

英語 (リーディング)

各大問の英文や図表を読み、解答番号 ~ にあてはまるものとして最も適切な選択肢を選びなさい。

第1問 (配点 6)

You are an exchange student in the US and you are given a reading assignment in your class. You have to choose a novel to read and now you are reading these book reviews.

Stars Beyond Reach by Aria M. Skyler

Stars Beyond Reach, written in 2016, is a mysterious science fiction novel. In this story, characters go on a space adventure full of mysterious challenges. The book combines the vastness of space exploration with exciting unsolved mysteries, making it interesting for readers with its detailed worlds and surprising story turns. I can't believe this is Skyler's first work! This book is a top pick for those who love space mysteries and stories highlighting people's strengths.

Whispers of the Past by Eloise Hart

Whispers of the Past describes a slightly unusual love story. The main characters find letters that show a love story from 100 years ago that leaves them with a lot of questions. Hart's academic background in linguistics and great imagination result in a smooth and exciting romance novel full of discoveries of hidden secrets, making this book one of the greatest hits of 2018. This book takes you on a trip that demonstrates the strong power of love and old secrets.



The Final Clue by James R. Ellison

The Final Clue is an exciting mystery book from start to end. The main character, Detective Laura Hale, works to solve a difficult mystery in London, making readers think and keeping them interested. This book, which took five years to complete from its start in 2017 to publication, is not only about solving mysteries but also features unique characters and detailed descriptions of London. It will attract a wide range of novel readers as well as mystery enthusiasts this year.

問1 In these book reviews, you can learn that .

- ① in *The Final Clue*, many detectives engage in solving mysteries
- ② James R. Ellison wrote a mystery novel in London
- ③ *Stars Beyond Reach* describes people studying about the universe
- ④ *Whispers of the Past* is not just a simple romance novel

問2 In all three books, you can .

- ① enjoy stories set in places that don't actually exist
- ② find some elements of mystery included
- ③ learn about the strength of humans
- ④ see the moral development of the characters

問3 Which of the following events happened most recently? .

- ① Hart began to study linguistics.
- ② Skyler wrote her first novel.
- ③ *The Final Clue* was published.
- ④ *Whispers of the Past* was written.

第2問 (配点 12)

You are a student studying about films at a university in America and are looking for a streaming service where you can watch movies. You have found the following review about a certain service.

I had to write a report about movies for school, so I decided to try out YouVideo, an online movie service with different plans to choose from.

YouVideo has three plans. No matter which plan you choose, you can access the content available very easily. The "Basic" plan costs \$7.99 a month and gives you access to some old movies and TV shows. It's good if you don't want to spend too much money.

The "Standard" plan is \$12.99 a month. It has more movies to pick from, including new ones and documentaries. With over 1,000 movies available, I had plenty to write about for my report. What's even better is that if you sign up for the Standard plan from the start via the internet, you can enjoy it at the same price as the Basic plan for the first three months.

Then there's the "Premium" plan, which costs \$19.99 a month. It supports even more movies, and the quality of the picture is really good. Plus, you get to see new movies before anyone else and some special behind-the-scenes stuff. It's the best plan if you're a big movie fan.

I tried out the Standard plan first. I liked that it recommended movies based on what I had watched before. It made finding something to write about for my report pretty easy. Having said that, my friend who tried the next plan up has nothing but positive things to say about it, so I'm thinking of upgrading my plan soon, too.

Overall, YouVideo was a big help with my school project. Whether you're just a casual movie watcher or a big fan, there's a plan for you. It's a fun way to explore the world of movies without leaving your house. The ticket for your movie adventure is only a few clicks away!

問1 According to the review, which of the following is true? 4

- ① Even the cheapest plan supports the latest content.
- ② The author is currently paying over \$13 a month for YouVideo.
- ③ The Standard plan may be available for less than two-thirds of the regular price.
- ④ YouVideo is primarily intended to be used by students.

問2 Which is **not** included in the most expensive plan? 5

- ① Bonus videos
- ② Classic television programs
- ③ Downloadable movies
- ④ Nonfiction films

問3 One **opinion** about the service of YouVideo is that 6

- ① some old movies have poor picture quality
- ② the author will not change plans for some time
- ③ the most expensive plan is more than satisfactory
- ④ the three plans offer different amounts of content

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問4 Which benefit offered by the service probably served the author's purpose best?

