

令和5年度

専攻科一般入学試験 A 問題用紙

受験番号	
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富山外国語専門学校

I. Choose the best word to fill in the blanks from among the four choices.

A.

Teaching online has meant that I can quickly pull up images during classes to illustrate a point. During Japan's wedding season, I found myself repeatedly searching for images of a wedding and a wedding party to show students the difference between the two. It was then that I realised how very white the images were. And I don't mean the brides' dresses or the decor. The people in these images were of European (a). It looked as if people of colour never got married.

It was only after I used search terms like "biasian wedding" (for a couple that is Black and Asian) that I started to get more (b) photos. It was a little unsettling that the default images for weddings were mainly of white people.

A similar thing happened when I looked for flashcards to illustrate jobs. I found some that were high quality and free. Unfortunately, the jobs didn't (c) any women doing them. And whenever I need an image of an engineer, I have to make an effort to search specifically for "female engineer." Otherwise the default results are usually just white men.

The other day, I needed an image for "person talking on the phone. Once again, my screen was filled with images of white people. When I searched in Japanese, the results were mostly of Japanese-looking people. The biggest difference in search results I encountered was when I wanted to point out to a class what English speakers see when they hear my students say "I ate Genghis Khan." Searching for "genghis khan" in English showed pictures of the historical figure, while searching in katakana showed pictures of Mongolian barbecue which, ironically, is not Mongolian but Taiwanese.

Search results are run by algorithms which are (d) programmed by humans. I worry that by only seeing and believing such default results, humans will themselves become programmed. As adults, we already have a bunch of different programs that control our behaviour. If we're lucky, we're aware that we're defaulting to a certain behaviour. But I worry that children will think it's unusual for weddings to feature people of different races. Or that it's odd for a woman to be doing a particular job.

I'm doing my best to use a diverse range of images in my classes. To combat going into default mode myself, I try to read news from a range of sites. I try to question what I'm seeing. Who or what is being (e)? How? Why? Algorithms try to make our lives easier by guessing what questions we want to ask, but I think it's important that we ask questions ourselves. We might not be able to change our programming completely, but we can at least be aware of it.

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|--------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| a. 1 successor | 2 subordinate | 3 descent | 4 immigrant |
| b. 1 attractive | 2 diverse | 3 qualified | 4 multiple |
| c. 1 hire | 2 designate | 3 sacrifice | 4 feature |
| d. 1 distinctively | 2 initially | 3 elaborately | 4 artificially |
| e. 1 portrayed | 2 unfolded | 3 restricted | 4 admonished |

B.

"Have you gotten your vaccine?" This has become quite a common greeting in Singapore with the expansion of the COVID-19 vaccination drive in recent months.

Singapore was one of the first Asian countries to begin an inoculation campaign, with essential workers such as healthcare staff getting top (a). The first person to get vaccinated was a nurse, who received her first vaccine shot in December.

Seniors aged 70 and above were next in line, followed by those aged 60 to 69. My parents got their shots in March at a community center near their home.

As I write this, vaccinations are available to everyone aged 40 and older, and many of my friends have either gotten vaccinated or signed up. Most have gotten the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, the first to get approval here. The other vaccine available is Moderna.

Vaccination appointments are booked online. Shots are available at 79 locations island-wide and the online list specifies the vaccine type at each venue. Some friends choose the center closest to them while others take into (b) the vaccine offered.

Although I am younger than 40, my company held an internal vaccination drive for staff who are often out and about for work.

My first shot was in early May. I arrived 15 minutes before my allocated time, submitted my registration form and waited about 10 minutes to see a doctor, who asked a few questions about allergies and my health condition.

After a 10-minute wait I got my first shot in another room. I felt a little nervous but it was largely uneventful. The vaccine shot felt like a flu shot, or a brief ant bite.

I overheard some workers patiently answering questions. "If you haven't had any serious allergies to flu vaccines before, your risk should be quite low. Anyway, the side effects shouldn't last more than a day or two."

Finally, we had a (c) resting period of about 30 minutes in the adjacent room. The only side effect I experienced later that day and the next day was a sore arm. But I've heard of more serious side effects like body chills, migraines and fevers, especially after the second shot.

My second shot definitely felt more impactful than the first. The jab itself was more painful and the arm swelling more (d). I also felt unusually tired and woke up with a fever the next day. Fortunately, it subsided after I took some paracetamol.

As the number of unlinked cases and community infections has gone up again in Singapore, I'm glad I chose to get vaccinated (e) my initial reservations about unknown long-term effects. Hopefully, as more people get vaccinated, we can begin to see the light at the end of this pandemic.

