

令和6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

Humans have been (a) with space since long before we knew how to get there. In 1865, the French writer Jules Verne published a novel about three men who traveled in a spaceship to the moon. Just over one hundred years later, the USA successfully sent its three-man Apollo 11 spaceship to the surface of the moon. Life had copied art.

Verne is a clear example of how human imagination can inspire people to very real technological (b). The Russian scientist Konstantin Tsiolkovsky, one of the first and most important astrophysics scientists, (c) he was originally inspired by reading Verne's stories.

At the end of the 19th century there were (d) technological advances and wonderful new inventions. With the birth of cinema in the early 20th century, Hollywood began a love affair with space travel and science fiction, which continues to this day. Many early science fiction novels, such as H.G. Wells' *The War of the Worlds*, were later made into films and shown on the big screen with amazing special effects for the time. Then, original science-fiction stories made it to the big screen.

These movies helped create a new consciousness about the possibilities of space travel and of life beyond our own planet.

In 1938, writer Jerry Siegel and artist Joe Shuster's comic book *Superman* was published. The hero, an (e) from another planet, quickly captured the nation's imagination. Soon the comic became a radio series and then in 1948, Superman went to Hollywood. Since then, nine Superman movies have been made, most recently Man of Steel in 2013.

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|--------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| a. 1. troubled | 2. astonished | 3. dominated | 4. fascinated |
| b. 1. advantages | 2. assets | 3. achievements | 4. theories |
| c. 1. complained | 2. suggested | 3. supposed | 4. claimed |
| d. 1. incredible | 2. intricate | 3. adequate | 4. appreciative |
| e. 1. entrepreneur | 2. alien | 3. obstacle | 4. impairment |

B

With the rainy season almost here, it can be hard to find the motivation to get through your days. Practicing mindfulness could be helpful for reducing stress and helping you relax. Increasing numbers of people have become interested in the benefits of mindfulness during the pandemic. You might have even seen or heard the term mindfulness mentioned in the media recently.

So what exactly is it? Mindfulness is simply the ability to be fully aware of where we are and what we are doing. You could say it is "being in the moment."

Perhaps you are thinking, "That sounds like meditation." The two concepts are linked but there are some differences. Meditation is (a), where you take time to focus on calming your mind. A lot of people like to use an app for meditation. Usually a teacher will guide you during the process. Typically, meditation involves sitting with eyes closed and concentrating on your breathing.

However, while meditation is part of mindfulness, you don't have to meditate to practice being mindful. You are being mindful when you take a moment to breathe before answering your phone, or before responding to a (b) family member or colleague. Mindfulness can be applied to any situation at any time.

Over the past 20 years, there has been a large increase in research on mindfulness. The medical and scientific community are much more open to its potential health benefits. Research suggests that practicing mindfulness can reduce stress, improve concentration and help us sleep better. It may even help people coping with memory loss.

I became interested in mindfulness a few years ago. I started by downloading a meditation app. I tried sitting on the floor and concentrating on my breath, but my back hurt and my mind wandered. Then I tried meditating lying down, but I always fell asleep halfway (c). I decided that meditation and mindfulness weren't for me.

Then a friend who was training to be a mindfulness coach invited me to join some online sessions. She assured me that there is no right or wrong way to experience mindfulness! During one of her sessions, she introduced us to a mindfulness practice called the body scan: You close your eyes and let your mind scan through every part of your body. It's a good way to (d) of tension and to fully relax. Best of all, you can do it lying down! It feels like a micro-vacation for both my mind and my body.

I like to listen to body scan meditations by Tara Brach, an American psychologist and well-known mindfulness teacher. However, there are many apps and videos out there. If you're interested in mindfulness, why not take a look and see what (e) with you?

