



2026年度学力試験問題

教 科 名

英 語

2026年2月25日

9時50分から

11時30分まで

注 意 事 項

1. 英語の問題は2ページから14ページまでである。
2. 解答はすべて解答用紙の指定された箇所に書くこと。
3. 解答用紙は3枚(その一, その二, その三)である。

問題 1 *Read the text below and answer the questions in English.* (70 点)

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Questions

- (1) Why do humans sometimes leave a night light on? (4 点)
- (2) How many stars can the human eye detect in the night sky? (4 点)
- (3) Explain the underlined sentence (a) in your own words. (1 or 2 sentences)
(6 点)
- (4) In phrase (b), explain what “beckoning” means without repeating the word itself. (1 or 2 sentences) (6 点)
- (5) What does the underlined word (c) refer to? Select the exact phrase from the passage. (6 点)
- (6) In the paragraph that begins with “Our ancestors used the rising and setting of the constellations ...”, the author mentions both ancient navigators and modern sailors. Why are both groups included? Explain how each example supports the author’s point. (3 sentences maximum) (8 点)
- (7) Nationwide or local star-count projects are described later in the passage. List two distinct ways these projects help fight light pollution. Write one idea on the line marked Way 1 and the other on the line marked Way 2 in the answer sheet. (1 sentence each) (8 点)

- (8) Explain — in your own words — how city lights and air particles work together to make the night sky glow brighter than it would naturally be. In your answer, mention (i) the source of the light, (ii) what the air does to that light, and (iii) why blue light is especially important. (1 sentence each) (8 点)
- (9) Describe one benefit for wildlife and one benefit for humans that would result from reducing light pollution. Write the wildlife benefit on the line marked Wildlife and the human benefit on the line marked Humans in the answer sheet. (1 sentence each) (10 点)
- (10) Is the author ultimately optimistic or pessimistic about restoring dark skies? (i) State your answer in one sentence; (ii) In your own words, support your view by giving two different pieces of evidence from the passage. Write one sentence on the line marked Evidence 1 and one sentence on the line marked Evidence 2 in the answer sheet. (1 sentence each) (10 点)

問題 2 *Read the text below and write QUESTIONS in English for the answers below. (30 点)*

Martin Alvarez hadn't been back to his hometown for over twenty years. After high school, he left for college in Chicago and never really looked back. His life had grown busy — law school, long hours at the firm, then eventually starting his own practice. He kept meaning to visit, but time kept slipping past him.

Now, at 43, his mother's voice over the phone had sounded different — tired, almost frail. "It'd be nice to see you," she said gently. He booked the flight that night.

Landing in El Paso felt surreal. The dry heat, the Spanish on the radio, the scent of grilled corn and chilies from a food stand — it was all familiar and strange at once. The house he grew up in hadn't changed much. His mother greeted him at the door, smiling in that same quiet way she always had. Her hug felt smaller somehow, like time had folded her in.

They spent the weekend drinking coffee in the backyard, looking at old photo albums. She told stories he'd heard before but had never really listened to. He learned more in those few days than he had in years of phone calls.

On Sunday, he offered to drive her to the grocery store. At checkout, the cashier, a young woman with bright eyes, smiled and said, "You're Mrs. Alvarez's son, right? She always talks about you." His mother chuckled, clearly proud. That simple exchange hit Martin harder than he expected. He realized how rarely he'd allowed himself to be part of her everyday life.

That night, over dinner, she asked, "Are you happy, my son?"

He paused. "I thought I was," he admitted. "But maybe I've been chasing the wrong kind of success."

She just nodded, like she understood more than he was saying.

When he flew back to Chicago, something shifted. He started taking

weekends off. He called more often. Within a year, he opened a small legal clinic in El Paso part-time, helping immigrant families with paperwork and court dates. It wasn't glamorous, but it felt meaningful.

Going home had reminded him of who he was — beyond titles, suits, and schedules. Sometimes, it takes going far away to realize where you belong.

Answers

- (1) For over twenty years.
- (2) A phone call from his mother.
- (3) On the radio.
- (4) It felt at once familiar and strange.
- (5) Because his life became busy.
- (6) Immigrant families.

問題 3 *Below is a telephone conversation. Fill in the blanks with appropriate English responses. (60 点)*

- Kevin:** Betty's Bakery. This is Kevin speaking. How can I help you?
- Tetsunosuke:** Hi, my name is Tetsunosuke Suzuki. I would like to order a birthday cake for my host mom.
- Kevin:** (1) _____?
- Tetsunosuke:** It's T-E-T-S-U-N-O-S-U-K-E, Tetsunosuke.
- Kevin:** Oh, OK, Tetsunosuke. Which cake would you like to order today?
- Tetsunosuke:** What kind of cakes do you have?
- Kevin:** Well, our customers' all-time favorites are the classic cheesecake and chocolate cake.
- Tetsunosuke:** (2) _____?
- Kevin:** Yes, we do. We have two cakes with fruits; we have strawberry shortcake, and we have peach tart as our summer special. The strawberry shortcake contains milk.
- Tetsunosuke:** Hmm, I'm leaning towards the strawberry shortcake.
- Kevin:** Now, like I said, the strawberry shortcake contains milk.
- Tetsunosuke:** Good point. Let me ask my host family if my host mom is allergic to dairy products. (3) _____?
- Kevin:** Sure! We close at 6 pm, so call back any time before 6.
- Tetsunosuke:** Thanks, I will do that.
- Kevin:** I will keep your record on hold.

(5 minutes later)

- Kevin:** Betty's Bakery.
- Tetsunosuke:** Hi, (4) _____ Kevin?
- Kevin:** Kevin speaking, and who am I speaking to today?

Tetsunosuke: This is Tetsunosuke.

Kevin: Hi, Tetsunosuke. Are you ready to order?

Tetsunosuke: Before I order, I would like to know the size of the cake. I need a cake for 10 people.

Kevin: OK. Our large-sized cakes serve about 12 people. (5) _____
 _____ the large size if you want to serve 10 people.

Tetsunosuke: Thanks for the advice. I will take the strawberry shortcake, large size then.

Kevin: The earliest pick-up time is Wednesday at 2 pm.

Tetsunosuke: Cool. I will pick it up on Wednesday. Sorry, (6) _____
 _____ when your store closes, again?

Kevin: Our store closes at 6 pm.

Tetsunosuke: Thanks.

Kevin: By the way, normally, the large size strawberry shortcake is 25 dollars. Is this your first time ordering with us?

Tetsunosuke: Yes, this is my first time.

Kevin: Great. We're having our annual summer discount campaign, and we're giving a five-dollar discount for our first-time customers. So, (7) _____ dollars.

Tetsunosuke: Great! Oh, I'm glad that I can cross this off from my to-do list. I'm (8) _____ ordering the birthday cake, while my host sister's task is to buy a birthday card. Buying a birthday card is much easier.

Kevin: Ordering a birthday cake is a big responsibility. I'd say you've picked the right cake.

Tetsunosuke: I appreciate that. And (9) _____
 seeing the real cake on Wednesday. It looks really good on the website.

Kevin: We will do our best to make the best birthday cake for your host mother. Well, (10) _____
Betty's Bakery. We will see you on Wednesday. Bye.

問題 4 *Choose either question (a) or (b) below.* (40 点)

- (a) Look at the graphs and read the passage, then write an explanation in 120 to 150 words.

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- (b) Look at Figures 1, 2, and 3 below. Based on the information in these figures, describe how English is used in online spaces in 120 to 150 words.

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