

令和8（2026）年度入学試験問題（後期）

英 語

注 意

1. 合図があるまで表紙をあけないこと。
2. 試験中に問題冊子の印刷不鮮明、ページの落丁・乱丁及び解答用紙の汚れ等に気づいた場合は、手を高く上げて監督者に知らせること。
3. 解答は解答用紙の枠内に記入すること。
4. 枠外に記入した場合、および解答用紙に解答以外のことを書いた場合、その答案は無効とする。
5. 受験票は机に出しておくこと。

I 以下の英文を読み、問いに答えよ。

To understand how the brain creates intelligence, there are a few basics you need to know first.

Shortly after Charles Darwin published his theory of evolution, biologists realized that the human brain itself had evolved over time, and that its evolutionary history is ^(a)evident from just looking at it. ⁽¹⁾Unlike species which often disappear as new ones appear, the brain evolved by adding new parts on top of the older parts. For example, some of the oldest and simplest nervous systems are sets of neurons that run down the back of tiny worms. ^(A)These [to / make / worm / allow / neurons / the] simple movements, and they are the predecessor of our spinal cord*, which is similarly responsible for many of our basic movements. Next to appear was a lump of neurons at one end of the body that controlled functions such as digestion and breathing. This lump is the predecessor of our brain stem, which similarly controls our digestion and breathing. The brain stem extended what was already there, but it did not replace it. Over time, the brain grew capable of increasingly complex behaviors by evolving (①) parts on top of the (②) parts. This method of growth by addition applies to the brains of most complex animals. It is easy to see why the old brain parts are still there. No matter how smart and sophisticated we are, breathing, eating, sex, and reflex reactions are still ^(v)critical to our survival.

The newest part of our brain is the neocortex**, which means “new outer layer.” All mammals, and only mammals, have a neocortex. The human neocortex is particularly large, occupying about 70 percent of the volume of our brain. ⁽²⁾If you could remove the neocortex from your head and iron it flat, it would be about the size of a large dinner napkin and twice as thick (about 2.5 millimeters). It wraps around the older parts of the brain such that when you look at a human brain, most of what you see is the neocortex, with bits of the old brain and the spinal cord sticking out the bottom.

The neocortex is the organ of intelligence. Almost all the capabilities we think of as intelligence—such as vision, language, music, math, science, and engineering—are created by the neocortex. When we think about something, it is mostly the neocortex doing the thinking. Your neocortex is reading or listening to this book, and my neocortex is writing this book. If we want to understand (③), then we have to understand what the (④) does and how it does it.

An animal doesn't need a neocortex to live a complex life. A crocodile's brain is roughly equivalent to our brain, but without a proper neocortex. A crocodile has sophisticated behaviors, cares for its young, and knows how to navigate its environment. Most people would say a crocodile has some level of intelligence, but nothing close to human intelligence.

The neocortex and the older parts of the brain are connected via nerve fibers; therefore, we cannot think of them as completely separate organs. They are more like roommates, with separate agendas and personalities, but who need to (⑤) to get anything done. The neocortex is in a decidedly unfair position, as it doesn't control behavior directly. Unlike other parts of the brain, none of the cells in the neocortex connect directly to muscles, so it can't, on its own, make any muscles move. When the neocortex wants to do something, it sends a signal to

the old brain, in a sense asking the old brain to do its bidding. For example, breathing is a function of the brain stem, (⑥) no thought or input from the neocortex. The neocortex can (⑦) control breathing, as when you consciously decide to hold your breath. But if the brain stem (⑧) that your body needs more oxygen, it will ignore the neocortex and take back control. Similarly, the neocortex might think, “Don’t eat this piece of cake. It isn’t healthy.” But if older and more primitive parts of the brain say, “Looks good, smells good, eat it,” (B). This battle between the old and new brain is an underlying theme of this book. It will play an important role when we discuss the existential risks facing humanity.