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|----|------------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|
| a. | 1. indispensable | 2. virtual | 3. irrational | 4. intentional |
| b. | 1. materialistic | 2. demanding | 3. devastated | 4. persistent |
| c. | 1. through | 2. down | 3. ahead | 4. over |
| d. | 1. take care | 2. make sure | 3. let go | 4. grow out |
| e. | 1. sticks | 2. resonates | 3. wrestles | 4. contends |

II. 以下の英文は、老年問題について論じたものである。この文章の内容を 170 字～200 字程度の日本語で要約せよ。

In some ways the most characteristic expression of the times is the campaign against old age, which holds a special terror for people today. As the proportion of old people in the population increases, the problem of old age attracts the anxious attention of doctors, psychiatrists, medical researchers, sociologists, social reformers, and policy makers. A growing number of sciences concern themselves specifically with aging and death.

Two approaches to the problem of old age have emerged. The first seeks not to prolong life but to improve its quality, especially the quality of what used to be known as the declining years. Resisting the equation of old age with loss of powers, proponents of this approach demand a more active social role for those who, though past middle age, have by no means outlived their usefulness. “Humanitarians insist that old age is a social category, not a biological one. The modern problem of old age, from this point of view, originates less in physical decline than in society’s intolerance of old people, its refusal to make use of their accumulated wisdom, and its attempt to dismiss them to the margins of social existence.

The second approach proposes to deal with old age as a “medical problem,” in Albert Rosenfield’s words—“something your doctor may someday hope to do something about.” Falsely attributing to modern medicine an increase in life expectancy that actually derives from a higher standard of living, it assumes that medicine has the power to lengthen life still further and to abolish the horrors of old age. By the year 2025, Rosenfield believes, “most of the major mysteries of the aging process will have been solved.”

In spite of their differences, the medical and social solutions to old age have more in common than at first appears. Both rest more on hope — and on a powerful aversion to the prospect of bodily decay — than on critical examination of evidence. Both regard old age and death as “an imposition on the human race,” in the words of the novelist Alan Harrington — as something “no longer acceptable.”

What lies behind this loathing of the aging process, which appears to be growing more and more common in advanced industrial society?

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

A.

In 1991 a couple walking in the mountains of northern Italy came (a) the frozen body of a dead man. When the ice was removed, it was realized that the body was, in fact, a 5,000-year-old mummy, one of the oldest of its kind ever found.

The almost perfectly (b) mummy, named Ötzi after the Ötztal Alps where he was found, was dressed in clothes made of grass and animal skin and carried well-made tools. One of the most striking things, however, was a series of more than 50 tattooed lines and crosses down the man's back, on his legs, and around his ankles and wrists. The marks may have been used as acupuncture. In any case, they obviously had some meaning for Ötzi, and they certainly show that, in the society in which he lived, the art of body decoration existed.

Body decoration for both men and women has been important for many tribes and cultures around the world and goes back to the earliest human civilizations. As well as Ötzi, 2,000-year-old mummies with tattoos have been found in both Egypt and parts of Asia.

In Europe, many tribes (c) tattooed themselves. It is possible that the word Britain comes from an old British word meaning "people of the designs," possibly from their war paint or tattoos. The Romans and Japanese both used tattoos to mark criminals. In the 10th century, an Arab diplomat described meeting Scandinavians "tattooed from their fingernails to neck." Several stories tell how, after the battle of Hastings in Britain, the dead body of the last Saxon king of England, Harold Godwinson, could only be (d) from his tattoos.

Early Christians, however, (e) many of these traditions with old pagan ways, and so eventually, tattooing became a forgotten art in the Western world.

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|----|---------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| a. | 1. into | 2. across | 3. along | 4. at |
| b. | 1. preserved | 2. excavated | 3. processed | 4. wrapped |
| c. | 1. ironically | 2. ethnically | 3. traditionally | 4. crudely |
| d. | 1. aggravated | 2. dedicated | 3. complimented | 4. identified |
| e. | 1. banned | 2. connected | 3. emphasized | 4. recognized |

B.

There's a lot to consider when there's a baby (a): diaper brands, clothing, bedding—the list goes on.

But beyond deciding between Pampers and Merries, I spent much of my time prior to our daughter Kaede's arrival thinking about language. Mostly, I was researching a very important question: How do we raise her to be fluent in both English and Japanese?

