

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。

Who Decides What Is Culturally Authentic?

When people travel abroad, they often hope to encounter an “authentic” culture. They may search for traditional food, local festivals, historic buildings, or handmade products that seem untouched by modern life. Tourist advertisements frequently encourage this expectation by presenting culture as something ancient, stable, and unique to a particular community. Yet culture is not a museum exhibit preserved in its original condition. It is continually modified as people respond to social change, technological development, migration, and contact with other societies.

The idea of cultural authenticity becomes especially complicated when traditions are performed for tourists. A dance originally associated with a religious ceremony may be shortened and presented on a hotel stage. A local market may begin selling inexpensive versions of objects that were once produced only for ceremonial purposes. Critics sometimes argue that such practices weaken the meaning of a tradition and transform it into a commercial product. According to this view, once a cultural practice is altered to satisfy visitors, it loses its authenticity.

However, this criticism assumes that traditions existed in a pure and unchanging form before tourism appeared. Historical evidence often suggests otherwise. Many customs now regarded as ancient were developed relatively recently or were influenced by neighboring cultures. Traditional clothing may incorporate imported materials, while national dishes may depend on ingredients introduced from distant regions. Even festivals can acquire new rituals as communities reinterpret the past to meet present needs. Cultural exchange is therefore not an exception to cultural history but one of its central features.

If authenticity is defined as the complete absence of outside influence, few cultural traditions could ever be considered authentic, since communities have exchanged goods, beliefs, and artistic practices throughout history. What matters may not be whether a tradition has changed, but whether the people who practice it continue to regard it as meaningful. A performance

arranged for tourists may still provide income for local artists, encourage younger generations to acquire traditional skills, and strengthen a community's sense of identity. Commercial activity does not necessarily destroy cultural value.

35 Nevertheless, economic pressure can produce serious problems. Tourists and businesses often possess greater financial power than the communities whose culture is being displayed. As a result, local people may feel compelled to modify their customs according to outsiders' expectations. Visitors may demand colorful ceremonies, exotic costumes, or simplified stories, even
40 when these representations fail to reflect contemporary life. In extreme cases, members of a community may become performers of an identity created largely by the tourism industry.

Another difficulty arises when governments attempt to define and protect cultural heritage. Official recognition can provide funding and prevent
45 valuable traditions from disappearing. At the same time, selecting one version of a custom as the "correct" version may exclude regional variations or minority interpretations. A living tradition usually contains disagreement, adaptation, and personal creativity. Once authorities establish strict rules concerning how it must be performed, preservation may unintentionally
50 restrict the very flexibility that allowed the tradition to survive.

Cultural preservation is therefore most effective when it supports the people who maintain a tradition rather than treating the tradition itself as an object that must remain unchanged. Communities should have a decisive voice in determining how their culture is represented, taught, and adapted.
55 Outsiders—including tourists, researchers, governments, and businesses—may provide assistance, but they should not assume that they alone can identify what is genuine.

Authenticity, then, should not be understood as perfect faithfulness to an imaginary past. A culture can change while preserving a meaningful
60 connection to its history. The more important question is who controls that change and who benefits from it. When cultural development reflects the choices of the people directly involved, adaptation can be a sign of vitality rather than decline. Culture remains alive not because it resists every influence, but because communities repeatedly reinterpret it as
65 circumstances change.

語数:約 530 語

WPM Over 150 を目指す

- ① Tourist advertisements generally present culture as flexible and constantly changing, thereby preparing travelers to encounter modern variations rather than ancient or stable traditions.
- ② Critics sometimes argue that modifying ceremonies or traditional products for tourists may weaken their original significance and turn cultural practices into commercial goods.
- ③ Historical evidence demonstrates that most traditions regarded as ancient developed independently and remained almost entirely unaffected by neighboring societies or imported materials.
- ④ The passage suggests that outside influence alone cannot determine whether a cultural tradition is authentic because cultural exchange has occurred throughout human history.
- ⑤ Performances created for tourists inevitably destroy local culture because commercial purposes prevent artists and younger generations from finding any value in traditional skills.
- ⑥ Economic inequality may pressure communities to present simplified or exotic versions of their culture that correspond more closely to outsiders' expectations than to contemporary reality.
- ⑦ Official protection is always beneficial because establishing one correct form of a tradition prevents disagreement while ensuring that regional and minority interpretations are equally represented.
- ⑧ The author concludes that cultural traditions remain alive only when communities reject foreign influence and preserve customs exactly as they were practiced in the distant past.

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

1. authentic[ɔ: θ éntik]	本物の、真正な
2. encounter[inkáuntər]	～に出会う、遭遇する
3. preserve[prizé:rv]	～を保存する、保護する
4. modify[módəfài]	～を修正する、変化させる
5. migration[maigréiʃən]	移住、移動
6. authenticity[ɔ: θ entísəti]	真正性、本物であること
7. associate[əsóʊʃièt]	～を結び付ける、関連づける
8. ceremonial[sèrə móuniəl]	儀式の、儀礼的な
9. transform[trænsfó:rm]	～を変える、変形させる
10. criticism[krítəsizəm]	批判、批評
11. incorporate[inkó:rpərèit]	～を取り入れる、組み込む
12. reinterpret[rì:intó:rprit]	～を再解釈する
13. absence[æbsəns]	欠如、不在
14. significance[signífikəns]	重要性、意義
15. commercial[kəmə:rʃəl]	商業的な、営利的な
16. compel[kəmpél]	～に強いる
17. representation[rèprizentéiʃən]	表現、描写、象徴
18. contemporary[kəntémpərèri]	現代の、同時代の
19. heritage[héritidʒ]	遺産、伝統文化
20. recognition[rèkəgníʃən]	承認、認定
21. exclude[iksklú:d]	～を除外する
22. adaptation[ædəptéiʃən]	適応、改変
23. unintentionally[ʌninténʃənəli]	意図せずに
24. decisive[disáisiv]	決定的な、決定権のある
25. vitality[vaitæləti]	活力、生命力