(出典 : Jeff Hawkins, *A thousand brains: A new theory of intelligence*. Basic Books, 2021. 一部変更あり)

*spinal cord: 脊髄

**neocortex: (大脳の) 新皮質

- 下線部(1)、(2)を和訳せよ。
- 下線部(あ)、(い)の文脈に沿った意味として最もふさわしい語を下記から1つ選び、記号で答えよ。

(あ)	A. cheerful	B. obvious	C. doubtful	D. skeptical	E. wrong
(い)	A. ongoing	B. outstanding	C. challenging	D. crucial	E. comfortable
- 下線部(A)について、最も自然な英文になるように与えられた語群を並び替えよ。ただし各語は一度しか使えない。
- 空欄①～④に入る語を選択肢から1つずつ選び、記号で答えよ。

①	A. old	B. new	C. clean	D. dirty
②	A. older	B. newer	C. cleaner	D. dirtier
③	A. intelligence	B. fibers	C. survival	D. similarities
④	A. vision	B. biologist	C. neocortex	D. spinal cord
- 本文について正しく述べているものを下記から1つ選び、記号で答えよ。

A.	Only humans have sophisticated behaviors like taking care of children.
B.	Not all species have a neocortex to live complex lives.
C.	A crocodile and a human have exactly the same brain functions.
D.	A crocodile is the only animal that can take care of its young because it has an appropriate neocortex.

6. 空欄⑤～⑧に入る最も適切な語(句)を下記から選び記号で答えよ。ただし選択肢は一度しか使えない。

- あ. detects い. requiring う. compete え. permanently お. in comparison
か. unlike き. such as く. folds け. cooperate こ. temporarily

7. 空欄 に入る最も適切なものを下記から1つ選び、記号で答えよ。

- A. the cake can be treated easily
B. the cake can be like a roommate
C. the cake can be a birthday tradition
D. the cake can be hard to resist

II Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

In recent years, Japan has become a popular tourist destination. In the year 2010, nearly 8 million people from abroad visited the country. In the year 2015, the figure increased to nearly 20 million. It has become common to see ⁽¹⁾hordes of tourists walking the streets of such popular destinations as Tokyo, Kyoto, and Osaka. Tourists can also now ⁽²⁾be spotted in remote villages, in restaurants known only to locals, as they ⁽³⁾brave places that traditionally were avoided.

Ever since the modernization of the nation, the Japanese government has been trying to attract foreign tourists. In the Meiji era (1868–1912), a number of western style hotels were built, welcoming tourists from Europe and the United States. In those times, Japan was not an industrialized exporting economy, so the foreign currency those tourists brought was considered vital. After the economy grew rapidly following the Second World War, ⁽⁴⁾the number of people visiting Japan was considered to be of relatively small importance, in comparison to the manufacturing of electronics and automobiles which helped earn foreign currency.

But ⁽⁵⁾there has been a recent push to encourage people to visit Japan. Now Japanese industries, facing competition from countries like China and Korea, in addition to the dominance of an internet-based economy coming from the United States, are losing their power. Once, the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) was respected and feared as the engine of corporate Japan. Now, METI regards the ‘soft power’ of the nation as an indispensable part of its money-making machinery. METI has initiated a ‘Cool Japan’ campaign, inspired by the ‘Cool Britannia’ movement of the United Kingdom, which aims to encourage economies other than manufacturing, and secure tourism as the new breadwinner for the nation. To increase numbers of tourists is regarded as one of the important challenges of the ‘Cool Japan’ initiative.

Tourists often mention the high quality of service, presentation and attention to detail as being some of the key charms of Japan. From the almost ⁽⁶⁾flawless operations of Shinkansen trains to the surprisingly efficient and quick delivery of beef dishes in the fast food chains, things taken for granted by the Japanese tend to impress and even awe other nationalities. Visitors consistently find Japan clean and tidy, a place where everything works and is on time. Public toilets, convenience stores, and public transport in general are seen to be ⁽⁷⁾meticulously operated. Japanese locals are praised for being kind and helpful.

