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中 3 甲陽 PLUS

英文精読

～英検 2 級の過去問を精読する～

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【1】 〔長文読解〕

Growing Up in Australia

Since 2004, Australia has been **holding** its largest study of children's health ever. This project, "Growing Up in Australia," is tracking two groups of children from early childhood until they become adults. ①The project is being **funded** by the Australian government and **involves** hundreds of researchers visiting the homes of 10,000 children. Researchers hope to find a relationship between the children's future behavior and their health, education, and family environments.

When the study began, the first group of children was aged 0-1, while the second group was aged 4-5. ②In order to **make sure** that children from every kind of environment and background were chosen, the study found volunteers from each **region**. Some of these locations are in the countryside, where there are **relatively** few people, while others are in big cities. The volunteers for both groups were chosen from a variety of different social and ethnic backgrounds to **represent** the **diversity** of Australia.

The researchers visit the participants' homes every two years to **gather** data. They interview the parents about parenting styles and the child's daily activities. They also take measurements of the children's health and how well the children **perform** in school. ③The researchers also take note of social factors, such as the

income of the child's family, the school the child attends, and the kind of community in which the child lives. They plan to use all of this information to **improve** children's lives.

Although the study has not been **completed** yet, researchers have already begun to publish some interesting results. For instance, after examining data from the second group of children when they were 10-11 years old, ④ researchers found that children who spend a lot of time doing **organized** activities, such as music lessons or sports, have good control of their **emotions** and behavior. The study also found that they are able to complete their homework without their parents around. On the other hand, it found that children who watch a lot of television get **upset** easily and have worse behavior. The Australian government is now using this information to make better educational and health policies for Australian children.

【1】 hold[hóuld] 「...を行う」 track[trák] 「...を追跡する」 involve[invól] 「...に関与する」 make sure that SV 「SVを確保する」 background[ˈbæk, graʊnd] 「背景」「バックグラウンド」 volunteer[vólentíər] 「ボランティア」 region[rí:dʒən] 「領域」 location[loukéjən] 「ロケーション」 relatively[rélatívl] 「比較的」 ethnic[éθnik] 「民族的(的)」 represent[réprízént] 「...を表す」 diversity[divəˈrsəti] 「多様性」 participant[pɑ:rtísəpənt] 「参加者」 gather[ˈgæðər] 「...を集める」 interview[íntərvju:] 「インタビューする」 measurement[mézərmənt] 「測定」 take note of... 「...に注意してください」 factor[fáktər] 「要因」 income[ínceim] 「所得」 improve[ímˈpruv] 「...を改善する」 complete[kəmplí:t] 「...を完遂する」 publish[páblɪʃ] 「...を発行する」 organize[ɔ:rgənàiz] 「...を体系化する」 emotion[ímóujən] 「感情」 upset[ʌpsét] 「動揺させる」

【2】 《長文読解 入門②》

【1】 [長文読解]

Educating Finns

① Finland, a country in northern Europe, has been ranked as having the highest quality of life in the world. In particular, Finland has been attracting attention for the success of its schools. Since 2000, the country often **appears** near the top of an international survey of educational standards called PISA. This **survey measures** the academic level of 15-year-olds around the world in science, math, and reading once every three years.

② What surprises many people about Finland's success is that the country is so different from the others that come at the top of the survey. Those countries' schools generally **emphasize** competition between students and between schools, and they often have long hours of study, much homework, and frequent tests. The success of this educational style has **led to** more countries introducing such competition into their own education systems. Finland, however, has taken a different **approach** to education.

The Finnish government **requires** no standard textbooks or tests. Rather, teachers are allowed to plan lessons using whatever materials they think will be best for their students. Moreover, students are not required to do much homework. In fact, the average 15-year-old studies less than 30 minutes outside of school each day. A student's academic performance does not **affect** which

classes or schools that student attends, and the country has almost no private schools. ③All these policies are the opposite of those being adopted by other countries. The aim of this system is to promote equality between students instead of focusing on high scores.

