

英 語

(解答番号 ~)

〔 I 〕 次の英文を読んで、問 1 ~ 問 4 に答えなさい。

(解答番号は ~) (32点)

Gender inequality driving wave of female Japanese immigrants to Canada

Yuka Yamamoto Woods has loved travelling since childhood and began her dream career with an airline as a ground staff member in Tokyo at age 19. But after four years of working long hours, she realized she (ア) become a mother while keeping her job. Promotion would have been even more difficult.

“I didn’t see a lot of moms there, especially among the managers. Managers were mostly male, and the ground staff who worked at the airport were women. Most people quit their job once they got pregnant,” said Yamamoto Woods, now an early childhood teacher who lives with her Canadian husband and their two young children in Vancouver.

Yamamoto Woods, 40, is one of the nearly 14,000 women who have *emigrated from Japan to Canada over the past two decades. This accounts for 76% of all Japanese immigrants to Canada during that period. And the deep gender inequality in Japan is a strong reason for many to leave, according to some of those who have emigrated — including a University of Toronto social work professor.

Yamamoto Woods, who first came to Vancouver in 2006 on a working holiday and became a *permanent resident several years later, says it’s (イ) to be a working mom in Canada than in Japan. Most of her co-workers are mothers, and her husband helps with childcare and housework, she said.

“I feel more free in Canada,” she said.

Emigration numbers have made national headlines in Japan in recent months. The Asahi Shimbun newspaper says more than 550,000 Japanese citizens — 62% of them female — live and work abroad as permanent residents mainly due to frustration^(a) with Japan’s weak economy, fears of another natural disaster after the 2011 earthquake and, for women specifically, deep-seated gender inequality. Japan hasn’t progressed^(b) much in women’s *empowerment, according to the World Economic Forum’s annual Global Gender Gap Report, which has consistently ranked it around 120th among approximately 150 countries — and last among the G7 group of industrialized democracies — due to a declining female workforce and (ウ) number of women in leadership positions.

University of Toronto social work professor Izumi Sakamoto, who moved from Japan to work in Canada in 2002, says women are as well educated as men in Japan, but the gender gap becomes obvious immediately after graduation. She says Japanese society still places unfair expectations on women to bring up children and manage household chores, making it difficult for them to stay in the workforce and advance their careers.

Japan’s economic decline, which began in the early 1990s, has forced an increase in insecure^(c) jobs, Sakamoto says, adding that women take up most of these roles due to prejudice in favour of men in the workplace.

“Sexism at all levels of the male-dominant society is very strong,” she said, adding that this might explain why many Japanese women have come to Canada on a working holiday visa or as a Canadian’s wife in order to get permanent residency.

Mika Nakagawa Antonovic, who gained permanent residency in 2009 and works as a *braille transcriber for visually weak students, says she immigrated to Canada to break free from what she describes as the difficult aspects of Japanese culture, including its emphasis on^(d) women’s physical

appearance.

One example of this, says Nakagawa Antonovic, 44, is that whenever she travels back to Japan she has to hide the tattoo she got in Canada, due to the common association of tattoos with gangsters in her home country. That's not an issue in Canada, she says — not even in the workplace.

“My bosses don't care that I have a tattoo,” she said.

Nakagawa Antonovic said she feels (工) in Canada because she's an outspoken person and felt like she didn't fit in Japanese culture, which is more of a group culture; and she generally feels more respected here because she was able to get professional qualifications in her field.

Gender studies professor Jacqueline Holler of the University of Northern British Columbia in Canada, who taught in Tokyo a decade ago, says Japan should be concerned about female emigration, given the country's aging population and low birth rate. She says Japanese society should try to strike a better balance between its traditional group culture and Western individualism in order to allow for women's ambitions.

At the same time, Canada (オ) the trend, she said. “Canada is doing a really good job of attracting highly educated immigrants in general, and these Japanese women are probably part of that broader trend,” Holler said.