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|-----------------|----------------|------------|--------------|
| a. 1 salary | 2 validity | 3 inquiry | 4 priority |
| b. 1 admission | 2 deposit | 3 account | 4 capacity |
| c. 1 compulsory | 2 legitimate | 3 crucial | 4 inevitable |
| d. 1 pronounced | 2 preconceived | 3 secluded | 4 wretched |
| e. 1 although | 2 despite | 3 however | 4 excluding |

II. 次の英文を読み、200字程度の日本語で要約しなさい。

The phenomenon of large-scale resettlement — sometimes on the opposite side of the planet — is hardly new. After all, several industrialized nations, such as the United States, Canada, and Australia, have been founded by immigrants seeking a better life for themselves and their children. In these cases the movement was clearly one-way: from poorer to richer countries, and was primarily for economic reasons. However, social observers are now seeing a new pattern of migration.

While most of today's immigrant workers are unskilled, the number of highly educated and experienced migrants has been steadily rising. They represent a wide spectrum of occupations — from computer programmers to lawyers, doctors, and teachers. They move largely within a relatively small community of developed nations with preferred destinations being Europe Asia, and increasingly the wealthy Middle Eastern countries.

According to an analysis of the World Bank, the number of college-educated migrants in developed Western countries rose almost 70% between 1990 and 2000. By contrast, the number of those without a university degree rose by only 31% over the same period. Analysts agree that tougher entry requirements for unskilled workers are the major reason behind this difference.

"Over the course of our history we have come to take it for granted that migration in the world is dominated by movements of people hoping to escape poverty and oppression," commented a senior official at a research institute. "Now these patterns are much more complex and multi-directional," he added.

Indeed, surveys illustrate that in today's 'global village' a wide range of factors may account for one's decision to move across the border. Sure, some are after a better quality of life in purely material terms. However, many are looking for an opportunity to embrace exotic cultures, learn new languages, and expose themselves to communities with radically different sets of values. For them, the move can be a very rewarding experience, both economically and spiritually.

Obviously, there is a fair share of frustrations. Some professionals, who have moved overseas, complain of linguistic and social isolation, the inability to fit into the new society, and the unfamiliar behavioral norms. They may feel overwhelmed by the loss of the predictable routine and, as a result, come to view their new environment with anxiety. Yet, a majority of those living in foreign countries believe their mobile skills provide them with a unique opportunity to be able to choose a place where they wish to reside anywhere in the world, in the words of one interviewee: "The world is my oyster."

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専攻科一般入学試験 B 問題用紙

受験番号	
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富山外国語専門学校

I. Choose the best word to fill in the blanks from among the four choices.

A.

I don't qualify as a true insomniac, but I've had enough sleepless nights to make me curious about it. If you stop to think about sleep, it is a very mysterious subject indeed. Most of us sleep for approximately a third of our lives. We must sleep, but why?

Apparently, there are no firm answers yet, but there is a lot of research going on all over the world. Mind you, the dreaming that goes on when you are asleep is another whole area of study.

We know we can't (1) for long without sleep, but the mystery persists—as does the research. As we experience new things every day, our brain cells build new connections with other parts of the brain. Sleep studies have found that, as we sleep, important connections are strengthened and minor, unimportant ones are deleted. Sleep appears to be a housecleaning, a kind of brain maintenance. Researchers found that rat brains have microscopic channels that clear waste mostly during sleep.

Scientists believe that sleep patterns played a role in human (2). The early apes and primitive humans slept in trees to avoid predators, and so their sleep was restless. As they evolved and began to find and use more protected and stable sleeping places, their sleep got deeper and longer. This improved sleep, researchers believe, led to better brain function and increased (3). Ultimately, the caves and tribes of humans provided an improved duration and quality of sleep. This in turn made early humans more intelligent than apes, and gave them more free time for learning, socializing and defending their caves and tribes.

What if we don't sleep enough? There are opposing opinions about sleep deprivation.

In some circles, it's been (4) with obesity, diabetes, depression and lower life expectancy.

Charles Czeisler, a Harvard Medical School professor, blames modern devices like cellphones and electronic books read in the bed, as well as foods such as nuts, cheese, bacon and red wine for keeping us awake at night.

But James Horne, a sleep researcher at Loughborough University in the U.K, believes such reports are "scaremongering" and that you can still be healthy on less than eight hours' sleep—and the same went for our grandparents.

"Our average sleep has fallen by less than 10 minutes over the last 50 years. Any obesity and its health consequences (5) to short sleep are only seen in those few people sleeping around five hours, where weight gain is small around 1.5 kg per year which is more easily rectified by a better diet and 15 minutes of daily brisk walking, rather than by an hour or so of extra daily sleep."

My verdict: I don't know! But I'll probably lose some sleep over this.