The linguist Frank Smith once said: "One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages opens every door along the way." We wanted to make sure Kaede's future is full of open doors. I suspect language (b) is an issue most international families grapple with and it's probably something many readers have thought about as well. For us, raising our daughter to be fluent in English is important for the work, study and travel opportunities that the language can provide. But it's also essential for her to be able to communicate with the Canadian side of our family.

I discovered there are two main schools of thought when it comes to raising bilingual children: "minority language at home" and "one person, one language." "Minority language at home" in our situation would mean our house would be an English-only environment. This method seemed to make a lot of sense. Our daughter would learn Japanese simply by growing up in Japan. Speaking only English at home would help expose her to another language. But we felt there were a few problems with this plan.

For one, it would mean my wife would not be able to speak her native language to our daughter and that didn't seem fair. No matter how fluent you are, it certainly feels different communicating in a foreign language, and I wanted my wife to be able to speak to Kaede in Japanese. We also thought this would be difficult to (c). Would we have to ban Japanese TV shows and movies from our house? What would we do when my wife's family came to visit?

In the end, we (d) "one person, one language." That means that I'll speak only in English with my daughter and my wife will speak only Japanese with her. Because her exposure to Japanese is higher than English, I'll have to make a little extra effort to make sure she learns English. This includes plenty of reading time and conversation and maybe some extra "homework."

This plan is also (e) to be a challenge, as I often find myself wanting to speak Japanese to Kaede when we are spending time with friends or family. Still, this method is highly recommended by language experts, and as long as I'm diligent, there's a good chance Kaede will have many open doors to choose from later in life.

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|----|---------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| a. | 1. on the go | 2. on the air | 3. on its guard | 4. on the way |
| b. | 1. duration | 2. acquisition | 3. alliance | 4. estimation |
| c. | 1. cooperate | 2. abandon | 3. enforce | 4. initiate |
| d. | 1. settled on | 2. came by | 3. took to | 4. fed off |
| e. | 1. said | 2. shown | 3. proving | 4. going |

II

以下の英文は、生命維持体系について論じたものである。この文章の内容を 170 字～200 字程度の日本語で要約せよ。

All life on earth, including man, has evolved in an environment that provides the essential needs of life, including atmospheric gases, nutrition, and water. We live for the most part unappreciative of this life-support system and are just beginning to understand the mechanisms and dynamics of its operation. The commencement of space exploration a few decades ago emphasized the uniqueness of our planetary biosphere and accelerated the scientific study of closed ecological systems, which is needed if we are to learn to live in space independent of supplies sent from the earth.

The biosphere has been defined as the thin layer where life is found on the surface of the earth. More generally, a biosphere may be considered to be a stable, complex, adaptive, and evolving life system. Biospheres are closed in terms of matter, and open in terms of energy and information. Energetically, the earth's biosphere is open, primarily powered by incoming solar radiation which heats the earth and which is also captured by plants in energy-rich particles that provide energy for the most forms of life. Informationally, our biosphere is also open for exchange of communications with the rest of the cosmos—as was dramatized when we received radio signals from the Voyager space probes and were able to transmit them over a distance of millions of miles.

A few underwater explorers experimented by carrying along with them oxygen, an essential component of the biosphere, but serious research into closed ecological systems was launched by the Space Age. A simple calculation reveals that, for man truly to live for extended periods and eventually to expand off the planet, renewal of life-support would be indispensable. It takes, on average, about one and a quarter pounds of food, two pounds of oxygen, and four pounds of drinking water, a total of more than seven pounds, to support a person each day. If we add domestic water (for washing, cooking, laundry, etc.), it adds another 30 pounds to this requirement. In addition, a closed life-support system should be able to process each day over six pounds of solid and liquid wastes and two pounds of carbon dioxide that are respired by our space inhabitant. The implications are clear: extended and permanent human presence in space requires that we recycle the air, food, and water involved in human life support.

