

英 語

(解答番号 ~)

〔 I 〕 次の英文を読んで、問 1 ~ 問 5 に答えなさい。

(解答番号は ~) (36点)

Full-time office work is “dead”

The pandemic-era trend of working from home remains a key feature of the U.S. job market — and is likely to stay an option for American workers, according to economists.

The pre-pandemic standard of going into an office five days a week “is dead” for many workers, said Nick Bunker, an economist at the job website *Indeed*. “Remote work is here to stay,” Bunker said.

In 2019, about 5% of full-time work was done from home. The share increased to more than 60% in April and May 2020, in the early days of the Covid-19 pandemic, said Nicholas Bloom, an economist at Stanford University who has researched remote work for two decades. That’s equal to almost 40 years of pre-pandemic growth almost overnight, his research shows.

The share of remote work has steadily declined to about 27% today, but is likely to ^(a)*stabilize around 25% — a fivefold increase relative to 2019, Bloom said. “That’s huge,” he said. “It’s (ア) to find anything in economics that changes at such speed, that goes up by 500%.”

Initially, remote work was seen as a necessary measure to *contain the spread of the virus. Technological advances — such as video conferencing and high-speed internet — made the arrangement possible for many American workers. Both employees and companies *subsequently discovered benefits beyond an immediate health impact, economists said.

Employees most enjoy having reduced commuting time, spending less time getting ready for work and having a flexible schedule that more easily

allows for doctor visits and picking up kids from school, Bloom said. Some workers have shown they're not willing to give up those benefits. Companies such as Amazon and Starbucks, (1), recently faced a *backlash from employees after announcing stricter return-to-office policies.

Employers enjoy higher *employee retention and can recruit from a broader pool of applicants, said Julia Pollak, chief economist at ZipRecruiter. (b) They can save money on office space and on labor costs, by recruiting from lower-cost areas of the country or by raising wages at a slower pace because workers value working from home, she said. For example, job hunters surveyed by ZipRecruiter say they'd be prepared to take a 14% pay cut to work remotely, on average. The figure jumps higher — to about 20% — for parents with young children. (c)

Twitter recently shut its Seattle offices as a cost-cutting measure and told employees to work from home, a reversal from an earlier position that employees should work at least 40 hours a week in the office.

Most companies have turned to a “hybrid” model, with a work week split between maybe two days from home and three in the office, economists said.

According to Bloom, that arrangement has yielded a slight increase in average worker *productivity. For one, the average person saves 70 minutes a day commuting; roughly 30 minutes of that time saving is spent working more. “Hybrid is pretty much a win-win,” Bloom said.

About 39% of new hires have jobs with a hybrid work arrangement, (ウ) 18% of new jobs are fully remote, according to ZipRecruiter. Both shares are up compared to their pre-pandemic levels (28% and 12%, respectively). “It’s still an evolving trend, but the movement is very much toward increased remote work,” Pollak said. (d)

Of course, (工) have the option to work remotely. Only about 37% of jobs in the U.S. can probably be done entirely at home, according to a

2020 study by Jonathan Dingel and Brent Neiman, economists at the University of Chicago.

There are large variations by occupation and geography. For example, jobs in *retail, transportation, hospitality and food services are far less likely than those in technology, finance, and professional and business services to offer work-from-home arrangements.

Besides, not everyone agrees that the benefits of working from home outweigh costs. Evidence suggests that employee mentoring, innovation and company culture may suffer if jobs are fully remote, Bloom said. Workers mention face-to-face collaboration, socializing and better work-life balance as top benefits of in-office work, his research finds. Companies that are fully remote often have in-person gatherings as a way to build company culture, Bloom said.

Workers have enjoyed a high degree of bargaining power due to a hot labor market characterized by low unemployment and plenty of job openings. If the economy cools and their bargaining power disappears, it's unclear whether some employers would introduce stricter work-from-home policies, economists said.