*〔注〕 emigrate : (他国へ)移住する permanent resident : 永住者
empowerment : 力を与えること
braille transcriber : 点字翻訳者

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 could easily | ② might have to | |
| | ③ was certain to | ④ was unlikely to | 1 |
| (イ) | ① easier | ② more difficult | |
| | ③ more time-consuming | ④ more unusual | 2 |
| (ウ) | ① a high | ② a low | |
| | ③ an average | ④ an increasing | 3 |
| (エ) | ① lonely | ② more comfortable | |
| | ③ more stressed | ④ strange | 4 |
| (オ) | ① could suffer as a result of | | |
| | ② has not noticed | | |
| | ③ is taking advantage of | | |
| | ④ should try to reverse | | 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 discrimination | ② disorientation | |
| | ③ dissatisfaction | ④ distraction | 6 |
| (b) | ① advanced | ② celebrated | |
| | ③ declined | ④ expected | 7 |
| (c) | ① unfair | ② unfamiliar | |
| | ③ uninteresting | ④ unstable | 8 |
| (d) | ① confusion about | ② focus on | |
| | ③ rejection of | ④ reliance on | 9 |
| (e) | ① angry | ② confused | |
| | ③ satisfied | ④ worried | 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) According to the Asahi Shimbun newspaper, which of the following is NOT a reason why many Japanese citizens live and work abroad as permanent residents?

- ① Japanese citizens are upset by headlines about high numbers of emigrants.
- ② Many Japanese women feel there is great gender inequality in Japan.
- ③ They are frustrated with Japan's slow economy.
- ④ They are scared of the possibility of a natural disaster, such as a large earthquake.

(い) In Izumi Sakamoto's opinion, which of the following is true?

- ① Entering Canada on a working holiday visa is not a good way to get permanent residency.
- ② Japanese society expects women to stay at work while taking care of children.
- ③ Japanese women are expected to take care of children and housework more than men.
- ④ Managing housework is more difficult than staying at work.

(う) Which of the following is true about Mika Nakagawa Antonovic?

- ① Having a tattoo makes it easier for her to be outspoken.
- ② Her tattoo is not a problem for her Canadian managers.
- ③ She got a tattoo in order to break out of Japanese culture.
- ④ She had to remove her tattoo on returning to Japan.

問4 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。

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- ① Yuka Yamamoto Woods used to work for an airline in Japan.
- ② Less than 70% of Japanese immigrants to Canada in the last 20 years are women.
- ③ Yuka Yamamoto Woods became a permanent resident of Canada in 2006.
- ④ Japan is usually in the lowest seven countries in the annual Global Gender Gap Report.
- ⑤ Izumi Sakamoto went to work in Canada in 2002.
- ⑥ Mika Nakagawa Antonovic is a visually weak student.
- ⑦ Mika Nakagawa Antonovic does not feel so respected in Canada.
- ⑧ Professor Holler has taught in both Canada and Japan.

〔Ⅱ〕 次の英文を読んで、問1～問4に答えなさい。

(解答番号は 17 ～ 30) (28点)

One in five people in UK suffer from misophonia, researchers find

If the sound of someone chewing gum or *slurping their tea gets on your nerves, you are not alone. Researchers say almost one in five people in the United Kingdom (UK) (ア) to such noises.

Misophonia is a ^(a)disorder in which people feel strong emotional responses to certain sounds, feeling angry, distressed or even unable to function in social or work settings as a result. But just how common the condition is (イ). Now researchers say they have found 18.4% of the UK population have significant symptoms of misophonia.

“This is the very first study where we have a representative sample of the UK population,” said Dr Silia Vitoratou, the main author of the study at King’s College London. “Most people with misophonia think they are alone, but they are not. This is something we need to know about and make adjustments if we can.”

Writing in the journal *Plos One*, the research team report how they gathered responses from 768 people using measurements including the “selective sound sensitivity syndrome scale”.

