

2020 年度 前期

# 個別学力検査

## 英 語

### 注 意 事 項

1. 試験開始の合図があるまで、この問題冊子の中を見てはいけません。
2. 問題冊子は 19 ページあります。解答冊子には解答用紙 5 枚が綴じられています。
3. 試験時間は 90 分間です。
4. すべての解答用紙の所定の欄に受験番号を記入してください(氏名は記入しないでください)。
5. 問題冊子と解答冊子に印刷不鮮明や落丁などがある場合は、手を挙げて監督者に知らせてください。
6. 試験中に気分が悪くなったときは、手を挙げて監督者の指示に従ってください。
7. 問題冊子は試験終了後に持ち帰ってください。ただし、無断で複写、複製、転載などを行うことはできません。

個別学力検査

英 語

## 第1問 (配点 35点)

次の英文を読んで、以下の設問に答えなさい。

It seems reasonable to say that most of our modern daily life is supported or enabled by goods and services generated both domestically in Japan and overseas. An extremely wide range of activities are involved in the processes whereby we actually consume those goods and services. Among those, the economic activity of moving the kind of physical goods we can see and touch (in Japanese, called “-zai” by economists) from producers to us is known as “distribution”. Distribution can be broadly divided into two: wholesale and retailing.<sup>(1)</sup>

On the one hand, the role of wholesalers is mainly to distribute (that is to say, sell) goods from producers to retailers. Retailers, on the other hand, are directly connected with consumers, who as the name suggests, consume those goods — for example by eating them, wearing them, and so on. So, we (the consuming public) obtain goods from retailing businesses. According to Japan’s Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI), gross sales revenue from Japanese commerce in 2017 was 456 trillion yen overall, with 143 trillion yen of that from retailing.<sup>(2)</sup>

As consumers, then, we have direct contact with retailers every day; but if people are asked what the word “retailing” makes them think of, we discover that they have a wide range of responses.<sup>(3)</sup> Indeed, there are many ways to be a “retailer”. The small shops lining local shopping streets, the directly-managed stores of brand-name luxury goods on the main street of big cities, and the stores along national highways (drug stores, car dealers, sports goods, and so on) are all retailers, although they belong to different “business categories”.

Still, it seems likely that there was an era when people all had relatively similar images of retailing. They probably would have thought first of department stores as representative examples. Recently, however, we often hear

of department store closures in cities away from the main centers: from memory, I can recall news of shutdowns in 2019 in Hakodate, Yonezawa (Yamagata Prefecture), Takaoka (Toyama Prefecture), Ogaki (Gifu Prefecture), and Kofu (Yamanashi Prefecture). Even stores around major centers are not immune. As figure 1 shows, in the ( ア ) fifteen years, sales revenues of department stores have been decreasing across the whole country (overall figures down 25% from 2004).

Although some department stores in Japan date back to the Edo period, their<sup>(4)</sup> golden age was probably in the 1960s and '70s, a period of rapid economic growth in the country. During that period, department stores sold a wide range of luxury consumer goods, including the latest fashion in clothes, and were popular also for recreational facilities such as restaurants or rooftop amusement parks. It was unusual for families to visit such a store and spend a pleasant day there. That said, in those days, average families used to do their daily shopping at the small shops lining the local shopping street, not at department stores.

So, let us examine how Japanese retailing has changed in the approximately fifty years since. First, the ( イ ) of supermarkets in the late 1960s is one noteworthy occurrence. 当初スーパーマーケットは小規模だったが、次第に大型化し、食料品だけでなく、衣料品、家庭電化製品なども扱うようになった。 They answered consumers' desire at the time, which was to be able to use their new and limited wealth to buy more—in other words, to have access to lots of reasonably-priced goods. This kind of enlarged supermarket is called a GMS (general merchandise store), and while the turnover<sup>(6)</sup> of domestic GMSs has reached 1.8 times that of department stores, even they are having problems. In fact, sales figures for GMSs have fallen around 9% over the past fifteen years.<sup>i</sup> It is often said that large suburban shopping centers with GMSs as key tenants are responsible for the decline of traditional shopping streets lined with small shops, but GMSs are also struggling.

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<sup>i</sup>This figure does not include so-called “food supermarkets” (those which center only on food).

