

[ 1 ] 次の文章を読み、解答欄の枠内で下記の設問に答えなさい。

Between the 16th and 20th centuries Britain acquired the largest overseas empire the world has ever known. At its peak in 1921 this included almost a quarter of the Earth's land surface and nearly a third of its population.

However, within twenty years of Indian independence in 1947, the Empire was dismantled as Britain recognized it could not be maintained against widespread decolonization movements.

Imperial expansion was rarely the result of any 'grand plan' and took place for many reasons. Maritime trade was at the heart of empire and its profits made Britain one of the wealthiest European nations in the 18th century, leading to her early industrialization. Britain's imperial expansion then started to be driven by the need to find new markets for manufactured goods, which industry produced in quantities far in excess of those needed at home.<sup>(1)</sup>

The rapid technological advances, shifts in trading patterns, and growing empire brought new notions about imperialism. Empire came to be seen as a 'civilizing mission', with the export of British goods seen as part of a wider export of all that was best in British culture. Britain started to believe that its empire was the result of some superiority of natural character, rather than economics and military and naval power.<sup>(2)</sup>

However, the rise and fall of Britain's empire was also a story of shifting balances of power, exchanges of cultures and mixing of peoples. Its legacies are still with us today.

**Notes** dismantle : to take (something) to pieces  
decolonization (n.) < decolonize (v.) : to make a former colony  
politically independent  
maritime : of the sea  
legacy : something handed down from the past

- (1) 下線部(1)の “the need” が生じた理由を説明しなさい。
  
- (2) 下線部(2)を日本語に訳しなさい。

[ 2 ] 次の文章を読み、下線部(“mahoutship”)の理想と現実を、解答欄の枠内で説明しなさい。

“I took different jobs, but I wasn’t happy. Here, I’m very, very happy — every day,” says Ms. Miura, the first woman mahout at the Thai Elephant Conservation Center and one of a very few female elephant riders anywhere in the world.

Daily, she rises at 6:00 a.m. to walk into the forest to find her elephant — a gentle, eight-year-old female named Prathida — who has spent most of the night feeding while attached to a long chain. At 9:45 a.m. there’s a 15-minute bath, with Miura scrubbing dirt off the thick hide as her elephant wallows in a pond. Then there are two shows, at 10:00 and 11:00 a.m., when Miura commands Prathida to do everything from carefully moving a massive log with her trunk to painting a canvas or two to the delight of tourists. With the temperature rising, she leads Prathida back into the forest to rest and eat.

On afternoons, Miura helps out at the elephant hospital and other conservation center projects, continuing to deepen her knowledge of this complex animal. She has been accepted as a member of the center’s recently founded school to reverse the deteriorating state of mahoutship in Asia and preserve knowledge about the relationship of man and elephant handed down over the centuries. Other members have come from Taiwan, Switzerland, Laos and of course Thailand.

“It would be fitting if 4,000-year-old traditions took a few leisurely centuries dying out, but unfortunately many elephant-keeping cultures have degenerated and vanished during the course of one or two generations,” says center advisor Richard Lair. “In the old days being a mahout was a prestigious job. There was a lifelong bond between man and animal. Neither is true today.”

Not so long ago, a young boy would take charge of a baby elephant, and

they might well stay together to their last days (humans and elephants have about the same life span). They would be daily companions, often in remote jungle camps where there was little else to do but care for their charges and talk shop around a campfire with other mahouts. Elephant keepers and riders in Asia, be it in villages or royal palaces, were held in high esteem.

Today, in Thailand and elsewhere, elephants may well be rented out by big businessmen, much like a fleet of hire cars. The drivers are interchangeable. Even at the center, where mahouts are relatively expert and committed, they rush home on a motorcycle to watch TV after the day's work is done. There's little shop talk.

Miura spends most of her waking hours with elephants, living at the center, where she gets free food and accommodations but no salary.

The good-natured Japanese woman, who has been at the center for a year, concedes that mahoutship isn't something you learn overnight.

So how long does she plan to stay, Miura is asked. A long pause fusing into a smile and an answer: "Maybe forever."

- Notes** wallow : to lie and roll in mud, water, etc.  
leisurely : without haste  
degenerate : to become worse  
prestigious (adj.) < prestige (n.)  
talk shop : to discuss one's work with colleagues

[ 3 ] 次の文章を読み、解答欄の枠内で下記の設問に答えなさい。

Officials at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration — concerned about mental illness possibly emerging among astronauts during long space missions — have contracted with researchers to devise programs to help crew members detect their own mental health problems and those of their fellows. <sup>(1)</sup>

The idea is to prevent, say, your fellow crewman on a trip to Mars, or beyond, from starting to act funny, mumbling about ending it all and glancing strangely and longingly at the mechanism that controls the spacecraft's air lock.

“We have completed the first year of the project,” said James Carter, a clinical psychologist and professor at Dartmouth University in Hanover, New Hampshire, “and we expect it to continue for at least another year or two.”

The project is being funded under a two-year, \$440,000 grant from the NASA-backed National Space Biomedical Research Institute in Houston.

Carter said there have already been a few documented cases of mental and behavioral problems onboard Russian and Soviet space stations. For example, one crew member reported being suspicious of the activities of another. On another mission, concerned crew members reported to Earth one astronaut appeared depressed and would not work. <sup>(2)</sup>

Although candidates for space exploration undergo extensive physical and psychological screening, Carter said there still is the problem of how long-term space travel — with its isolation, close quarters, time away from home, tediousness and inherent danger — could impact mental health.

The prototype system Carter is developing would include self-guided procedures for preventing psycho-social problems — particularly geared to managing stress, interpersonal conflicts and mild depression. The systems might be guided by computer programming.

**Notes** mumble : to speak unclearly

National Space Biomedical Research Institute : 米国立宇宙生物医学  
研究所

prototype : a model or preliminary version

- (1) 下線部(1)について、考えられる原因を述べた部分を、本文中から英語のまま抜き出ささい。
  
- (2) 下線部(2)を日本語に訳しなさい。

〔 4 〕 次の文について、かっこ内に指定された語数で適切な語句を書きなさい。

(1) ( 2 ) the word in your electronic dictionary.

その単語を電子辞書で調べなさい。

(2) She didn't ( 2 ) at the office yesterday.

彼女はきのうオフィスに姿を見せなかった。

(3) My grandfather sent his luggage to the airport ( 2 ).

祖父は荷物を先に空港へ送った。

(4) You must ( 3 ) the times.

時代に遅れないようにしなければならない。

(5) No one should stand ( 3 ) of true love.

本当の愛を邪魔してはいけない。

〔 5 〕 次の文を英訳しなさい。

- (1) 窓から日が射すと母に言われていたのに、娘はカーテンを閉め忘れた。
  
- (2) ナンシーはやっと夫の無謀な企てをあきらめさせることに成功したが、そのうちまた彼は夢みたいな話を思いつくだろう。