- ① The service suggests movies that match your interests.
- ② You can access a diverse range of content from home.
- ③ You can use the service quite cheaply.
- ④ You can watch newly released movies as soon as possible.

第3問 (配点 9)

You are going to participate in a Science Camp. To prepare, you are reading a blog written by Ryoya, who took part in it last year.

Kingswood Science Camp on Keystone Island

As part of our school's liberal arts education program, I participated in a three-day Kingswood Science Camp. We were allowed to choose one course from several three-day courses offered. Participants attended one lecture a day for each course. Selecting just one was a challenge because all the courses were so fascinating to me. I decided to take the "Advanced Science Course."

On the first day of the course, we participated in the lecture titled "Searching for a Second Earth," which was the most attractive to me. Mr. Joshua taught us about methods of astronomical observation and how to analyze data from planetary probes and telescopes. At the end of the day, I was excited to observe the night sky with the other participants and him, and look at the sky in a different way from usual.



On the second day, the course introduced the topic "Exploring Black Holes." I had always thought of black holes as something out of a fantasy world, but we analyzed data captured by specially designed small observation devices and learned about the mysteries of black holes. Listening to the sounds emitted by black holes captured by the observation devices was kind of scary, as it was unlike anything I had ever heard before.

On the course's final day, we participated in "Building a Water Treatment Robot." In the morning, we all learned about the structure and mechanism of robots while building one together. It was very educational to learn about mechanisms designed to minimize energy consumption and how to purify water. In the afternoon, we took the robots we made to a nearby lake to operate them. Initially, the lake looked clean, so I thought using the robot was unnecessary. However, operating it showed us how pollution can be invisible to the naked eye.

Since this camp, my curiosity has grown more and more. Having been inspired by what Mr. Joshua taught us on the first day of the course, I've decided to deepen my knowledge in my areas of interest.

問1 Ryoya's blog also included comments from students participating in the same course as him, describing the events of the science camp. Put the comments (① ~ ④) in the order in which the events happened.

8 → 9 → 10 → 11

①

Building the robot was very challenging, but as soon as it was completed, I wanted to operate it immediately!

②

I was shocked to know that the lake I thought was clean was actually polluted, too. We should be more conscious of our environment!

③

I was surprised to find how little we know about the universe. I had had no idea what the sound of black holes was like until then!

④

Observing the stars was more enjoyable with some knowledge about astronomy! This made me want to learn more about celestial bodies.

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問2 From the camp, Ryoya did not learn about 12 .

- ① features of black holes
- ② how to observe stars
- ③ life outside the Earth
- ④ robot mechanics

問3 Now, Ryoya is most likely to be devoted to learning about 13 .

- ① black holes
- ② environmental problems
- ③ public health
- ④ space exploration

第4問 (配点 12)

In English class you are writing an essay on a social issue you are interested in. This is your most recent draft. You are now working on revisions based on comments from your teacher.

Insect Eating	Comments
<p>In recent years, the World Health Organization (WHO) has encouraged people to eat more insects. This recommendation is part of an effort to find sustainable and nutritious food sources to support the growing global population.</p>	
<p>One of the main benefits of eating insects is their nutrition. Insects contain protein and important vitamins and minerals such as iron, calcium, and zinc. For example, crickets have as much protein as beef, but with less fat. Including insects in our diets, especially in developing countries, can help people ⁽¹⁾ <u> </u>.</p>	<p><i>(1) Explain more about "help people" by adding information.</i></p>
<p>Another advantage of eating insects is the small impact on the environment. Raising insects requires less land, water, and food than raising cattle or chickens. Insects also produce less greenhouse gas.</p>	
<p>⁽²⁾ <u> </u> Insects can be fed organic waste, which makes less waste in landfills.</p>	<p><i>(2) Insert a connecting expression here.</i></p>
<p>Despite these benefits, many people hesitate to eat insects. In many Western countries, the idea of eating insects is considered strange or unappetizing. However, ⁽³⁾ <u> </u> that has not always been true in other areas. Educating people about the benefits of insect-eating and offering appealing products can make it more acceptable.</p>	<p><i>(3) The underlined part needs to be more specific. Rewrite it.</i></p>

In conclusion, eating insects offers great benefits ⁽⁴⁾ . It is a step towards addressing global food security challenges and reducing the environmental impact of food production. By embracing insects as a food source, we can create a more sustainable future for everyone.

(4) You should put more information about the benefits based on the context.