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|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. a. survive | b. commute | c. function | d. alienate |
| 2. a. evolution | b. alteration | c. transaction | d. limitation |
| 3. a. mobility | b. consensus | c. intelligence | d. empathy |
| 4. a. contemplated | b. associated | c. coped | d. integrated |
| 5. a. committed | b. receptive | c. destined | d. attributable |

B.

Shinjiro Murata never really liked school English. "I didn't get why I had to study English at all," he says, laughing. "English was just like chemistry: a hassle." Even in his early 20s, while working as a sales rep for a foreign information technology company, Murata thought "it was more important to be good at my job than having English skills."

But in 2003, 26-year-old Murata left the company, (1) to switch to international aid work.

"This time I knew I had to study English with all my might. It's the common denominator in a multinational working environment."

Murata joined Medicins San Frontieres (Doctors Without Borders) in 2005 and (2) on a journey that changed his life forever.

As part of MSF, Murata has worked in some of the worst conflict zones of our times, including the historic center of Aleppo, which has seen the most intense fighting in the Syrian War.

"The hospitals we provided support to were bombed to smithereens. Every day, we had less space to work and fewer supplies to use, but more patients to treat. I realized then that in order to save lives, we needed a strong political advocate to negotiate with the leaders and ensure that medical facilities, workers and staff will not be bombed or harmed."

In 2019, Murata (3) in the notoriously difficult Kennedy School of Harvard University.

"This is a school that trains people to be leaders in the public sector," he explains. "And to get accepted, I studied English harder than I ever studied anything in my life. It was grueling, especially as I still had my day job at MSF, but whenever I felt my resolve slipping, I would remember the faces of the people I worked with in Syria. They counted on me to change the situation on the front lines for them. I couldn't let them down."

Murata graduated from the Kennedy School last May.

"I was over 40 when I finally got in so maybe my level of (4) was higher than the younger students. The day we finished summer school, students were invited to go to the podium and make an impromptu speech. I screwed up my courage and walked up. I knew my pronunciation wasn't good, but I was fired up by a need to speak. I said to my fellow students that if you're here at the Kennedy School because you want to make a difference in the world, try to imagine what it's like to live in a war zone, exposed and (5). The world needs leaders who can imagine that plight, and cause positive action for change."

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|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. a. mediating | b. retreating | c. intending | d. pursuing |
| 2. a. embarked | b. launched | c. obtained | d. guaranteed |
| 3. a. challenged | b. addressed | c. predicted | d. enrolled |
| 4. a. condiment | b. commitment | c. constraint | d. competence |
| 5. a. profound | b. uptight | c. vulnerable | d. indigenous |

II. 次の英文を読み、200字程度の日本語で要約しなさい。

Intelligence may lead to a better paid job and quality of life but, in old age, it has no effect on happiness, new research suggests.

A happy old age is what many people spend their lives preparing for, aiming for financial security and good health in their advanced years. But one thing people need not worry about, it seems, is how intelligent they are. A study of more than 400 pensioners in Scotland reveals that cognitive ability is unrelated to happiness in old age.

The researchers looked at a group of 416 people born in 1921, who underwent intelligence tests at the age of 11 and 79. At the age of 80, the group was also sent a "satisfaction with life" questionnaire, which had them assess their current level of happiness.

"We found no association between levels of mental ability and reported happiness, which is quite surprising because intelligence is highly valued in our society," says Alan Gow, who carried out the research with colleagues at the University of Edinburgh, UK.

Participants were asked to respond to five statements about their happiness and give a rating on a scale of 1 to 7 according to how strongly they agreed. The statements referred mainly to their current life, but also sought to discover whether, given the chance, they would like to have done anything differently with their lives.

Previous studies have shown that people who possess attributes regarded as desirable by modern Western society, such as intelligence, money or sporting talent, are rewarded with higher social status, a better paid job and a more comfortable standard of living.

Higher social standing has also been linked to increased happiness. However, Gow and his co-authors suggest that intelligent people may also be more concerned about achievement and more aware of alternative lifestyles, which may lead to dissatisfaction. "Neither childhood IQ nor IQ at age 80 appears to have any bearing on how satisfied you are with how your life has turned out, he adds. "I believe all that is necessary is that you have ability to carry out your daily tasks."

A spokesperson from UK charity, Help the Aged, commented, "We have found that older people have a better quality of life, the healthier they are and the more financially independent they are. This supports the suggestion that quality of life in old age is not significantly influenced by intelligence."

He added that other factors, including friendship, also seemed to be important. This is supported by a recent study called the Australian Longitudinal Study of Aging, which found that women had a better quality of life in their older age than men because they had stronger social networks.

