

英 語

(解答番号

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第1問 次の英文を読み、空所 1 ～ 6 に入る最も適切なものを、それぞれ下段の①～④の中から一つ選び、その番号を所定の解答欄にマークしなさい。

- 1 Japanese people today love mascots, and many local governments have *yuru-kyara*, which may be translated as “a funny, relaxing character,” for their promotion. People love them because they think those characters are *kawaii*. *Kawaii*, usually translated as “cute,” is one of the most frequently used Japanese words today. The word, however, is not as simple as it seems. Through its long history of usage in Japan, it has changed its meaning, and now, with Japanese pop culture spreading globally, it seems to be adding another.
- 2 The original meaning of *kawaii*, when it was used as *kawayushi* back in the 12th century, was “pitiful.” Around the 17th century, it came to mean “*adorable, darling or precious.” The meanings of “cute” and “pretty” were added at the end of the 19th century, especially referring to the small or the young. In the 1970s, as popular culture such as manga, anime and J-pop developed, cuteness became a very important value for Japanese people, especially young girls. Today *kawaii* culture dominates Japanese pop culture, and for many young girls, the meaning of *kawaii* is not so much looking cute in the eyes of others as expressing their own values.
- 3 Hello Kitty is a staple of this *kawaii* culture. Launched by Sanrio in Japan as a character to adorn goods for girls in 1975, it immediately became popular among young girls. Over the next twenty years or so, the cute cat gained popularity among other generations, and, at the same time, its popularity expanded globally. Now Sanrio has shops in many big cities all over the world. Some celebrities such as Mariah Carey have expressed their affection toward the cat, and in 2009 Lady Gaga took pictures in daring costumes with a Hello Kitty design. Hello Kitty is not just a “cute” cat for kids anymore, but also a cultural sign for “cool.”
- 4 Lolita fashion, which started to be worn by Japanese girls in the 1980s, is also a part of *kawaii* culture that is gaining popularity among young people, especially in Europe. With basic motifs taken from the costumes of European *Rococo and *Victorian styles,

young women dress themselves up as if they were living in a fantasy world. Adding other motifs, it has developed into such *genres as Sweet Lolita, Gothic Lolita and Lolita Punk. In 2009, the Japanese government decided to promote Lolita fashion along with *Nanchatte Seifuku* (Fake School Uniform) and the fashions of Harajuku worldwide, and appointed Misako Aoki, Shizuka Fujioka and Yu Kimura, representing the three fashions, as “*Kawaii* Ambassadors.” “*Kawaii*” here covers a variety of modes of Japanese youth fashion.

5 Cosplay is also an aspect of *kawaii* culture becoming popular globally today. At events around the world which celebrate Western comic books, video games and Japanese animation, many people dress in costumes of characters from anime and video games. *Clad in a fantastic costume, they can take on the role of their heroes and express themselves creatively. In many ways *kawaii* means “cool” for them.

6 So *kawaii* has a long history and has come to have rich *connotations. It is a key word of Japanese pop culture, and as the culture is enjoyed by more and more people around the world, it is becoming an international word with new meanings.

(Source: Kinuyo Koikawa, Kentaro Yamada, David Farnell and Motoko Yakushiji,

Let's Introduce Japanese Culture, Eihosha, 2014)

*adorable とてもかわいい

*Rococo ロココ様式 (18 世紀に流行した建築・美術などの様式)

*Victorian ヴィクトリア様式 (19 世紀イギリスの建築・美術などの様式)

*genre ジャンル, 類型

*clad in ～ ～の服を着て

*connotation 言外の意味

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問 1 According to the first paragraph, which one of the following statements about *yuru-kyara* is true? 1

- ① Many local governments use funny people to promote *yuru-kyara*.
- ② People love *yuru-kyara* because they have funny names.
- ③ There are quite a few local governments in Japan that have a *yuru-kyara* mascot.
- ④ *Yuru-kyara* mascots have a relaxed schedule so that they can better promote local governments.

問 2 According to the second paragraph, which one of the following meanings of the word *kawaii*, or its other forms, is the oldest? 2

- ① Adorable.
- ② Pitiful.
- ③ Precious.
- ④ Pretty.

問 3 According to the third paragraph, which one of the following statements about Hello Kitty is true? 3

- ① At the end of the 1990s, Hello Kitty was still only known by young girls.
- ② Hello Kitty goods were not launched until after the character became globally popular.
- ③ Hello Kitty was a character used to decorate products for girls when it was released.
- ④ Mariah Carey once took pictures in clothing with a Hello Kitty design.

問 4 According to the fourth paragraph, which one of the following statements about Lolita fashion is NOT true? 4

- ① Lolita fashion has basic motifs taken from the costumes of European Rococo and Victorian styles.
- ② Lolita fashion has its origin in Japan in the 1980s.
- ③ The fashion genre known as Lolita now contains several smaller genres.
- ④ This style of fashion is popular among young people only in Japan.

問 5 According to the fifth paragraph, wearing cosplay allows people to

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- ① become heroes in the eyes of a global audience.
- ② celebrate the popularity of Western comics in Japan.
- ③ express themselves in a creative way.
- ④ inspire people to create more anime and video games.

問 6 According to the passage, the term *kawaii*

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- ① has lost some of its older meanings, and continues to add new ones.
- ② is not used or understood in countries other than Japan.
- ③ is only used to refer to a particular kind of Japanese fashion.
- ④ is used to mean “cute” or “pretty” only in the cosplay community.

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第2問 次の会話文を読み、空所 **7** ～ **10** に入る最も適切なものを、それぞれ下段の①～④の中から一つ選び、その番号を所定の解答欄にマークしなさい。

Sakura: Welcome to Japan. I'm Sakura Sato. Nice to meet you.