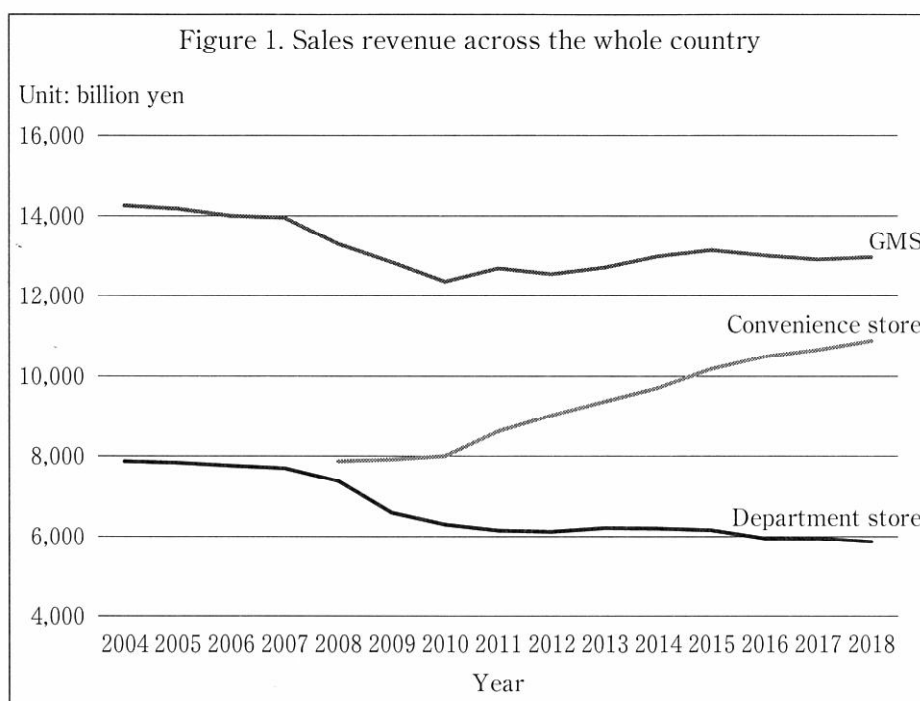
During this same period, one category of retailers made large gains to become a major player: convenience stores. Though revenue from any individual store is comparatively small, the total from all convenience stores nationally is actually approaching the total revenue from GMSs, and is already far higher than the total sales from department stores. The number of convenience stores in the country increased by a factor of about 1.4 during the period, so a growth in total sales is unsurprising. Moreover, sales revenue per store also increased slightly (4%). It may be that, regarding retail, we are moving into the era of ( 7 ).

Let me direct your attention to figures 1 and 2. They show the total sales revenue of domestic department stores, and sales revenues from a number of districts. Revenue from Sendai city was excluded from the “Tohoku” total; likewise, revenue from Fukuoka city was excluded from the “Kyushu” total. The sales revenues from ( ウ ) “local” department stores (away from main centers) show a significant decrease compared with the total revenue of the whole country. To the contrary, some areas show only moderate or slight declines. To consider the reasons for this phenomenon, see figure 3. Referring to both figure 2 and 3, we may infer the following: ( 8 )

In this way, the national retailing landscape has altered considerably. One retailing business category has grown significantly, and others have plateaued or are showing a clear decline. Still, even for categories that have been in decline, it is possible that circumstances could change again, or that careful analysis of the situation might ( Ⅸ ) a way for those retailers to survive or even be revitalized.

In closing, though, I want to give a word of warning about the future for retailers. There are some general challenges: real incomes have increased little, and for many people, shopping may be the last thing on their minds. Yet another group already has everything they want, and may even be trying hard to declutter (simplify their lives by reducing the number of things they are surrounded by). Most importantly, though, I have been discussing only “physical stores”—( Ⅹ ) department stores, or GMSs, or convenience stores. I haven’t touched upon Internet shopping, even though sales figures here have

been showing a rapid climb.<sup>ii</sup> While some people may want to be able to see and touch the goods they are thinking of buying, in a world where most people have very busy lives, the appeal of online shopping is clear. Further, it seems probable that virtual reality (VR) will soon give consumers ways to experience something like seeing and touching goods, all without actually visiting a store. With the advantages of physical stores being eroded by VR, we must wonder whether such retailers might start to disappear.<sup>(9)</sup>



