

[1] 次の英文を読み、設問に答えなさい。(35点)

It is the new year and our family has spent another glorious holiday together. A fresh cover of snow blankets the tracks of yesterday, where my children have made snowmen and rolled down the slope in Grandpa's garden, spreading winter's magical frosting from head to toe.

Once breakfast is finished, Mom begins putting away the Christmas tree, an ⁽¹⁾ annual task she prefers to do alone. She removes the ornaments one by one, gazing momentarily at the handmade ((イ)) crafted by the children in early years. Then, humming her favorite carols, she wraps each in tissue paper and gently places them in an old cardboard box.

Like a child eating cake covered in *icing, she saves the top of the tree for last. Secured on the tallest branch, reaching heavenward, is a simple, precious star. This will be the last ornament packed, then placed at the top of the box, where next year it will be the first light of Christmas to fill the home.

But there is one more item: a red-and-green paper chain. It is long enough to circle the top of the tree. Its *crinkled links display years of wear, along with tape, staples and glue.

Mom still does not know that many years ago I was watching from the other room as she delicately removed the ((ロ)) from the tree, one link at a time. After pausing for a moment, she lowered ⁽²⁾ the handmade ornament into a small white box, secured the lid and said affectionately, ⁽³⁾ "I can't wait to see you again."

⁽⁴⁾ She put the white box in the larger box, with room enough only for the star that soon would be placed next to it. The larger box was then sealed and left at the side of the tree to be carried off for storage. At that moment I entered the room and offered to take things upstairs.

"Certainly," my mother replied. "This box is ready, but be careful not to drop it." I could see that her eyes had tried to hold back ((ハ)) and a simple smile still lit her face.

I carried my load up to the spare room, where I quickly went to work. Curious about the event I had witnessed, I removed the tape and, before I could be discovered, lifted the small box up to the light.

There it was: the answer to my curiosity, the reason for the care, the reserved spot next to the (ニ) and, more than anything else, the purpose of Christmas. Written in crayon on the box, with five-year-old hands, in letters that did not match and leant to one side, was the name “EriCK”.

My younger brother Erick never lived to see his sixth Christmas or his ornament on the tree, but Mom has saved a spot for it each year, next to the star. She keeps it in (ホ), much like our entire family. And with weary hands and only a mother’s love, she keeps the chain together.

Now, as an adult and a father, I finally understand what ‘together’ really means.

*icing 「(ケーキなどにかける)砂糖の衣」

*crinkled 「しわの寄った」

- 問 1. 下線部(1)を日本語に訳しなさい。
問 2. 下線部(2)は具体的に何を指すか、本文中の英語で答えなさい。
問 3. 下線部(3)を日本語に訳しなさい。
問 4. 下線部(4)を日本語に訳しなさい。
問 5. 空所(イ)～(ホ)に入れるべき適切な語を下の(1)～(7)から選び、その番号を記入しなさい。同じ語を2度使用しないこと。

- (1) tears (2) star (3) water (4) repair
(5) families (6) decorations (7) chain

〔2〕 次の英文は *Los Angeles Times* 2001年7月11日版に掲載された記事の一部である。それを読んで下記の設問に答えなさい。(35点)

Large-scale changes in the world's climate probably will deepen the gap between the richest and poorest nations — potentially damaging food production in parts of Africa, South Asia and South America — according to the first worldwide assessment of food production and climate change. Forty of the world's poorest countries are likely to see major losses in their ability to produce food — declines of up to 25% — if the climate continues to warm substantially, according to the assessment.

The report emphasizes how differently global warming would affect various parts of the world. Nations in tropical climates, including India, Brazil and much of *sub-Saharan Africa, would probably see huge losses in food production, it says. More temperate climates, by contrast, could experience large gains in crop yields as higher temperatures lengthen growing seasons. Because nations in the tropics already are far poorer than those in the world's north, the impact on them could be disastrous, with widespread starvation and malnutrition, the report predicts. The predictions cover several decades, with the full impact hitting by 2080.

For the poorest nations, “there is no margin for loss,” said Mahendra Shah, one of the report's authors and a United Nations advisor and expert on land use from Austria's International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis. “Many of these countries already have a food shortage,” he said, noting that the 40 countries considered most at risk now cope with 450 million malnourished people.

Globally, the report predicts a small net increase in food production, but the effects on different areas would be uneven. Though poor nations would bear the heaviest burden as a group, some of the developing nations would probably see increased production. Some developed countries, including Britain, Holland and Australia, could see crop yields decline as warmer, wetter weather increases diseases and pests.

The overall impact on the United States — the world's largest *emitter of so-called greenhouse gases, which are believed to contribute to global warming — is likely to be minimal, with possible small declines in the ability to grow cereal grains, according to the report.

The report is unique because, although others have tried to estimate the effect of climate change on individual countries, Shah and his colleagues ⁽³⁾ attempted to analyze food production worldwide. Their work takes into account current climates, soil, *terrain and land use.

The report comes as several developed countries, especially the U.S., are *balking at ratifying *the Kyoto Protocol, which seeks to limit emissions of greenhouse gases. One of the major arguments advanced by the Bush administration and other critics of the treaty is that it does not require developing countries to limit emissions.

The report's authors, however, assert that the developed countries, which emit the bulk of greenhouse gases, must ratify the treaty to prevent more suffering in poorer nations.

*sub-Saharan 「サハラ(砂漠)以南の」

*emitter < emit 「排出する」

*terrain 「地形, 地勢」

*balking < balk ^{ちゆうちよ} 「躊躇する, 渋る」

*the Kyoto Protocol 「京都議定書」(1997年12月に地球温暖化防止京都会議で採択された公式報告)

問 1. 下線部(1)を日本語に訳しなさい。

問 2. 下線部(2)を日本語に訳しなさい。

問 3. 下線部(3)に関して, Shah たちの報告が, 従来のもものと比べて“unique”である理由を日本語で簡潔に述べなさい。

問 4. 地球温暖化は世界各地の食糧生産にどのような影響を及ぼすと予測されているか, 熱帯諸国とアメリカ合衆国を例に取り, 本文に即して日本語で簡潔に述べなさい。

- [3] 次の文章はある本の序文の一節である。下線部(1)~(3)を英語に訳しなさい。
(30点)

私は書物というのは、万人の大学だと思っている。どこの大学に入ろうと、人が⁽¹⁾が大学で学べることは量的にも質的にもごくごく少ない。大学でも、大学を出てからでも、何かを学ぼうと思ったら、人は結局、本を読むしかないのである。大学を出ようと出まいと、生涯書物という大学に通いつづけなければ、何事も学⁽²⁾べない。私自身、これまでの生涯、書物という大学に最も熱心に通いつづけてきた。ときには、書物という大学の中をそぞろ歩きながら、遊び心で気を抜く行為もいろいろやりつつ、勉強をしつづけてきた。そういう先輩が書いたガイドブックとして、この本が書物の森という大学の中で、ときに迷いを感じている人たちの一つの手引きとして役立てば幸いである。そして、最後に、いかなる本を読む場合でも忘れてはならない忠告を一つ。本に書いてあるからといって、何でもすぐに信用するな。自分で手に取って、⁽³⁾自分で確かめるまで、人のいうことは信じるな。