Tom: I'm Tom Streetman. Nice to meet you, too. Thank you for coming to pick me up.

Sakura: How was your flight?

Tom: It was great! I flew on Japan Airlines. I saw Mt. Fuji out the window. I knew that Mt. Fuji is a symbol of Japan, but it was more beautiful than I had expected. There were no clouds at that time.

Sakura: You were lucky. It is usually surrounded by thick clouds at this season.

Tom: It is a good omen. I am sure my trip to Japan will be a pleasant and enjoyable one. By the way, how do I address you? May I call you by your first name?

Sakura: Yes, please. Call me Sakura, which means "cherry blossoms." I was born in April, so my father gave me this name. There is a very beautiful garden with many cherry trees in the middle of my hometown. I'll take you to the garden during your stay in Japan. I can also take you to many attractive sightseeing spots across Japan.

Tom: I am lucky that I have a very capable tour guide.

Sakura: Yes, actually I will be a tour conductor after I finish university.

Tom: I am sure that you will be one in the future.

Sakura: I want to establish a bridge between Japan and the rest of the world. That will be my lifelong career.

(Source: Toshiaki Kawahara, Masami Ikenaka, Yuko Gotoda and Joe Streetman,

Tourism English: Guiding a Foreign Friend throughout Japan, Eihosha, 2007)

問 1 According to the dialog, which one of the following statements is true?

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- ① The weather near Mt. Fuji is always fine and bright.
- ② Tom doubts that his trip to Japan will be very pleasant.
- ③ Tom saw Mt. Fuji for the first time from the window of a train.
- ④ Tom saw Mt. Fuji on a clear and sunny day.

問 2 Which one of the following uses of the word *address* has the same meaning as the underlined word “address” in the dialogue?

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- ① I had to address the envelope for him.
- ② The organization started a series of projects to address the problem.
- ③ The professor addressed a large audience with a speech about global warming.
- ④ The secretary addressed the man as Mr. Prime Minister.

問 3 According to Sakura, why did her father name her Sakura?

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- ① He felt she should understand that Japan has many attractive sightseeing spots that are famous for cherry blossoms.
- ② He hoped she would be proud of her hometown, which has a very beautiful garden with many cherry trees.
- ③ He wanted her to recognize that cherry blossoms, as well as Mt. Fuji, are a symbol of Japan.
- ④ She was born in April, the time of year when cherry blossoms bloom.

問 4 After she graduates from university, Sakura wants to

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- ① return to her hometown to establish a new cherry tree garden in the middle of the city.
- ② take Tom to many attractive sightseeing spots across Japan.
- ③ work as a tour guide, and help to bring Japanese and foreigners together.
- ④ work for a construction company building bridges in many countries around the world.

第3問 次の各会話文の空所 **11** ～ **15** に入る最も適切なものを、それぞれ下段の①～④の中から一つ選び、その番号を所定の解答欄にマークしなさい。

問1 A: What are your plans for the next few years?

B: I want to go overseas to study English.

A: (**11**)

B: I haven't made up my mind. Either England or Australia.

- ① Do you know how long you'll stay?
- ② Have you been abroad before?
- ③ What was your main reason for going?
- ④ Where would you like to go?

問2 A: Hi, Miranda. Where are you going?

B: To the department store on the corner.

A: Oh really? What are you going to buy?

B: (**12**) I have a part-time job there that starts in 30 minutes.

- ① I haven't decided which one.
- ② I'm not going to buy anything.
- ③ The dresses were all sold out.
- ④ The new shoes are on sale at the moment.

問3 A: Can I help you?

B: Yes. I'm looking for a jacket.

A: (**13**)

B: I'm looking for something in blue.

- ① Any kind in particular?
- ② I'm not sure if that would suit me.
- ③ We don't sell any like that.
- ④ Would you like to try it on?

問 4 A: Are you in any clubs?

B: Yes, I'm on the soccer team.

A: (**14**)

B: The team members are really nice and training isn't too hard.

- ① How often do you train?
- ② What do you like about the club?
- ③ What is your position?
- ④ When do you do training?

問 5 A: Did you go out yesterday?

B: Yes, I went to university to see the International Student Festival.

A: That's nice. (**15**)

B: From 10 in the morning until about 5. It was a long day.

- ① How did you get there?
- ② How long were you there?
- ③ How many people were there?
- ④ How much did it cost to get there?

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問9 This is the picture of the lake (**24**) we visited last year.

- ① by that ② in that ③ that ④ to that

問10 (**25**) the bad weather, we went on the trip we had been planning all year.

- ① Although ② Despite ③ Even if ④ Though

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第5問 次の各日本文とほぼ同じ意味になるように、それぞれ下段の①～⑤の語または語群を正しく並べかえ、**2番目**と**4番目**にくるものの番号を選び、その番号を **26** ～ **35** の解答欄にマークしなさい。

問1 今夜外食でもどうですか。

What _____ **26** _____ **27** _____ out tonight?

- ① do ② eating ③ say ④ to ⑤ you

問2 太郎はその映画を2回見たことがあると言いました。

Taro _____ **28** _____ **29** _____ the movie twice.

- ① had ② he ③ said ④ seen ⑤ that

問3 その話を聞いたときに、私は笑わずにはいられませんでした。

I _____ **30** _____ **31** _____ I heard the story.

- ① could ② help ③ laughing ④ not ⑤ when

問4 仕事について何か質問があったら遠慮なく聞いてください。

Don't _____ **32** _____ **33** _____ have any questions about the job.

- ① ask ② hesitate ③ if ④ to ⑤ you

問5 どっちに行けばよいかわからなかったので、私はひどく道に迷いました。

Not _____ **34** _____ **35** _____, I got terribly lost.

- ① go ② knowing ③ to ④ way ⑤ which

以上で問題は終わりです。