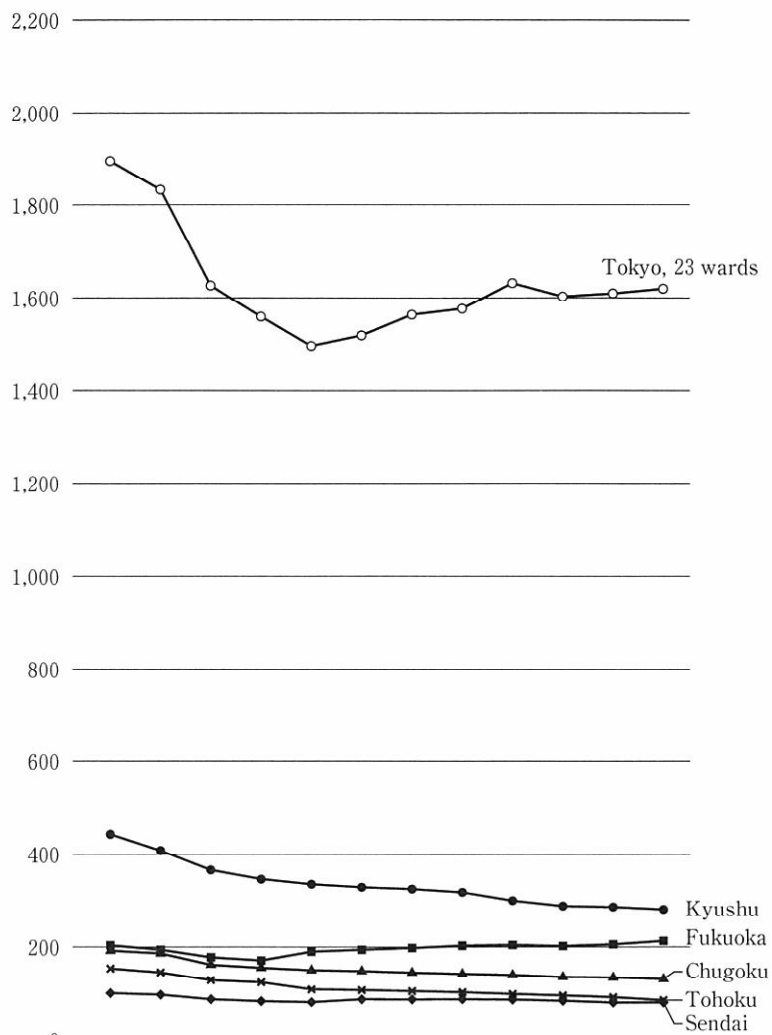
(from:[https://www.depart.or.jp/store\\_sale/](https://www.depart.or.jp/store_sale/),  
<https://www.jcsa.gr.jp/public/statistics.html>,  
<https://www.jfa-fc.or.jp/particle/320.html>)

<sup>ii</sup>The total revenue from internet shopping sales to consumers grew by about 2.3 times between 2010 and 2018.

[https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/it\\_policy/statistics/outlook/H30fy\\_kohyoyoshiryo.pdf](https://www.meti.go.jp/policy/it_policy/statistics/outlook/H30fy_kohyoyoshiryo.pdf)