The technology sector is a useful indicator, Bunker said. Tech job postings have fallen this year due to industry struggles, but the share of *Indeed* job ads offering a remote work benefit has (オ), he said. "It's been quite stable in the face of *hiring pullbacks," he said.

*〔注〕 stabilize : 安定する contain : 押さえ込む
subsequently : 後に backlash : 反発
employee retention : 従業員の定着率 productivity : 生産性
retail : 小売業 hiring pullback : 雇用の減少

問1 空所(ア)～(オ)に入れるのに最も適した語(句)を①～④の中からそれぞれ一つ選び、その番号をマークしなさい。

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------------|----------------------|---|
| (ア) | ① almost impossible | ② often necessary | |
| | ③ too late | ④ usually normal | 1 |
| (イ) | ① for example | ② however | |
| | ③ in general | ④ in the end | 2 |
| (ウ) | ① after | ② because | |
| | ③ if | ④ while | 3 |
| (エ) | ① few companies | ② most employers | |
| | ③ not all workers | ④ other job hunters | 4 |
| (オ) | ① been unclear | ② changed completely | |
| | ③ dropped sharply | ④ remained constant | 5 |

問2 下線部(a)～(e)の語(句)の意味に最も近いものを①～④の中からそれぞれ一つ選び、その番号をマークしなさい。

- | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------|-----------------------|----|
| (a) | ① amounted | ② decreased | |
| | ③ expanded | ④ returned | 6 |
| (b) | ① better list | ② higher demand | |
| | ③ larger group | ④ more limited number | 7 |
| (c) | ① it would be helpful | ② it would be okay | |
| | ③ they would fail | ④ they would not wish | 8 |
| (d) | ① changing | ② lasting | |
| | ③ passing | ④ promising | 9 |
| (e) | ① are greater than | ② are less than | |
| | ③ maximize | ④ reduce | 10 |

問3 本文の内容を考えて、次の(あ)～(う)に最も適したものを①～④の中からそれぞれ一つ選び、その番号をマークしなさい。

(あ) Bloom mentions that one of the merits of remote work for employees is that they can .

- ① cut down on transportation expenses
- ② easily arrange their working hours to fit with family needs
- ③ enjoy the convenience of advanced Internet technology
- ④ work from any place they like

(い) Which of the following is NOT mentioned by Pollak as a reason why employers can reduce costs by adopting remote work?

- ① Because they can hire workers from areas where salaries are lower.
- ② Because they can slow down the pace of pay raises.
- ③ Because they don't need to cover the training cost for new employees.
- ④ Because they don't need to pay for a large office space.

(う) Some companies are trying to reduce the negative impact of remote work by .

- ① allowing workers to have more holidays
- ② creating opportunities for face-to-face gatherings
- ③ having video meetings where workers can talk freely
- ④ teaching employees their company culture

問4 次の①～⑤の中から、本文で説明されているコロナ禍前後の労働状況と一致するものを二つ選び、その番号をマークしなさい。

14

15

- ① In the early days of the Covid-19 pandemic, the share of remote work was more than 60%.
- ② In April and May in 2020, the amount of work done from home became five times larger than that in 2019.
- ③ Now about half of full-time work is done from home.
- ④ The share of new workers with a hybrid work arrangement more than doubled from the pre-pandemic level.
- ⑤ The share of new workers under a hybrid model is higher than those working fully remotely.

問5 次の①～⑧の中から本文の内容と一致するものを三つ選び、その番号をマークしなさい。

16

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18

- ① Bunker expects that remote work will not disappear after the pandemic.
- ② According to Bloom, the percentage of remote work rose gradually in the early days of the pandemic.
- ③ Technological advances have enabled many American workers to work from home.
- ④ Pollak explains that most workers do not want their salaries to be cut even when they work remotely.
- ⑤ A “hybrid” working model means that some workers in a company always work remotely and other workers in the same company always work in the office.
- ⑥ Bloom thinks that the “hybrid” model is a good solution for both employers and employees.
- ⑦ Shop clerks, bus drivers and chefs are on the list of jobs which are more suitable for remote working.
- ⑧ One disadvantage of remote work is that companies cannot monitor whether their workers are working seriously or not.