Overall Comment:

You are doing great. Keep up the good work. (I am getting interested in insect-eating and have started looking for some information on the Internet! 😊)

問1 Based on comment (1), which is the best information to add? 14

- ① become richer
- ② eat regularly
- ③ grow bigger
- ④ stay healthy

問2 Based on comment (2), which is the best expression to add? 15

- ① additionally,
- ② as a result,
- ③ by contrast,
- ④ however,

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問3 Based on comment (3), which is the most appropriate sentence to rewrite the underlined part? 16

- ① centuries ago, insects were a main part of everyone's diet worldwide
- ② insect-eating has been considered a taboo in some Eastern countries
- ③ insects have been eaten for centuries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America
- ④ people in Latin America and Asia have recently been avoiding eating insects

問4 Based on comment (4), which is the best information to add? 17

- ① like containing vitamins and minerals that are rare in animal meats
- ② like less pollution and less food waste in developed countries
- ③ related to cultural preferences and perceptions in each area
- ④ such as improved nutrition and environmental sustainability

第5問 (配点 16)

Your art club has decided to create a club magazine, so a meeting is scheduled to discuss the plan. Based on the following article and a questionnaire given to members, you make a handout for a group discussion.

Let's Create a Club Magazine

For literary and art clubs, club magazines serve as highly effective platforms for showcasing works and boosting members' motivation for creating. To create an appealing magazine, here are some key points to consider:

Target: This has something to do with the intended readership. The content will differ depending on whether it is targeted towards internal or external audiences. For instance, internal content may include articles introducing club activities, which would be beneficial for recruiting new members. As external content, on the other hand, you could feature award-winning works to showcase the quality of your club's activities.

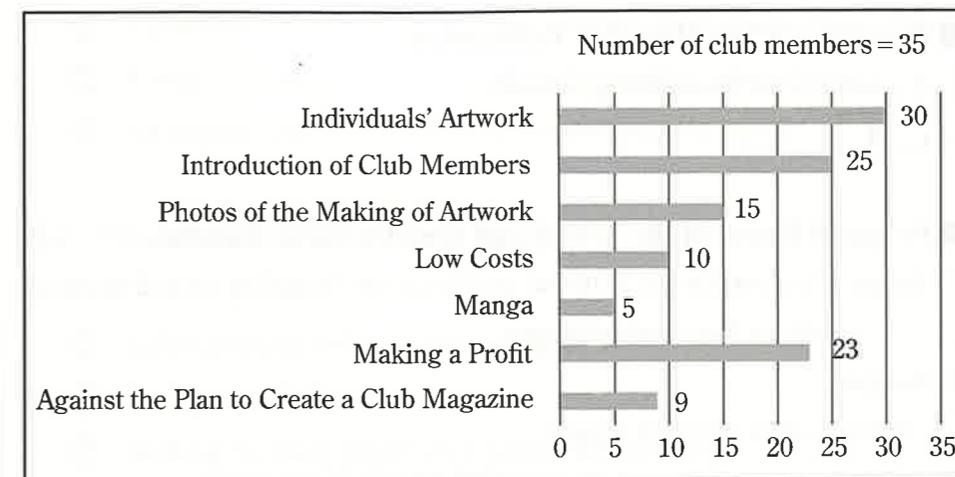
Budget: This primarily involves two aspects. Firstly, publication frequency. Higher frequency enhances the promotional impact of club activities but increases costs and workload. On the other hand, you could also publish only once or twice a year, such as during events like school festivals. Secondly, the printing method. You can save costs by using the school printer to print by yourself, but it requires time and effort. When selling the club magazine at events like school festivals, it's necessary to print a large number of copies, so consider outsourcing printing to a professional printer. Naturally, printing pages in color increases the cost.

Hooks: If you simply list information, you won't make the club magazine appealing. To ensure it's read by many, visual appeal is essential. You can create a visually appealing club magazine by designing the style of letters creatively and paying attention to color schemes and other visual elements. In particular, creating an impactful cover will make it more eye-catching. Including comic stories, illustrations or photos could also be beneficial.

It's important for club members to thoroughly discuss these points and reach a consensus. Activities in art and literary clubs often tend to be individualistic. Creating a club magazine can provide an opportunity for members to collaborate with each other.

Results of the Questionnaire

What do you want regarding the club magazine production?



Other opinions:

Member 1 (M1): If we're going to feature artwork, it's better to use larger photos whenever possible.