In order to create equal opportunities for each student, the Finnish government relies greatly on individual teachers and trusts them to make the best decisions for their classes. These teachers are, in turn, rewarded with high salaries and social status. This creates strong competition for teaching jobs, so only the most highly trained and qualified candidates can become teachers. This focus on students' needs and high-quality teaching has led to Finland's success. Seeing the strong results of these methods, some countries have begun to take a second look at their approach to teaching. ④Although education systems vary from one country to the next, all governments share the desire to provide the best education they can to their students.

【1】Finland[ˈfɪn.lənd]「フィンランド」rank[ræŋk]「ランクを付ける」attract[əˈtrækt]「引き付ける」appear[əˈpɪr]「現れる」survey[ˈsɜr.veɪ]「調査」measure[ˈmeɪʒər]「...を計る」academic[ækəˈdɛmɪk]「アカデミック」generally[ˈdʒenərəli]「一般的に」emphasize[ˈɛmfə.saɪz]「...を強調する」competition[kəmpeɪˈtɪʃən]「競争」frequent[ˈfrikwənt]「頻繁な」educational[ˌɛdʒəˈkeɪʃənəl]「教育的な」approach[əˈprəʊtʃ]「手法、アプローチ」government[ˈgʌvənmənt]「政府」require[ˈrɪˈkwaɪər]「要求する」standard[ˈstændərd]「標準」material[məˈtɪriəl]「材料」average[ˈævərɪdʒ]「平均てきな、平均の」performance[pərˈfɔrməns]「性能」affect[əˈfekt]「...に影響を与える」private[ˈpraɪvət]「私的な、プライベート」opposite[ˈɒpəzət]「反対」adopt[əˈdɒpt]「採用する」aim[em]「目的」promote[prəˈmoot]「...を促進する」instead of[ɪnˈsted]「...の代わりに」focus on[ˈfʊkəs]「焦点を合わせる」individual[ˌɪndəˈvɪdʒəwəl]「個々の」reward[rɪˈwɔrd]「褒賞を与える」qualify[ˈkwɒləˌfaɪ]「資格を与える」candidate[ˈkændɪdeɪt]「候補者」provide[prəˈvaɪd]「提供する」

【3】 《長文読解 入門③》

【1】 [長文読解]

The Handwriting Debate

The development of computers has had a huge effect on society. **As a result**, many schools around the world have introduced computer classes, and some **encourage** students to use computers in other classes, too. ①This not only allows students to take notes and complete assignments more quickly but also helps them gain the skills they need for jobs they will do in the future. However, the new focus on computer skills means that many schools in developed countries are spending much less time teaching students how to write by hand.

②Surveys show that many parents are concerned about the fact that their children spend so little time developing good handwriting skills. In the past, learning good handwriting was **considered** a necessary part of a good education, and these parents feel children are losing an important skill. However, some education experts say such parents are too focused on the past. The world has changed, they say, and typing is now more important than writing by hand.

On the other hand, recent research has shown that writing by hand may help people learn more quickly. Karin James, a psychologist at Indiana University in the United States, studied the brains of children when they were writing letters by hand and

when they were typing. ③ She found that children who wrote letters by hand used an additional three parts of the brain that children who were typing did not. Virginia Benninger, a psychologist at the University of Washington, also found that the brain was more active when writing by hand than when using a keyboard. **Even more importantly**, she found that when children wrote by hand, they used a wider range of **vocabulary** and expressed more complex ideas.

Handwriting is also important because it increases the hand's strength and **flexibility**. **In particular**, it **strengthens** the small muscles in the hand and allows people to make very accurate, small movements. This can be very important in certain jobs, such as for doctors who perform operations. ④ All this research **suggests** that schools should think again before focusing entirely on having children use computer keyboards to write.