Needless to say, there are occasional ⁽⁸⁾hiccups; like everywhere, Japan has its share of incompetent people or organizations. The Japanese, always keen on maintaining a high standard, themselves often complain of deteriorating standards. But on average, it is fair to say that the Japanese would get an A+ when it comes to the general quality of services and friendliness.

When considering why Japan consistently delivers such high quality goods and services, it is important to understand the concept of *kodawari*.

Kodawari is a concept difficult to translate. In English it is often rendered as ‘commitment’ or ‘insistence.’ However, these words, like many concepts nurtured in a particular (①) context, do not adequately capture the true meaning of the word. *Kodawari* is a personal standard, to which the individual adheres in a dedicated manner. It is often, though not always, used in (②) to a level of quality, or professionalism to which the individual holds. It is an attitude, often maintained (③) one’s life, constituting a central element of *ikigai*. *Kodawari* is personal in nature, and it is a manifestation of a pride in what one (④). In a nutshell, *kodawari* is an approach whereby you take extraordinary care (⑤) very small details.

(Adapted from Ken Mogi, *The little book of Ikigai*. Quercus, 2017.)

1. Choose the option that is closest in meaning to (1)hordes of tourists.
A. a couple of drivers B. a few lost travelers C. a group of local people
D. a large crowd of visitors E. tour guides and their teams

2. Choose the option that is closest in meaning to (2)be spotted.
A. be fasted B. be hidden C. be imagined
E. be seen D. be mitigated

3. Choose the option that is closest in meaning to (3)brave.
A. are afraid of B. dare to visit C. hesitate to go to
D. refuse to visit E. regret going to

4. Choose the best reason for the underlined part (4).
A. This is because Japan had already become dependent on foreign tourists coming from abroad such as China and Korea.
B. This is because Japan wanted to show its advanced technology to tourists from abroad.
C. This is because the manufacturing of electronics and automobiles played a major role in generating income from abroad.
D. This is because tourists from various countries stopped bringing foreign currency to Japan.
E. This is because tourism was more profitable than manufacturing electronics and automobiles.

5. Choose two reasons for the underlined part (5).
- A. Japanese industries are losing their competitiveness due to rising competition from countries like China and Korea.
 - B. Japan is planning to focus only on electronics and automobiles to strengthen its manufacturing-based economy.
 - C. Japan needs to develop alternative sources of income besides manufacturing electronics and automobiles.
 - D. Japan wants to limit the number of tourists to protect its cultural sites and historical heritage for future generations.
 - E. Japan's internet economy is now considered superior to its traditional industries, such as electronics and automobile manufacturing.
6. Choose the option that is closest in meaning to ⁽⁶⁾flawless in this context.
- A. perfect B. poor C. sorry D. stained E. regrettable
7. Choose the option that is closest in meaning to ⁽⁷⁾meticulously in this context.
- A. abruptly B. carefully C. roughly D. suddenly E. surprisingly
8. Choose two expressions that are similar in meaning to ⁽⁸⁾hiccups in this context.
- A. a high standard B. an A+ C. deteriorating standards
 - D. incompetent people or organizations E. quality of services and friendliness
9. Choose the most appropriate word for each blank (①-⑤) from the list below. (Each option may be used only once.)

あ. a	い. aspect	う. cultural	え. do	お. does
か. made	き. of	く. possesses	け. reference	こ. technical
さ. throughout	し. toward	す. understanding		

III 下線部を英訳せよ。

(1)「精進料理 (Shojin Ryori)」は肉や魚を含まない日本の伝統的な菜食料理である。(2) 野菜や豆、穀物で作った料理を食べる習慣は動物を殺さないという考えに基づいており、その考えに従った人々の間に広まった。(3)「精進 (Shojin)」ということばは心身を鍛えるという意味であり、このような料理を食すことは精神的な訓練にもなると考えられている。

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