M2: I'd like to use the club magazine as a portfolio in the future. Monochrome is not so appealing, so color would be preferable if possible.

M3: I feel frustrated about the time spent making the club magazine. As a third-year student, my time is limited, and I want to focus on creating artwork.

M4: Compared to sports clubs, the art club has a less fun image, so I'd like to incorporate manga or anime illustrations to make the content more enjoyable.

M5: Our club funds are limited, so I think we need to think about how to make a decent profit from selling the magazine.

M6: Quite a few members disagree with the idea of creating a club magazine. If we're going to make one, I want clear role assignments for tasks.

Your handout:

Club Magazine Creation Project

■ Benefits of Club Magazine Publication:

◇ A platform for showcasing artwork

◇ 18

■ Proposal Based on the Article and Questionnaire Results:

◇ Target: Content for an external audience by featuring award-winning entries from competitions.

◇ Budget:

· Publish once or twice a year

· Outsource printing to a professional printer to save time

· 19

■ Hooks Based on the Article:

20

- A. Appealing design for the title logo
- B. Photos of award-winning entries on the cover
- C. Messages from new members
- D. Section for manga or illustrations
- E. Careful arrangement of color

■ Other Issues to Discuss

- As noted by 21's comment, approximately a quarter of the members 22. How should we persuade them?
- Based on the graph and 23's comment, we should consider selling the club magazine at events like cultural festivals to cover the costs.
- If we plan to include manga or illustrations, we need to be cautious about copyright issues.

問1 Choose the best option for 18.

- ① A key to improving budget management skills
- ② A platform for exchanging ideas with art clubs from other schools
- ③ A way to improve members' skills in creating artwork
- ④ An opportunity to stimulate members' creative minds

問2 Choose the best option for 19.

- ① Color printing only for select pages
- ② Hiring a professional designer
- ③ Making as many pages as possible handwritten
- ④ Purchasing necessary equipment

問3 You are checking the handout. You notice an error in the recommendations under 'Hooks Based on the Article.' Which of the following should you remove? 20

- ① A
- ② B
- ③ C
- ④ D
- ⑤ E

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問4 Choose the best options for **21** and **22**.

21

- ① M1
- ② M2
- ③ M3
- ④ M4
- ⑤ M5
- ⑥ M6

22

- ① are against the project
- ② are eager to draw cartoons
- ③ insist on recruiting more members
- ④ want to focus on individual activities
- ⑤ would prefer a group production

問5 Choose the best option for **23**.

- ① M1
- ② M2
- ③ M3
- ④ M4
- ⑤ M5
- ⑥ M6

第6問 (配点 12)

You belong to an English literature club and next week you are going to introduce the following short story to the other members. You are preparing notes for your presentation.

The Moonlit Promise

"You promised you'd never lie to me," Haruka said through her tears.

"Haruka, why are you here?" Kosuke said, surprised.

"I'm sorry Kosuke, but I did what I thought was right," said Shuji.

★★★★★

"Is this yours?" a handsome man spoke to Haruka, holding a smartphone.

"Oh, that's right! It's mine! I have been looking for it for about an hour.

Thanks!"

"My pleasure. I'm Kosuke, by the way. I come to this city library every day and, to tell the truth, I know you do too. That's why I immediately recognized it."

"Ha, that makes sense. Thanks. I'm Haruka. And, truth be told, I've also noticed you have been coming here every day for a month."

So, that's how their relationship started. After this first conversation, they started exchanging emails, and they came to know that they both happened to be majoring in English literature. They also realized that they had a lot in common other than that, and so naturally they became more and more deeply attracted to each other.

★★★★★

"Have you done anything together other than going to the library and studying there?" asked Erina, Haruka's best friend.

"Not really. But he asked me out for dinner at a restaurant his best friend works at. And we have decided on tomorrow."

"I'm looking forward to hearing from you after that!"

★★★★★

"This place is very welcoming, isn't it? Every dish is really amazing, of course."

"True. I'm very proud of Shuji working here. He said it wasn't easy to get this job. Hey Shuji, come over here."

"Hi Kosuke, thanks for coming."

"Haruka, this is Shuji. Shuji, this is Haruka."

"Nice to meet you, Shuji."

"The pleasure is mine. You are exactly as Kosuke described you. He talks a lot about you."

Haruka blushed.

"I hope you're enjoying our restaurant. I have to go back to the kitchen. Today it is rather busy."

After leaving the restaurant, they went to Okusawa Park.