One questionnaire investigated the sounds that ^(b)triggered misophonia in individuals, such as chewing or snoring. Another explored the impact of such sounds—including whether they affected participants’ social life and whether the participant blamed the noise-maker—as well as the type of emotional response participants felt to the sounds, and the intensity of their emotions. Based on the results, each participant was given an overall score.

The results reveal more than 80% of participants had no particular feelings towards sounds such as “normal breathing” or “*yawning” but this ^(c)plummeted to less than 25% when it came to sounds including “slurping”, “chewing gum” and “sniffing”. However, Vitoratou noted not all those

reporting a response had misophonia. “(ウ) there are a lot of sounds that irritate many people, people with misophonia express different emotional responses,” she said, noting this could include anger and anxiety or panic.

(エ) the team carried out interviews with 55 of the participants, 26 of whom were self-*diagnosed as having misophonia, allowing them to determine a score for participants strongly affected by triggering sounds. This score was used to find out the proportion of the whole group, and hence the UK population, similarly affected.

Although it is not yet possible to give a definitive diagnosis of misophonia, the team said 18.4% of participants experienced misophonia to an extent that it was a significant burden on them.

What is more, the team found no difference by sex. “Before, it was thought that maybe it’s more prevalent in females,” said Vitoratou, adding the team was now carrying out further research into misophonia, including whether there were different types.

Vitoratou added only 14% of those considered highly affected by misophonia had heard that word before. “There are lots of people out there experiencing this and they don’t even have a name for it,” she said. “That’s heart-breaking.”

*〔注〕 slurp : すする yawn : あくびをする diagnose : 診断する

問3 本文の内容を考えて、次の(あ)～(う)について最も適したものを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) Which of the following is NOT true about misophonia in the UK?

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- ① Most misophonia sufferers think their suffering is unique to them.
- ② More than 80% of people in the study had no particular reaction to the sounds of yawning or breathing.
- ③ Less than 25% of people in the study had no particular reaction to sounds like slurping, chewing gum and sniffing.
- ④ More than 20% of people in the study suffered noticeably from misophonia.

(い) Which of the following kinds of question were NOT included in the questionnaires mentioned in the fifth paragraph?

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- ① Questions about how often participants chewed or snored.
- ② Questions about the effect different sounds had on people's social life.
- ③ Questions about the emotional intensity of the participants.
- ④ Questions about what kind of feelings people had in response to the sounds.

(う) The underlined part (A) means that

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- ① more than 80% of people have experienced misophonia before
- ② only 14% of misophonia sufferers were affected by the word "misophonia"
- ③ 14% of severe misophonia sufferers had heard the word "misophonia" before
- ④ 14% of participants in the survey knew about misophonia

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 People who have misophonia feel strong emotions in reaction to particular sounds.
- ② Silia Vitoratou first read the study about misophonia when she was a student at King's College London.
- ③ 768 people were interviewed after the questionnaires about misophonia.
- ④ 26 of the people who were interviewed said they suffered from misophonia.
- ⑤ The research team found that misophonia affected men more than women.

(カ) ロシア語の文法を習得するのはかなり難しいように思えた。

It _____ **51** _____ **52** _____.

- ① extremely difficult ② grammar ③ master
④ Russian ⑤ seemed ⑥ to

(キ) この木材は机を作るのに十分な長さが無い。

This piece of wood _____ **53** _____ **54** _____.

- ① a desk ② enough ③ isn't
④ long ⑤ make ⑥ to

(ク) 鍵が見つからない。帰宅途中に落としたのかもしれない。

I can't find my key. _____ **55** _____ **56** _____ my way home.

- ① dropped ② have ③ I
④ it ⑤ may ⑥ on

(ケ) これまであなたの身に起こった最高のことは何ですか。

What is _____ **57** _____ **58** _____ you so far?

- ① happened ② has ever ③ that
④ the best ⑤ thing ⑥ to

(コ) このコンピューターを修理してもらった価値はあるのだろうか。

I wonder if _____ **59** _____ **60** _____.

- ① getting ② is ③ it
④ repaired ⑤ this computer ⑥ worth