

Name: _____ / Date: __/__/__ Score: __ / 3 🕒 12 min

以下の英文を読んで、本文の内容と一致するものを①～⑧の中から 3 つ選びなさい。

The Growing Role of Community Gardens

In many cities, empty land is being transformed into community gardens. These gardens are usually managed by local residents, schools, charities, or neighborhood organizations. People may grow vegetables, fruit, herbs, and flowers in individual plots or shared spaces. At first, community gardening may appear to be little more than a pleasant hobby. However, supporters argue that it can improve access to fresh food, strengthen relationships among residents, provide educational opportunities, and make neglected areas more attractive.

One possible benefit is increased access to fresh produce. In some urban neighborhoods, supermarkets selling affordable fruit and vegetables are difficult to reach. Small local stores may offer mostly packaged food, while traveling to a larger supermarket may require a car or a long bus journey. A community garden cannot supply all the food that residents need, but it can provide seasonal produce and encourage people to eat a wider variety of vegetables. Gardeners may also share extra food with neighbors or local food banks.

Community gardens can also create opportunities for social contact. City residents may live close to one another without ever having a meaningful conversation. In a shared garden, people work beside neighbors of different ages and backgrounds. They exchange advice, lend tools, and solve practical problems together. These repeated interactions may gradually build trust. For older adults or people who live alone, regular visits to a garden may also reduce feelings of social isolation.

The educational value of community gardens is especially important for children. Students can observe how seeds develop, learn why insects are necessary for some plants, and understand how weather affects food production. Gardening can also make subjects such as science and mathematics more concrete. For example, students may measure plant growth, compare soil conditions, or calculate how much water a garden requires. Such activities connect classroom knowledge with direct experience.

Nevertheless, community gardens should not be presented as a complete solution to food poverty. The amount of food produced is often limited, particularly in small urban spaces. Crops may fail because of disease, extreme weather, or lack of experience. In addition, not everyone has enough time, physical strength, or interest to take part in gardening. Larger social problems, including low income and unequal access to supermarkets, require broader economic and political action.

Land quality may create another difficulty. Some empty urban sites were previously used by factories or covered with buildings. As a result, the soil may contain harmful substances such as lead. Before food is grown, the soil should be tested, and raised beds containing clean soil may be necessary. Gardens also require a reliable water supply, secure storage for tools, and continued maintenance. Beginning a garden may be exciting, but keeping it successful over many years requires organization and money.

The future of a community garden often depends on who owns the land. A garden may improve an unused site for several years, only to disappear when the owner decides to construct apartments or offices there. Gardeners who have invested time and effort may have little legal power to prevent development. For this reason, some communities seek long-term agreements with landowners or ask local governments to protect important garden spaces. Stable access to land allows residents to plan beyond a single growing season.

Community gardens are therefore valuable, but their value should be understood realistically. They cannot replace supermarkets, public welfare programs, or national food policies. They can, however, produce fresh food, support learning, strengthen neighborhood relationships, and give residents a greater sense of responsibility for their surroundings. When safe land, proper resources, and long-term cooperation are available, a small garden can become much more than a place where plants grow. It can become a shared space in which a community itself develops.

語数:約 525 語

内容一致問題

次の①～⑧のうち、本文の内容と一致するものを 3 つ選びなさい。

- ① Community gardens are normally operated by national governments and are intended mainly to produce enough food for every resident in a city.
 - ② The passage claims that community gardens can completely solve the problem of limited access to affordable fruit and vegetables in urban neighborhoods.
 - ③ Working regularly with neighbors in a shared garden may build trust and reduce social isolation, particularly among people who live alone.
 - ④ The main educational purpose of school gardens is to replace classroom lessons in science and mathematics with outdoor physical exercise.
 - ⑤ Community gardens cannot solve food poverty by themselves because their production is limited and broader economic and political measures are also necessary.
 - ⑥ Any unused land in a city can be used safely for growing food without testing the soil or considering the site's previous use.
 - ⑦ Long-term agreements or public protection may help community gardens survive when landowners later consider using the sites for development.
 - ⑧ The author concludes that community gardens are valuable only when they produce enough food to replace supermarkets and public welfare programs.
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実戦的な時間配分

合計:7 分

問題文・タイトル確認:10 秒 本文通読:3 分 30 秒 ①～⑧の判断:2 分 40 秒 本
文に戻って確認:30 秒 マーク・最終確認:10 秒

WPM Over 150 を目指す [500 語レベル]

1.	transform[trænsfó:rm]	～を変える、変化させる
2.	communitygarden[kəmjú:nətigá:rdn]	地域農園、共同菜園
3.	manage[mænidʒ]	～を管理する
4.	charity[tʃæriti]	慈善団体
5.	individualplot[ɪndəvídʒuəlplát]	個人用の区画
6.	neglected[nigléktid]	放置された
7.	produce[próudju:s]	農産物
8.	affordable[əfó:rdəbl]	手頃な価格の
9.	seasonal[sí:zənəl]	季節の、季節的な
10.	foodbank[fú:dbæŋk]	食料支援団体
11.	meaningful[mí:nɪŋfəl]	意味のある
12.	background[bækgràund]	経歴、背景
13.	interaction[ɪntərəékʃən]	交流、相互作用
14.	socialisolation[sóʊʃəlàisələíʃən]	社会的孤立
15.	observe[əbzé:rv]	～を観察する
16.	concrete[káŋkri:t]	具体的な
17.	soilcondition[sóilkəndíʃən]	土壌の状態
18.	foodpoverty[fú:dpávərti]	食料を十分に得られない状態
19.	unequal[ʌní:kwəl]	不平等な
20.	harmfulsubstance[há:rmfəlsábstəns]	有害物質
21.	raisedbed[réizdbéd]	土を盛り上げた栽培区画
22.	maintenance[méintənəns]	維持、管理
23.	invest[invést]	～を投入する
24.	legalpower[lí:gəlpáuər]	法的権限
25.	stableaccess[stéíblækkses]	安定した利用権