【1】provide[prə'vaɪd] 「提供する」development[dɪ'veləpmənt] 「開発」introduce[ɪn'trɒdʒuːs] 「紹介する」encourage[ɪn'kɔːrɪdʒ] 「奨励する」complete[kəm'pliːt] 「完璧な」assignment[ə'saɪnmənt] 「課題、割り当て」gain[geɪn] 「獲得する」survey[sə'veɪ] 「調査」concerned[kən'sɜːnd] 「心配している」handwriting['hændraɪtɪŋ] 「手書き」consider[kən'sɪdər] 「考える」necessary[nɛ'sesəri] 「必要な」focus on A[ˈfóukəs] 「A に焦点を当てる」psychologist[saɪkə'lɒdʒɪst] 「心理学者」additional[ə'dɪʃənəl] 「追加の」active[æktɪv] 「活動的な」「アクティブな」range[rɛɪndʒ] 「範囲」vocabulary[vəʊkə'bjuːləri] 「語彙」express[ɪks'prɛs] 「表現する」complex[kəm'plɛks] 「複雑な」flexibility[flɛksə'bɪləti] 「柔軟性」particular[pə'tɪkjʊlə] 「特定の」accurate[ækjʊrət] 「正確な」operation[ɒpə'reɪʃən] 「操作」suggest[sə'dʒɛst] 「提案する」

【4】 《長文読解 入門④》

【1】 [長文読解]

3-D Printing

Many people have had the experience of dropping a cell phone. If they need to replace a broken piece of the cover, they **either** have to call the manufacturer **or** visit the store where they bought the phone. ① But in a few years, people may turn to an invention that allows them to create their own replacement parts at home — the 3-D printer.

The most obvious difference between 3-D printers and traditional printers is that 3-D printers can produce three-dimensional objects. While traditional printers use paper and ink, 3-D printers reproduce objects using materials such as powdered nylon and aluminum. 3-D printers print out a series of thin layers. These layers are then joined together by heat and pressure to form a 3-D object. The design for the object can be downloaded from the manufacturer's website. ② Thus, rather than search for a replacement for a broken cell-phone cover, people would simply use the design to print out the object on their 3-D printer.

Industry has been making use of 3-D printers for years. Their most common use has been to make parts for cars, airplanes, and other products that are still being developed and tested. However, 3-D printers **have recently been gaining** popularity among designers and architects, who use them to create complex models

of products and buildings. ③ Doctors also rely on them to make realistic models of the human body to help them prepare for difficult operations.

The increasing popularity of 3-D printers is mainly due to reductions in price. Industrial 3-D printers used to cost as much as \$100,000 each, but companies are now developing smaller, more affordable 3-D printers for personal use. A U.S. company plans to sell 3-D printers to home users at a price of \$4,995. This will put the printer within the reach of many individual consumers. And ④ as the price continues to fall, it may not be long before people are “printing out” toothbrushes, toys, drinking glasses, and other household items on their 3-D printer.

【1】 replace[ripléis] 「…を取り替える」 either[í:ðər] 「いずれか」 manufacturer[nju:ʔæktʃərər] 「生産者」 invention[invénʃən] 「発明」 traditional[trədiʃən] 「伝統的な」 three-dimensional[diménʃənl] 「三次元」 reproduce[reproduce] 「…を再現する」 material[mətiəriəl] 「素材」 nylon[náilon] 「ナイロン」 aluminum[əlú:mənəm] 「アルミニウム」 layer[léiər] 「層」 download[ˈdaʊn,lɒd] 「ダウンロードする」 industry[ɪndəstri] 「産業」 popularity[pəpjulærəti] 「人気」 architect[á:rkətèkt] 「建築家」 complex[kəmpléks] 「複雑な」 rely on[riˈlaɪ] [ən] 「…に頼る」 realistic[ri:əlístik] 「現実的な」 prepare for[prɪpéər] 「…を用意する」 due to[du] 「…が原因で」 affordable[əfəˈrdəbl] 「手頃な」 consumer[kənsú:mər] 「消費者」 continue[kəntínju:] 「継続する」

【5】 《長文読解 入門⑤》

【1】 [長文読解]

Professional Patients

People who **run businesses** are always trying to improve the service they give customers. One type of company that can **help them do** this is now becoming popular all over the world. This type of company sends people called “secret shoppers” to visit stores and restaurants and pretend to be ordinary customers. ①In reality, however, the secret shoppers are there to check on the quality of the service being offered. Later, the “shoppers” write a report to help the business identify areas that need to be improved. Now, a similar type of company is employing “secret patients” to do the same thing for medical clinics.