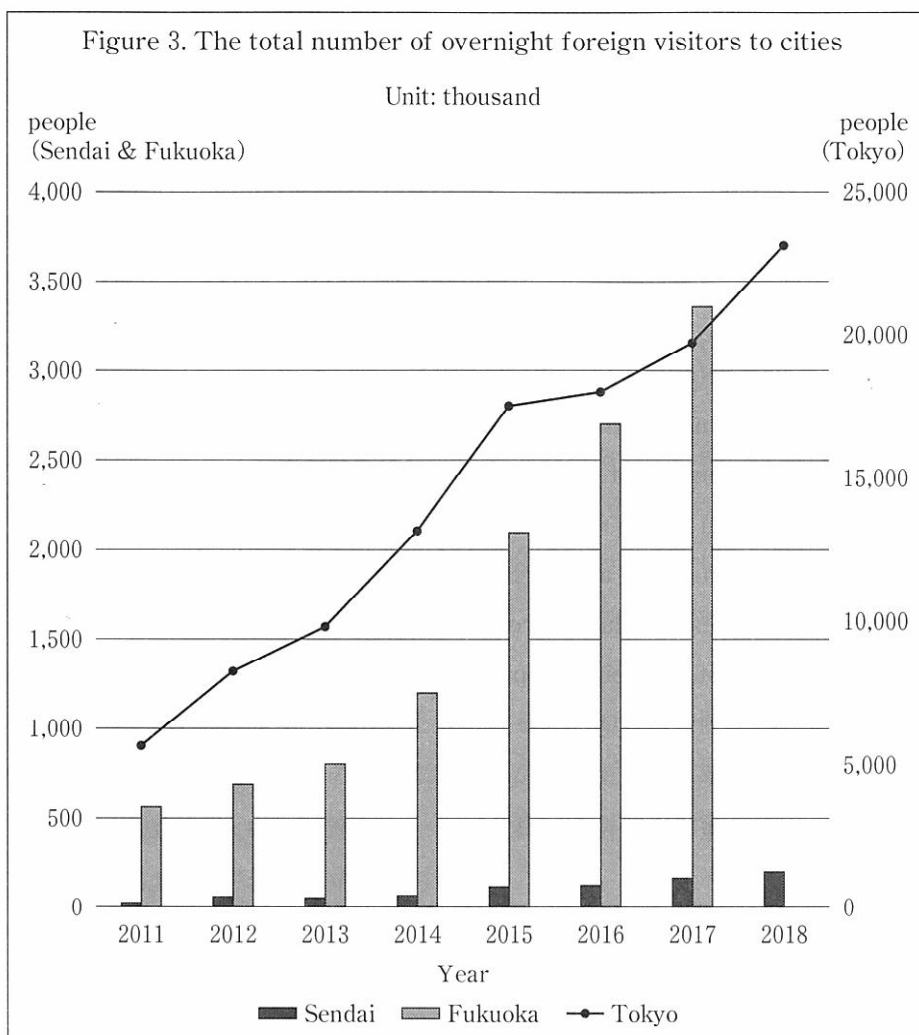
Figure 2. Sales revenue of department stores

Unit: billion yen



	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
○ Tokyo, 23 wards	1,896	1,834	1,619	1,558	1,495	1,520	1,565	1,577	1,631	1,601	1,609	1,619
● Sendai	102	99	88	83	82	88	89	88	86	83	79	77
■ Fukuoka	206	195	177	171	191	194	198	203	205	201	206	212
✕ Tohoku	155	146	130	124	109	107	106	103	99	96	92	84
▲ Chugoku	192	186	162	155	151	149	145	143	139	136	133	129
● Kyushu	444	412	368	347	336	330	326	318	299	288	286	279

(from: [https://www.depart.or.jp/store\\_sale/](https://www.depart.or.jp/store_sale/))



(From: <https://statistics.jnto.go.jp/graph/#graph-lodgers-by-prefecture>,  
<https://www.city.fukuoka.lg.jp/shisei/toukei/index.html#002>,  
<https://www.city.sendai.jp/kankokikaku/toukei/toukei.html>)



問題 1 下線部(1)を適切な日本語に訳しなさい。

問題 2 下線部(2)を日本語に訳しなさい。

問題 3 筆者が下線部(3) a wide range of responses のように考えているのはなぜか、最も不適切であると考えられる選択肢を以下の(a)~(d)の中から選びなさい。

- (a) People use retailers for shopping, but their responses will be different because they all need different goods.
- (b) Consumers' images of retailing will be different because of the period in which they began to use retailers.
- (c) People have no image about retailing because they are very busy and cannot afford anything except daily necessities.
- (d) People do most of their shopping through the Internet and they do not use retailers.