〔Ⅱ〕 次の英文を読んで、問1～問4に答えなさい。

(解答番号は

19

 ～

30

) (24点)

Are cats bothered if their owners are treated badly?

A study in Japan suggests there may be something after all to the old stereotype that pet cats are generally unfriendly and indifferent toward their owners while dogs are extremely protective and loyal.

Researchers from Kyoto University and the *Japan Society for the Promotion of Science wanted to understand how cats behave when their owners are being given a hard time. The same experiments using dogs in 2015 were *referenced to measure behavioral differences between the two species.

Team members concluded that cats do not seem to care how people treat their owners, while dogs (ア) those who *give their owners the cold shoulder. The findings seem to support the widely held view that cats have their own way and dogs are more demonstratively loyal to their owners, ^(a) the researchers said.

In experiments on 36 pet cats, each cat faced three people sitting in a row: its owner, who held a container with a lid, and one person on each side, known as person A and person B. The owner showed the cat that he or she was struggling to open the lid before seeking ^(b) assistance from person A. That individual had the option of helping the owner or refusing to do anything, while person B did nothing but sit on the other side of the owner. Persons A and B then offered food to the cat at the same time.

The team repeated the process four times for each cat by randomly switching the roles and positions of A and B each time. The results showed the cats tended to *snuggle up equally to people who provided assistance to their owners as those who declined ^(c) to help their owners or were just sitting by.

The findings suggest that cats do not (イ) taking food from those

who were unkind to their owners. In contrast, the team’s experiments on dogs in 2015 found that dogs were more likely to avoid people who chose not to help their owners, indicating that they can interpret and assess (d) people’s behavior.

“We tested two contrasting hypotheses: cats will react as dogs did, or won’t care about how their owners are treated at all,” said Hitomi Chijiwa, a member of the research team who is now a project researcher at Osaka University. “It turned out that they didn’t care one bit.”

She said dogs closely watched how their owners behaved during the experiments, while the team had trouble even keeping cats still. “Cats and dogs differ in their ancestors’ habits and how they became our companions, which probably resulted in the (ウ) in the level of empathy the two species show to others,” said Chijiwa.

- *〔注〕 Japan Society for the Promotion of Science : 日本学術振興会
 reference : 参考にする
 give ~ the cold shoulder : ~に冷たい態度をとる
 snuggle up : すり寄る

問1 空所(ア)~(ウ)に入れるのに最も適した語(句)を①~④の中からそれぞれ一つ選び、その番号をマークしなさい。

- | | | | |
|-----|----------------------------|-----------|----|
| (ア) | ① keep their distance from | | |
| | ② make friends with | | |
| | ③ show no interest in | | |
| | ④ take advantage of | | 19 |
| (イ) | ① like | ② mind | |
| | ③ remember | ④ try | 20 |
| (ウ) | ① decrease | ② gap | |
| | ③ increase | ④ pattern | 21 |

問2 下線部(a)~(d)の語の意味に最も近いものを①~④の中からそれぞれ一つ選び、その番号をマークしなさい。

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------|--------------|----|
| (a) | ① constantly | ② obviously | |
| | ③ proudly | ④ seriously | 22 |
| (b) | ① expecting | ② lending | |
| | ③ rejecting | ④ requesting | 23 |
| (c) | ① agreed | ② offered | |
| | ③ refused | ④ tried | 24 |
| (d) | ① change | ② control | |
| | ③ improve | ④ judge | 25 |

問3 本文の内容を考えて、次の(あ)~(う)に最も適したものを①~④の中からそれぞれ一つ選び、その番号をマークしなさい。

- (あ) In the experiments, person A 26.
- ① either helped the owner or did nothing
 - ② either sat on the other side of the owner or offered food to them
 - ③ helped the owner and was given food as a reward
 - ④ refused to help the owner and just sat there
- (い) The underlined part (A) means that 27 about how their owners were treated.
- ① they cared a lot
 - ② they cared only a little
 - ③ they didn't care as much as dogs did
 - ④ they didn't care at all
- (う) What can we guess from the underlined part (B)? 28
- ① Cats became excited to see the dogs.
 - ② Cats couldn't focus during the experiment.
 - ③ Cats didn't want to stay there and eat the food.
 - ④ Cats were busy watching their owners' behavior.