As the name suggests, secret patients visit a doctor or dentist’s clinic — perhaps for a checkup or pretending to be sick — and then provide feedback on their experience there. ②Research suggests that about two-thirds of patients’ complaints concerning medical clinics are related to poor customer service rather than to the actual medical treatment provided. With this in mind, secret patients observe everything from the behavior of the doctors and the nursing staff to how clean the waiting room is. One problem with using secret patients is that some staff members might **feel as if** someone is spying on them. To avoid this clinics often tell their staff in advance that a secret patient will be visiting, but they

usually do not reveal the exact day of the visit.

Clinics that have used this service have been positive about the results. Jodi Manfredi, the president of a San Francisco-based company called Examine Your Practice, **points out** that doctors want their patients to keep coming back. ③By improving things, they can make patients' visits more pleasant and so encourage them to return in the future. According to Manfredi, this is much cheaper than advertising a clinic in the media. Some clinics have also begun to reward staff members who receive praise from secret patients. In this way, secret patients can help both visitors and the staff at clinics.

【1】run[rʌn] 「…を経営する」improve[imprú:v] 「…を改善する」customer[kʌstəmər] 「顧客」popular[pópjuələr] 「人気の」pretend[príténd] 「…のふりをする」ordinary[ɔːrdənəri] 「普通の」identify[aidéntəfài] 「…を識別する」similar[símələr] 「同様の」patient[péifənt] 「患者」provide[prəváid] 「…を提供する」suggest[səgdzést] 「…を提案する」complaint[kəmpléint] 「苦情」concerning[kənsəːrniŋ] 「…に関して」observe[əbzəːrv] 「…を観察する」behavior[bihéivjər] 「行動」reveal[rivi:l] 「…を明らかにする」pleasant[plézənt] 「楽しい」encourage[inkəːridʒ] 「…を奨励する」advertise[ədvertàiz] 「…を広告する」reward[riwɔːrd] 「報酬」

【6】 《長文読解 入門⑥》

【1】 [長文読解]

A Forest Partnership

During the 1980s and 1990s, large timber companies in California bought many of the state's forests to cut them down for wood. ① This led to what became known as the “timber wars,” in which environmental groups fought to stop the timber companies. People who lived near the forests also worried about the damage that **was being done**. However, since many local residents **depended on** the timber companies **for** their jobs, they often opposed the environmental groups. Recently, though, some local environmentalists and people from timber companies have **put aside** their differences and started working together. They have formed a nonprofit organization called the Redwood Forest Foundation Inc. (RFFI) to buy a forest that has been damaged by logging and manage it **for the good of** local people.

In 2007, the RFFI bought 50,635 acres of the Usal Redwood Forest in northwest California for \$65 million. The deal **was made possible** by a loan from Bank of America that covered the entire sum. ② It is unusual for a bank to lend so much money to a nonprofit organization, but the bank made the loan as part of its new environmental policy. Furthermore, it **is allowing the RFFI a long period of time** to pay back the money and will not charge as much interest as usual.

The RFFI plans to restore the Usal Redwood Forest to its natural state. For eight years, it will not cut down any trees. After that, logging will start again, but it will be strictly controlled. One of the conditions of the loan from Bank of America was that no more than 3 percent of the forest can be used for logging in any year. This will provide employment for local people, and the income from the logging will help the RFFI repay the loan. Art Harwood, the president of the RFFI, believes that his group shows how loggers and environmentalists can cooperate in a way that is to everybody's advantage.

【1】 timber[ˈtɪmbə] 「木材」 environmental[ɪnvəɪənməntl] 「環境」 resident[rɛzɪdənt] 「居住者」
 oppose[əˈpəʊz] 「…に反対する」 nonprofit[nɒnˈprɒfɪt] 「非営利の」 organization[ɔːrgənɪzɪʃən] 「組織」
 log[lɒg] 「伐採する」 loan[lóun] 「貸し付け、ローン」 policy[páləsi] 「政策」 interest[ɪntərəst] 「利子」
 restore[rɪstəˈr] 「復興する、回復する」 natural[nætʃərəl] 「自然の」 no more than 「…にすぎない」
 provide[prəˈvaɪd] 「…を提供する」 income[ɪnkʌm] 「収入」「所得」 repay[rɪˈpeɪ] 「返済」
 cooperate[kəʊˈɒpəreɪt] 「協力する」 to … advantage[ædvəntɪdʒ] 「…に有利な」