問題 4 下線部(4)を日本語に訳しなさい。

問題 5 下線部(5)を英語に訳しなさい。

問題 6 下線部(6)の単語とほぼ同様の意味で使用されている単語が、本文中にいくつかあるが、そのうちの1語を抜き出して書きなさい。

問題 7 空欄( 7 )に入る最も適切な語句を以下の選択肢(a)~(e)の中から選びなさい。

- (a) department stores
- (b) supermarket
- (c) general merchandise store
- (d) stores along national highways
- (e) convenience stores

**問題 8** 空欄( 8 )に入る著者の意見として、最も不適切であると考えられるものを、以下の選択肢(a)~(d)の中から選びなさい。

- (a) 日本を訪れる外国人は増えており、福岡市の訪日外国人数の伸び率は特に高い。福岡市の百貨店は、この人々の需要をうまく取り込んでいるのではないだろうか。これに対して、東京の百貨店の売上げが伸びていないのは、その売上げがもともと非常に大きいので、訪日外国人の需要があるにしても目立たないからかもしれない。
- (b) 福岡市の百貨店の売上げが増加しているのに対して、仙台市の百貨店の売上げは緩やかに低下している。これは、福岡市への訪日外国人の伸び率に比べて、仙台市のそれが緩やかであることと関係しているのではないだろうか。より多くの訪日外国人を仙台市に引きつければ、仙台市の百貨店の売上げ増加に結びつくかもしれない。
- (c) 全国的に百貨店の売上げは低下しているが、仙台市を除く東北地区や中国地区、福岡市を除く九州地区の低下率は全国の売上げ低下率より大きい。これは地方の人口減少と大いに関連している。人口減少の傾向が逆転しないかぎり、地方の百貨店は、いずれ消滅するだろう。
- (d) 福岡市の訪日外国人数の高い伸び率と福岡市の百貨店の売上げが増加していることの間には何らかの関係があるのだろう。訪日外国人が、これまで少なかった地域にも、より多く来訪してもらえるようにして、訪日外国人向けの品揃えを工夫することで、地方の百貨店の売上げを伸ばすことができるかもしれない。

**問題 9** 空欄(ア)～(オ)に入る最も適切な語句を以下の(a)～(e)から選び、記号で答えなさい。ただし、同じ選択肢を2回以上選んではいけません。

- (a) reveal
- (b) launch
- (c) whether
- (d) last
- (e) so-called

**問題10** 筆者が下線部(9)のように考えているのはなぜか、日本語で説明しなさい。

## 第2問 (配点 29 点)

次の英文を読んで、以下の設問に答えなさい。

Do you know of “the sandwich generation”? It means the generation of people raising their own children while taking care of their elderly parents at the same time. Most of the baby boomers in Japan are in this generation. The boomers sometimes have to bear a huge financial burden of three generations, which are their parents, their children, and themselves and their spouse. In addition, aging parents need more time and labor to care. Sometimes it costs a lot of money to hire a caregiver or enter a nursing home. The sandwich generation are living with a quite serious problem.

My colleague, Mr. Kinoshita, was not seen in the office last week. I heard that his elderly mother had a light heart attack two weeks ago and he was back with his wife and children in his hometown. He is one of the sandwich generation that becomes very exhausted due to the burden of having to take care of both his children and parents. He told me that he needed support to cope with his financial problem. He wants to concentrate on working but he can't do so at the moment because of his parents. Honestly speaking, I know that he is ambitious and that he earnestly desires for a promotion. He has begun to suffer from a big dilemma between work and private life. He can't spare time for many things except to work. He's been so stressed lately. I think that it is more important for him to have a balance between his company and domestic life as to not become sick.

There is a common dilemma of which are more important, personal values or company values. A couple of decades ago, many workers in Japan put work as their first priority. But I feel that the priorities in life has been changing, particularly in the younger generation. Perhaps priority / to / rather / life / be / on / for / it / work / private / natural / put / than / might / youths. I

have found that there is quite a big generation gap between a few generations in my office. Some live to work, others feel that it is a mere means for living. It's very difficult to find a middle ground for compromise.

However, the labor environment in Japanese companies is drastically going to change now. A work style reform law came into force on April 1, 2019, with the start of the new fiscal year. The values of workers will also change with the enforcement of this law. The labor market in Japan has already been changed by depopulation, as a result, it actually needs more labor for the economy to grow. So this reform should be rapidly promoted. These are some target points in this reform: redressing long working hours, engaging women and elderly people in work, creating an environment for easier labor mobility, establishing a universal rule for dismissal, supporting career changes, correcting disparities, and equal pay for equal work. I expect that the generation gap can also be solved in the near future because of this reform.