"Haruka, I've been thinking about us for the past couple of weeks, and I have realized that I'm in love with you."

"Kosuke, I love you too. But I want you to make me a promise not to lie to me, no matter what."

"Of course I won't."

★★★★★

"So, how have you been getting along? Do you go on a lot of dates?" Erina asked.

"Yes, quite often. We visit Okusawa Park every day to look at the moon. I've liked looking at the night sky since I was a child."

"And he likes it, too?"

"Yes. And he says his main interest in literature is the way the moon is described in literary works."

★★★★★

Two years into their relationship, Kosuke started to avoid Haruka for reasons she didn't understand, and Kosuke stopped calling her at night, which he had done every day before then. Even when she telephoned him, he wouldn't answer. She couldn't understand what was going on, and her heart was broken. After two weeks of silence, Kosuke called Haruka, saying they were done. He said something about his falling in love with another girl. She was at a loss for words, and couldn't believe their relationship had ended just like that. All she could say was "I get it," even though she didn't at all.

★★★★★

"Thanks for coming," said Kosuke, from the hospital bed.

"Are you OK? I heard you were brought here by ambulance. What happened?" asked Shuji.

"It's a long story. But the thing is, it turns out I have only a few more months to live."

“What? Are you serious? You are just kidding, right?”

The fact was, he wasn't kidding. He had a serious health condition. Since he had learned about it, all he had been thinking about was Haruka. He didn't want to hurt her feelings, and he was wondering what the best way to minimize her shock was. And he finally came to the conclusion that it was best not to tell her about his illness.

“I will tell her I fell in love with someone else because I think it will be easier for her to move on.”

“But I think she deserves to know the truth. Don't you think so?”

★★★★★

“Shuji, you shouldn't have told Haruka about my illness,” Kosuke said.

“You promised you wouldn't tell me any lies!” interrupted Haruka.

“I'm sorry ... I just wanted to protect you.”

A long silence followed.

“I was wrong.” Kosuke finally said after what seemed like ages. Seeing her tears, he now realized his decision to push her away was more about protecting himself from the pain of goodbyes than about sparing her grief. Love, he realized, was about sharing both the joys and the sorrows, no matter how painful.

Haruka nodded, squeezing his hand.

“I will always be with you, Kosuke. We'll face this together, under the moon, just like we always have done.”

In the days that followed, Kosuke and Haruka made the most of their time together. Their love, strengthened by truth and vulnerability, became a testament to the power of facing life's hardest challenges with someone you love by your side.

“I'm very sad, but I'm very happy.” Haruka said. “If I had found out the truth after you were gone, I'm sure I would never have been able to smile again.”

“I know. I owe a lot to Shuji.”

“We owe a lot to him.”

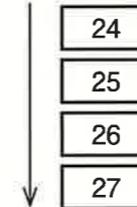
Every night, until the last moment, under the glow of the moon that had first brought them together, Kosuke and Haruka talked and laughed a lot. The moon is, after all, a reminder that even in the darkest times, light can be found.

Your notes:

The Moonlit Promise

Story outline

Kosuke and Haruka talk together for the first time.



Kosuke spends his remaining time with Haruka.

About Kosuke

- He is a college student.
- He majors in literature to explore how the moon is represented in it.

Major turning point

Kosuke decided to avoid Haruka because he wanted to , but he later realized that in reality he did so to .

Interpretation of the story

- Shuji says “I did what I thought was right.” This means Shuji .
- At the end of the story, the author uses the phrase “light can be found.” This probably refers to the fact that .

問1 Choose **four** out of the five events (① ~ ⑤) and rearrange them in the order they happened. → → →

- ① Erina goes to the library to meet Kosuke.
- ② Haruka and Kosuke visit the restaurant Shuji works at.
- ③ Kosuke confesses his love to Haruka at Okusawa Park.
- ④ Kosuke tells Haruka that he will break up with her.
- ⑤ Shuji learns about Kosuke's illness.

問2 Choose the best options for and .

- ① go on a date with another girl
- ② keep his promise not to tell a lie
- ③ make sure Haruka remembers him forever
- ④ protect Haruka from the pain of losing him
- ⑤ spare himself the suffering of saying goodbye

問3 Choose the best option for .

- ① hid Kosuke's true intentions from Haruka
- ② invited Haruka to the restaurant where he worked
- ③ lied to Haruka about Kosuke's feelings
- ④ told Haruka what Kosuke was going through

問4 Choose the best option for .