問4 次の①～⑤の中から本文の内容と一致するものを二つ選び、その番号をマークしなさい。

- ① It is widely believed that cats are more friendly and loyal to their owners.
- ② The researchers conducted the same experiments on dogs in 2015.
- ③ The research team changed the roles and positions of person A and B each time at random.
- ④ In the experiments, the cats took food from those who helped the owners more often.
- ⑤ Cats and dogs became our companions in a similar way.

(7) Harry's birthday party has been (7) planned.

① care

② cared

③ careful

④ carefully

37

(8) How long have you (8) the guitar?

① been played

② been playing

③ play

④ playing

38

(9) There was little chance of getting the tickets, but we decided to (9) it a try.

① do

② give

③ make

④ take

39

(10) A: Do you think it will rain this Sunday?

B: I hope (10). If it rains, I won't be able to see my favorite soccer team.

① it

② not

③ so

④ that

40

〔Ⅳ〕 次の(ア)～(オ)の日本語の意味を表すように、①～⑥の語(句)を並べ替えて英文を完成し、3番目と5番目にくる語(句)の番号をマークしなさい。ただし文頭にくるものも小文字になっています。(解答番号は ～)(20点)

(ア) 私は高い所が怖いのに、友達はバンジージャンプをするよう私を説得した。

Despite my fear of heights, _____ _____ _____.

- ① bungee jumping ② me ③ my friends
④ persuaded ⑤ to ⑥ try

(イ) 美術館は、モナ・リザを見たがっている来場者でいっぱいだった。

The museum _____ _____ _____ the Mona Lisa.

- ① eager to ② packed ③ see
④ visitors ⑤ was ⑥ with

(ウ) 幹線道路がとても混んでいて、私は彼女との約束に遅れた。

The traffic on the highway was _____ _____ _____ my appointment with her.

- ① for ② heavy ③ I was
④ late ⑤ so ⑥ that

(エ) そのコンサートのチケットは売り切れていたなので、好きなバンドが見れなかった。

_____ _____, _____ couldn't get to see our favorite band.

- ① out ② so ③ sold
④ the concert ⑤ was ⑥ we

(オ) 今日あなたには何か違うところがあるが、それが何なのかわからない。

_____ _____ _____ today, but I don't know what it is.

- ① about ② different ③ is
④ something ⑤ there ⑥ you

(カ) アンディの家庭教師が数学の問題を解くのを手伝った。彼女がいなかったら解けなかったと彼は言った。

Andy's tutor _____ **51** _____ the math problem. He said he **52** _____ it without her.

- ① have ② helped ③ him
④ solve ⑤ done ⑥ couldn't

(キ) 彼らがなぜレストランを閉店したのか知っていますか。

_____ **53** _____ **54** _____ the restaurant?

- ① closed ② do ③ know
④ they've ⑤ why ⑥ you

(ク) 手に持っているものを見せなさい。

Show _____ **55** _____ **56** _____.

- ① got ② in ③ me
④ what ⑤ your hand ⑥ you've

(ケ) タイ料理を習うために、料理教室に行くことを考えている。

I'm thinking _____ **57** _____ **58** _____ to cook Thai cuisine.

- ① a cooking class ② how ③ learn
④ of ⑤ taking ⑥ to

(コ) 私が娘の隣に座れるように、席を代わっていただくことはできますか。

_____ **59** _____ **60** _____ seats so I can sit next to my daughter?

- ① if ② mind ③ swapped
④ we ⑤ would ⑥ you