One of my coworkers is very supportive of this reform because he believes that it is beneficial for employees. For example, it's easier to take annual paid leaves, and it improves the flextime system. Moreover, it sets a legal cap on long work hours in order to change Japan's extreme overwork culture, which has been blamed for causing sickness and deaths. In the first year, the target of the effective compulsory cap on overtime hours is only to major companies. Another major feature of this law is to ensure "equal pay for equal work" for regular and nonregular workers which will take effect in April 2020. But it is said that a lot of companies will face difficulty in implementing this law because of the severe labor shortage. This is a major issue across various industries. If companies violate the rules, they will be punished with a fine. It may mean that companies should focus on employee welfare more. My coworker said that it's a corporate responsibility to offer benefits to employees keeping them happy and healthy.

Personally speaking, a flextime system would be very useful for me. It is going to enable me to drive my children to school in the morning, attend the PTA

meeting in the afternoon, and take my parents to the hospital on weekdays. I would be able to run private errands in the daytime and finish my job to do at a convenient time. It is important to be able to alter my work hours. If I try flextime, I would be able to prioritize my time and be twice as efficient as my job. I hope that my organization adopts a flextime system under the work-life balance policy at once. I think this system is the most beneficial to sandwich generation workers.

As I said earlier, the labor reform law also targets the engagement of elderly people in work. 私は、どのくらい長く働き続けたいかと質問した日本のある世論調査<sup>(6)</sup>についての記事を読んで、大変驚いた。 About 40% answered that they wanted to work as long as they could. I think the elderly people should be given more chance to work even after their retirement, so that they and women can join the labor force and therefore increase the labor force. It is certainly a win-win relationship<sup>(7)</sup>.

What do you think about the legal cap on long work hours? I understand that too much overwork is surely leading to harmful effects. While looking at my friends with children, they seem worn out both physically and mentally because of the stress of overtime work. They also don't have much time to spend with their family, especially on weekdays. They always say that they want to play with their kids and help them with their homework. A magazine I read the other day said that 80% of workers had complaints about their work hours. I'm afraid that they may be at high risk of burnout. Too much overwork could lower their productivity, so the performance of their company might have declined. It's a serious vicious circle<sup>(8)</sup>.

I like working very much. I think that working isn't bad. For me, making significant achievements contributes to self-satisfaction, which makes me mentally healthy. But recently I have thought that work-life balance is very important to live satisfactorily. So I hope the government work system reform will go well. If there are some points to be improved, the government should

re-examine the reform, and companies should create an atmosphere where employees feel comfortable at work. To balance between work and other values including family, health, and hobbies is necessary for workers from now on. Promoting the measures to improve the worksite environment is my new purpose as a middle manager.

- 問題 1** 下線部(1)の意味を、例えがわかるように日本語で説明しなさい。
- 問題 2** 本文中、下線部(2)とほぼ同じ意味で使われている語句を抜き出して書きなさい。
- 問題 3** 下線部(3)の部分を「若者にとっては、仕事よりもむしろ私生活を優先するというのは自然なことかもしれない。」という意味になるように、語句を並べ替えなさい。
- 問題 4** 下線部(4)は日本語で何と呼ばれているか、書きなさい。
- 問題 5** 下線部(5)を日本語に訳しなさい。
- 問題 6** 下線部(6)を英語に訳しなさい。
- 問題 7** 下線部(7)について、具体的に日本語で説明しなさい。
- 問題 8** 下線部(8)について、具体的に日本語で説明しなさい。
- 問題 9** あなたにとって、どのような“work-life balance”が理想ですか。25語から35語程度の英語で書きなさい。



### 第3問 (配点20点)

問題 1 次の各英文を完成させるため、空欄に入れる最も適切な語句をそれぞれ (a)~(d)から選び、記号で答えなさい。

問 1 Her grandmother often takes a walk \_\_\_\_\_ a view to keeping her health.

- (a) on                      (b) beside                      (c) with                      (d) has

問 2 Because she has lived in Scotland from childhood, she is used to \_\_\_\_\_ in English.