- ① Haruka felt she understood the meaning of the moon
- ② Kosuke and Haruka enjoyed their time together
- ③ Kosuke and Haruka had a good friend
- ④ Kosuke had met the best girl in the world

第7問 (配点 16)

You are preparing for an international academic presentation contest, using the following passage from a website.

Silkworms and Civilization: From Ancient Silk to Modern Science

The silkworm is the young form of a moth known scientifically as *Bombyx mori*. The life of the silkworm begins with a tiny egg. After the egg hatches, the larva, commonly called the silkworm, emerges. It then spins a cocoon, a protective layer from which the silk thread is made. After some time, the larva becomes a pupa inside the cocoon. This is the step before it turns into a moth, its final stage.

Silkworms have many interesting biological characteristics. They need a warm place to live and must eat a lot of mulberry leaves to grow well. If they are cared for properly, they will produce better silk. For many years, humans have selected silkworms that are good at making silk but not so good at living on their own, so they have lost their ability to survive in the wild. They have wings when they become moths, but they can hardly fly. Silkworm moths cannot eat or drink as they lack a mouth. Their only purpose is to reproduce (lay eggs), and they die about a week after turning into moths. These characteristics are not good for living outside of silk farming, but they make silkworms very useful for making silk.

The relationship between silk and human beings has a long history. According to a legend, the production of silk began in ancient China when a woman discovered silk. While she was drinking tea under a mulberry tree, a cocoon fell into her cup and began to unfold, exposing the shining silk thread. Moved by its beauty and strength, she began to grow silkworms, marking the birth of silk farming. Although this story might only be a legend, people in China have been making silk for more than 5,000 years. They have carefully raised silkworms and changed them to produce better silk. This is one of the earliest instances of humans using nature for their benefit.

The Middle East and Europe later began to use silk for furniture, carpets, and clothing. However, China kept silk production techniques secret in order

to benefit a lot from international trade. This contributed to the development of the Silk Road, which allowed people in different countries to share goods, ideas, and cultures. Silk was a key part of this exchange, showing how important it was in many cultures.

Today, silkworms are also playing an essential role in the field of science. Their simple DNA is perfect for research that helps solve complex biological mysteries. Scientists are using silkworms in biotechnology to make new kinds of silk for medical and industrial uses. One example is to create silkworms that can produce silk as strong as spider silk. The usefulness of silkworms also extends to medicine. A type of silk that is easily absorbed by the human body has been developed. It will help deliver medicine more effectively to where it is needed in the body.

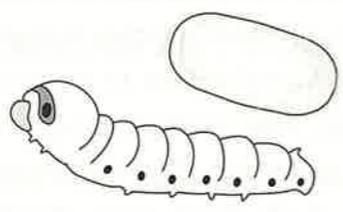
Despite the many benefits of silk, its production faces challenges. Silkworms mainly consume mulberry leaves, and extensive mulberry farming can affect local ecosystems and harm other plants and animals. In addition, the intensive use of water and land to grow mulberry trees is a concern, creating a need for more environmentally friendly silk production methods. Researchers are exploring ways to grow mulberry trees more efficiently, using less space and water. They are also working to develop artificial silk that resembles natural silk but does not rely on silkworms or mulberry trees, thus reducing the environmental impacts of silk production.

While we take great advantage of silk, we have a responsibility to consider how it affects the silkworm. The traditional silk-making process is ethically questionable because it requires boiling the cocoon, which kills the silkworm. From the perspective that every living organism should have the right to have a life of its own, attention has been focused on methods to produce silk in a way that is kinder to the silkworm. For example, some producers allow the moth to leave the cocoon before they use it for silk.

Despite these problems, silkworms will continue to be important in adding value to our world. Therefore, we should try to choose silk that is produced in a way that's good for the planet and fair to silkworms. Buying silk products that say they were made without using or harming silkworms can help. Every small choice we make can lead to big positive changes for our environment and the silkworms.

Presentation slides:

Silkworms and Civilization:
From Ancient Silk to Modern Science



1

Characteristics

The silkworm ...

- produces silk.
-
- cannot live in the wild.
- has been raised by humans for centuries.

2

History

Silk ...

- originated in China.
- dates back over 5,000 years.
- was long kept hidden in China.
- was used for trade.
- had an influence on many cultures.

3

Science

4

Challenges

To be more environmentally friendly, researchers are trying hard to ...

