エ. adjustment

10. Although the play was interesting, we felt that its portrayal of women was superficial.

ア. shallow イ. strange ウ. standard エ. selfish

4

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

答えは最も適切なものを、それぞれア～エの中から一つ選びなさい。

Mom: This dining room is a disaster! What are you two doing?

Phillip: We're making a poster, Mom. Don't worry. Serina and I will clean up when we're finished. Sorry, it's a little messy.

Mom: What's the poster for?

Serina: I want to show Daddy why I want a dog.

Mom: A dog? We talked about this, Serina. You're too young to take care of a dog.

Phillip: I suggested the poster, like the ones we're making in my science class at school. I thought if Serina made one, Dad would say yes.

Mom: That's a thoughtful idea Phillip, but it isn't just your father's decision, so a poster won't work.

Serina: But Mom, see this? I have a plan for walking it after school every day. Phillip helped me write out the days of the week to make a schedule. Look, here's a drawing of me walking it.

Phillip: Before you say anything Mom, she's really put effort into her reasons.

Mom: I appreciate that, Phillip, and that you're helping your younger sister, but you two are not the ones who'll be making this decision. Your father was pretty clear that you're too young, Serina, and I...

Serina: I'm going to call it Rex and make a bed for him in the kitchen!

Mom: I think there are more important things to talk about before we give it a name. Taking care of a dog is more than just walking it. Who would take it to the vet if it got sick? Your father is probably worried that you'd just leave the care of the dog to him or me.

Serina: I won't. I'll feed him and give him water every day and teach him to be a good dog. Cross my heart!

Phillip: Mom, remember when I started high school last year and asked about driving lessons? Dad seemed impressed when I showed initiative and started doing more housework. If Serina started helping you more and finished this poster of her plan to take care of a dog herself, Dad might reconsider.

Mom: But you were sixteen. Serina is ten years younger than you. She still needs to be reminded to do her homework.

Serina: I've done my homework every day this week without being told, and when we get the dog, I'll do my homework together with him!

Mom: Oh, I just got a text from your father. He's 20 minutes from home. It won't be easy to convince him, and I'm still not sure if a dog is a good idea.

1. According to the dialogue, what is true about Mom?

- ア. She is curious about what the dog's name will be.
- イ. She is doubtful of Serina's ability to care for a pet.
- ウ. She thinks Serina's poster is enough to convince Dad.
- エ. She believes Dad should take the dog to the vet.

2. According to the dialogue, Serina _____.

- Ⓐ. knows what she wants to call her dog if she gets one
- Ⓑ. does not understand why she needs to have a schedule
- Ⓒ. must persuade her brother to help with her chores
- Ⓓ. has failed to complete any of her homework this week

3. According to the dialogue, Phillip _____.

- Ⓐ. is willing to take the dog to the vet
- Ⓑ. came up with the idea of making a poster
- Ⓒ. feels that Serina should not be given a pet
- Ⓓ. is upset about having to walk the dog

4. According to the dialogue, who will most likely decide whether a pet can be kept or not?

- Ⓐ. Serina
- Ⓑ. Mom
- Ⓒ. Mom and Dad
- Ⓓ. Mom, Dad, and Phillip

Ken: Hey, nice suit! You look great!

Brian: Thanks, but I don't feel great. I've had better days. I had a job interview this morning, but I think I dropped the ball.

Ken: What do you mean? Didn't you prepare for it?

Brian: I did, but I don't have a good feeling about it.

Ken: I'm sure you were fine. Tell me what happened.

Brian: Well, I spent last week researching the company. You know, what they do, how long they've been in business, their corporate mandate—the works. See this notebook? It's filled with my notes.

Ken: Okay. That doesn't sound so bad. What went wrong?

Brian: I woke up early today and got ready, but when I left my house and got to the bus stop, I realized that I'd forgotten my wallet, so I had to go back and get it.

Ken: So, you were late for the interview?

Brian: No, but after running to and from home, I was drenched in sweat by the time I caught the bus.