- (a) speaking                      (b) speak  
(c) have being spoken                      (d) being spoken

問 3 If \_\_\_\_\_ it would stop snowing!

- (a) enough                      (b) rare                      (c) only                      (d) once

問 4 \_\_\_\_\_ she decided to quit her job.

- (a) It was long before                      (b) It wasn't long before  
(c) She was long before                      (d) She wasn't long before

問 5 Is there any possibility \_\_\_\_\_ transferred to Tokyo?

- (a) to me                      (b) of my being  
(c) of me                      (d) to my make

**問題 2** 次の語を並べ替えて日本文に合う英文を作りなさい。ただし、文頭に来る語も小文字で記してあります。

問 1 どんなに難しい問題に直面しても、彼は何年も努力し続けた。

(hard / faced / he / years / however / trying / the problems / , / difficult / he / for / kept).

問 2 彼女は、昨夜、私がよく眠れなかったことを考慮してくれた。

(well / I / could / she / into / fact / night / took / the / sleep / not / last / consideration).

**問題 3** 次の日本文を英文に訳しなさい。

(\*を付した語句には注が示されています。)

まもなく2020年東京オリンピック\*が開催される。オリンピックに向けたスポーツ施設の建設、公共事業の増加は好景気\*\*の一因になったといわれている。好景気を維持するためには、政府は何らかの策を講じなければならないだろう。

\*東京オリンピック：The Tokyo Olympics      \*\*好景気：prosperity

## 第4問 (配点 16点)

問題 1 次の会話文を読み、各設問の答えとして最も適切なものを(a)~(d)から選び、記号で答えなさい。

Saki : I have a question. I have something I've been feeling strange.

Janice : OK, what's that?

Saki : I feel shy asking about it because I don't know about foreign cultures very well. Why do you say "Bless you!" when someone sneezes?

Janice : Don't be shy at all. It's a kind of habit for us to say "Bless you!" although we have some different stories about the origin.

Saki : Sounds interesting. Will you tell me one of them?

Janice : The one I heard is that ancient people believed that the soul could be expelled from the body when someone sneezed, and the devil came into the body from the mouth.

Saki : That's scary. I didn't know that. In Japan, it is said that when someone sneezes it means other people are talking about that person.

Janice : That's also interesting. It's so different from our old saying. In this case, we say, "My ears are burning. Somebody must be talking about me."

Saki : I learned a lot from you today. Anyway, should I say "Bless you!" the next time someone sneezes?

Janice : Yeah, please try to say it if you like. But if the person is not near, you won't have to say it.

Saki : I see.

問 1 Why does Saki feel shy asking about sneezing?

- (a) She is well versed in foreign cultures.
- (b) She is sorry in the lack of information about foreign cultures.
- (c) She sometimes misunderstands foreign cultures.
- (d) She has no interest in learning foreign cultures.

問 2 What is the same meaning of “ancient”?

- (a) so terrific
- (b) extremely massive
- (c) highly specialized
- (d) very old

問 3 What is NOT an old saying?

- (a) All is well that ends well.
- (b) Fortune comes in at the merry gate.
- (c) After a typhoon comes a calm.
- (d) Practice makes perfect.

問 4 How could the sound be heard when someone sneezes?

- (a) Cough!
- (b) Achoo!
- (c) Ting-a-ling!
- (d) Hic!

問 5 Saki would NOT say “Bless you” when:

- (a) someone next to her in the train sneezes.
- (b) someone talking with her sneezes.
- (c) someone at the same table sneezes.
- (d) someone across the street sneezes.

**問題 2** 以下のA～Fの英文を会話が成り立つように、正しい順に並べ替えなさい。ただし、最初と最後の文は示してあります。

I'd like you to check my ideas to make the website for our restaurant.

- A. Exactly. Co-existing with nature is our corporate policy.
- B. I want to show the originality and creativity of the main dishes.
- C. The second one is to use a dishwasher detergent which is environmentally friendly. Is that right?
- D. I understand that well. Thank you for your time.
- E. Tell me what you think about it.
- F. Good. It's the most important point, so it comes first.

I'm looking forward to seeing the new website.