-
-

5

Closing Remark

6

問1 What is the second characteristic of the silkworm on Slide 2?

- cannot fly well as a moth.
- lays eggs as a pupa.
- makes a cocoon as a moth.
- prefers a cold climate.

問2 Which is an error you have found on Slide 3?

- A
- B
- C
- D
- E

問3 What can be inferred about the use of silkworms in scientific research for Slide 4?

- Researchers are working to improve the silkworm's survival in its natural environment.
- Scientists prefer to use complex creatures with sophisticated DNA for biological studies rather than silkworms.
- Silkworm research has created a kind of silk that will greatly help make drug treatment successful.
- The primary goal of studying silkworms is to increase silk production for economic benefit.

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問4 Choose two options for Slide 5. (The order does not matter.)

35

36

- ① create artificial mulberry trees.
- ② make silk without using silkworms.
- ③ make silkworms grow faster.
- ④ raise mulberry trees in wider spaces.
- ⑤ use less water to grow mulberry trees.

問5 Choose the most appropriate remark for Slide 6. 37

- ① If you wear silk clothes, you give others the impression that you are wealthy.
- ② The importance of silk in science justifies its impact on the environment.
- ③ The silk industry should drastically reduce the production of silk for ethical reasons.
- ④ To continue to benefit from silk, sustainable and ethical production is necessary.
- ⑤ Traditional silk production methods are more eco-friendly than modern ones.

第8問 (配点 17)

You are working on an essay about whether companies should encourage their employees to telework or to come back to the office. You will follow the steps below.

Step 1: Read and understand various viewpoints about teleworking.

Step 2: Take a position on companies' attitudes toward teleworking.

Step 3: Create an outline for an essay using additional sources.

[Step 1] Read various sources

Author A (Male in his 20s)

I used to do most things using my mobile phone, so I only knew the basics of computer-related work. However, because of remote work during the pandemic, I had to learn how to use technology related to teleworking. This has made me better at using digital communication tools. I had a hard time when I started teleworking, but I believe these important skills provide me with long-term benefits for professional development. I now have confidence in my skills, but teleworking all the time bores me a bit.

Author B (Female in her 20s)

When I work from home, I must say it is hard to separate my job and my personal life. As my home is also my workplace, I can work at any time. I find it difficult to "switch off" from work. This can result in working for more hours or all the time. I am always thinking about my job and feel mentally exhausted. Establishing clear distinctions between our professional and personal lives is crucial for our total well-being. I am experiencing some mental problems. I prefer to work in the office.

Author C (Female in her 30s)

Not having to travel to work every day saves time and makes me less stressed. This helps me have a better balance between work and my personal life. I can spend more time with my children than when I had to work in the office five days a week. Working from home also gives me a lot of flexibility. It means I can set up my workplace the way I like it. This can increase productivity, as people who do this usually feel comfortable and can concentrate more. This leads to better relationships between the company managers and employees.

Author D (Male in his 30s)

I think people may miss out on the social aspects of the workplace without daily interactions with their colleagues. This lack of face-to-face communication can negatively affect teamwork where it is needed, and little communication in everyday life potentially impacts people's health of both mind and body. I miss the lively atmosphere of my office that I took for granted before the pandemic. Working from home often makes me feel isolated and cut off from others, or even the world. I sometimes experience depression.

Author E (Male in his 40s)

Working from home does good for the environment. It results in fewer carbon emissions and less reliance on a single central area. If fewer people commute, there is less traffic and the overall carbon footprint decreases. Teleworking also helps reduce congestion in city centers and spreads economic activity to different areas. If I can continue working from home, not commuting for long distances will not only reduce my stress but also give me the option of living in the quiet countryside.

問1 Both Authors B and D mention that 38.

- ① teleworking may affect people's mental health negatively
- ② teleworking may challenge people's time-management skills
- ③ teleworking may help people develop skills in modern digital technologies
- ④ teleworking may lead to a reduction in work-life balance issues

問2 Author E implies that .

- ① being able to live in the countryside due to teleworking relieves physical and mental problems
- ② parents working from home can spend more time with their children because there is no need to commute
- ③ working from home encourages people to be more creative and results in more personal wealth
- ④ working from home is an environmentally effective practice because of fewer people commuting to urban areas

[Step 2] Take a position

問3 Now that you understand the various viewpoints, you have taken a position on whether companies should encourage their employees to telework or come back to the office, and have written it out as below. Choose the best options to complete — . (You must have all of — correct to get points.)