Ken: I'm sure being sweaty during the interview wasn't a problem.

Brian: Actually, I got to the company about 20 minutes before the interview, so I had a little time to get cleaned up in a bathroom.

Ken: Then what was the problem?

Brian: After taking a few moments to review my notes, it was my turn, so I went in and sat down for the interview. I introduced myself and they asked me what I knew about the company.

Ken: Great! You were already prepared. No problem, right?

Brian: Well, that's where everything went downhill. I completely blanked. The few things I did remember weren't relevant to the position I was applying for.

Ken: Oh. So, you started babbling.

Brian: Yes! Nothing I said made any sense. They probably thought that I'd just checked the company's information at the last minute. Not a great first impression.

Ken: Were you able to answer any of their questions?

Brian: Maybe one or two. I talked about my interest in the products the company makes.

Ken: Well, let's go to that café over there and talk about what you can do about this.

5. When Brian says, "dropped the ball," he most likely means he _____.

- ア. let something fall down
- イ. was overprepared
- ウ. did a bad job
- エ. interviewed a sports player

6. According to the dialogue, why does Brian most likely think that he failed the interview?

- ア. He was too sweaty.
- イ. He arrived too late.
- ウ. He left his notes at home.
- エ. He forgot what to say.

7. According to the dialogue, Ken _____.

- ア. tries to support Brian by asking him for details
- イ. thinks Brian should have applied for a different job
- ウ. scolds Brian for not being sufficiently prepared
- エ. believes that Brian did worse than he realizes

8. According to the dialogue, it can be inferred that _____.

- ア. Brian was not dressed appropriately for the job interview
- イ. Brian knew less about the company than he pretended
- ウ. Ken does not quite understand what Brian's problem is at first
- エ. Ken has little interest in hearing about why Ben is upset

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。それぞれア～エの中から一つ選びなさい。

問1 1. It was first proposed in the early 20th century and has since become widely accepted and studied by geologists and earth scientists.

2. Plate tectonics is a scientific theory that explains the movement of the Earth's crust and the formation of geological features such as mountain ranges and deep sea trenches.

3. In the future, plate tectonics is sure to remain a crucial area of study in earth science, allowing for a better understanding of the dynamics of the Earth's interior and its impact on the planet's surface.

4. Their research has been instrumental in understanding the evolution of the Earth's surface, including the climate and the formation of continents and oceans.

ア. 2 → 1 → 3 → 4 イ. 2 → 4 → 1 → 3

ウ. 2 → 1 → 4 → 3 エ. 2 → 4 → 3 → 1

問2 1. Not only is it essential for baking, but it is also used to produce alcoholic beverages such as wine and beer.

2. Yeast is a microorganism commonly used in culinary applications to make bread.

3. It works by consuming sugar and producing carbon dioxide gas, which causes the bread dough to rise in a process known as fermentation.

4. Apart from these uses in baking, winemaking, and brewing beer, a deactivated form of yeast called nutritional yeast is often used as a seasoning or flavor enhancer in vegetarian and vegan cooking.

ア. 2 → 3 → 1 → 4 イ. 2 → 4 → 1 → 3

ウ. 2 → 3 → 4 → 1 エ. 2 → 4 → 3 → 1

問3 1. Compared to the modern human, they were stouter and shorter, with males averaging 165 cm and females 153 cm in height.

2. Research has suggested that they also may have had complex social structures, highly developed language abilities, and even engaged in artistic expression.

3. Neanderthals were a species of archaic humans who lived in Europe and Western Asia until about 40,000 years ago.

4. Despite these physical differences, like modern humans, Neanderthals were skilled hunters and made use of sophisticated stone tools.

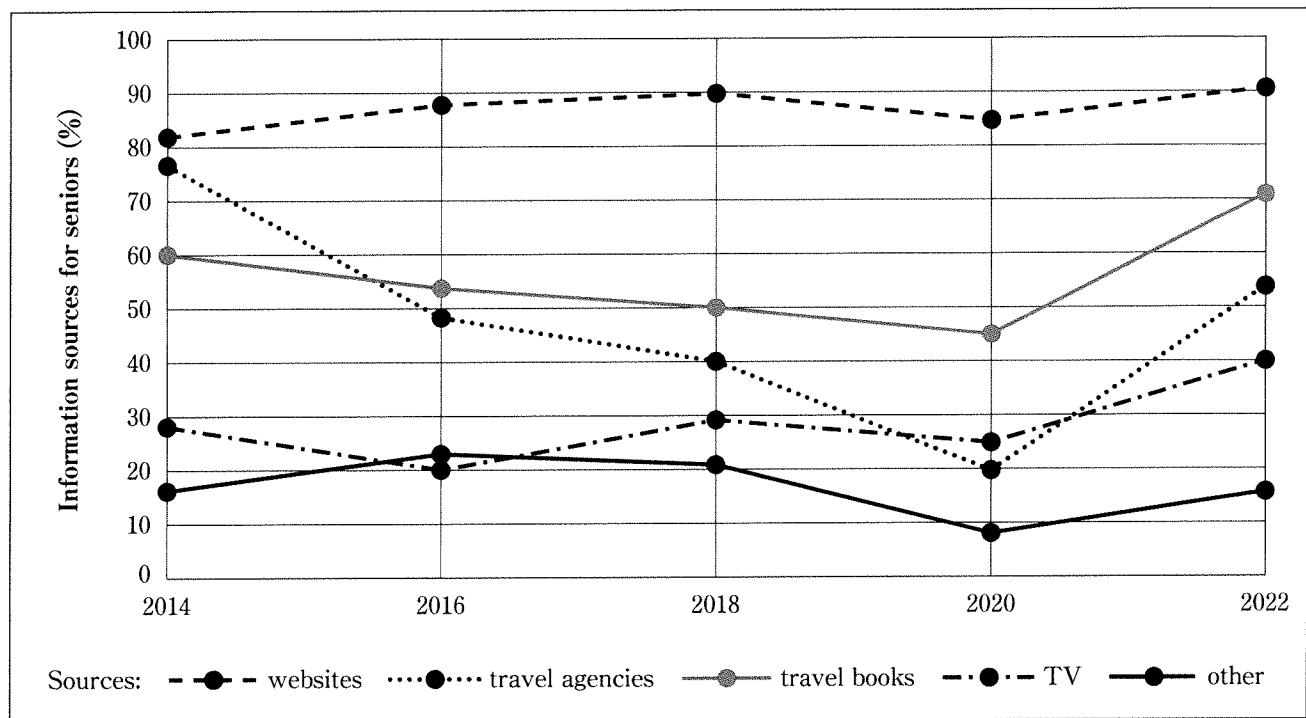
ア. 3 → 1 → 2 → 4 イ. 3 → 4 → 1 → 2

ウ. 3 → 1 → 4 → 2 エ. 3 → 4 → 2 → 1

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。

How Senior Citizens Collect Travel Information in Country X (2014–2022)



――上記のグラフは架空のものです――

The ABC Travel Agency, an industry leader, conducts a survey of 10,000 senior citizens every two years and reports the results on its website. The above line graph shows ABC's survey data from 2014 to 2022 on how seniors in Country X gathered travel information about sightseeing spots before they traveled. Multiple answers were allowed. The horizontal axis shows years, and the vertical axis shows the percentage of seniors who got information from each type of source. According to the data collected, in the first year, websites and (1) were the most popular ways to get travel information. Both travel agencies and travel books showed (2) in popularity from 2014 until 2020. As a source, TV hovered between (3) percent throughout the survey period. However, from 2018 to 2020, there was a decline in the use of (4) sources of travel information.

(1) ア. travel agencies	イ. travel books	ウ. TV	エ. other
(2) ア. no change	イ. increases	ウ. decreases	エ. ups and downs
(3) ア. 0 and 20	イ. 10 and 30	ウ. 20 and 40	エ. 30 and 50
(4) ア. just two	イ. three	ウ. four	エ. all five