Your position: Companies should encourage their employees to telework.

- Authors and support your position.
- An argument shared by the two authors: .

Options for and (The order does not matter.)

- ① A
- ② B
- ③ C
- ④ D
- ⑤ E

Options for

- ① Working from home encourages people to communicate with their neighbors more often
- ② Working from home enhances people's productivity, which increases the company's profits
- ③ Working from home helps ease the stress that you experience if you commute to work
- ④ Working from home saves money and time on commuting, helping people start new hobbies

[Step 3] Create an outline using Sources A and B

Outline of your essay:

Companies should encourage their employees to telework

Introduction

After the pandemic, many people are now coming back to their offices, but companies should allow their employees to work from home as much as possible.

Body

Reason 1: [From Step 2]

Reason 2: [Based on Source A]

Reason 3: [Based on Source B]

Conclusion

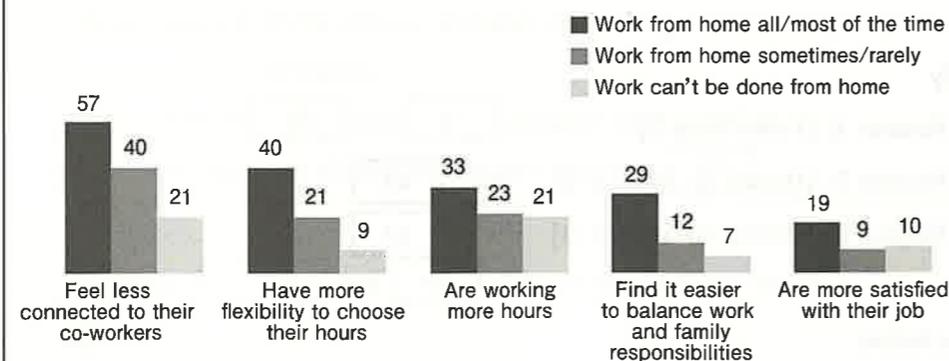
Teleworking provides a solution to a negative work-life balance, enhancing the well-being of individuals and contributing positively to the environment.

Source A

Various studies and reports have indicated positive environmental changes during the pandemic. A significant decrease in transportation, industrial, and other human-related activities was seen in many regions during lockdowns and travel restrictions. This led to a temporary reduction in carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions and air pollution. NASA's satellite data showed reductions in air pollution over major cities worldwide during periods of lockdown. A study published in an academic journal estimated a global carbon emission reduction of 17% during the peak of lockdowns in April 2020 compared to previous periods. Reduced human activities also allowed for some ecosystems to recover. There were reports of wildlife coming back to the areas that had been heavily taken over by humans. Restrictions on transportation and industrial activities brought benefits to people living in urban areas such as decreased noise pollution.

Source B

Employed U.S. adults who are working in the same job as before the COVID-19 outbreak were surveyed in October 2020. Here are the percentages of workers who agreed with the statements below about how they feel compared with before the outbreak.



Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Oct. 13-19, 2020.
"How the Coronavirus Outbreak Has - and Hasn't - Changed the Way Americans Work"

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問4 Based on Source A, which of the following is the most appropriate for Reason 2? 43

- ① An academic journal reported that there were 17% fewer human activities during the severe lockdowns in 2020 than during the previous year.
- ② Reduced human-related activities saw a decrease in CO₂ emissions and pollution, and even benefits for some wild animals.
- ③ The technology of utilizing satellites developed by NASA started to be used in telecommunication necessary for teleworking.
- ④ With fewer human-related activities, residents of cities didn't receive any benefits but animals and the environment did.

問5 For Reason 3, you have decided to write, "Compared with people who can't work from home, the people who can have experienced more positive effects on their private lives." Based on Source B, which option best supports this statement? 44

- ① About one third of those who can't telework work more hours, while only about one fifth of the people who work from home all or most of the time do so, which is the smallest percentage.
- ② Compared with those who can't telework, the percentage of people working from home all or most of the time who enjoy more flexibility to choose their hours is more than four times.
- ③ Less than 50% of those who work from home all or most of the time feel disconnected from their co-workers, which explains why they are twice as satisfied with their jobs as those who can't telework.
- ④ Many people who can work from home, whether rarely, sometimes, most, or all of the time, find it easier to balance work and family responsibilities, with more than 50% of them in total reporting this tendency.