

平成24年度入学試験問題 (前期日程)

英 語
(医学部医学科)

注 意 事 項

1. 受験番号を解答用紙の所定の欄(3か所)に記入すること。
2. 解答はすべて解答用紙の所定の欄に記入すること。
3. 解答用紙の他に、下書き用紙を配付するので、取り違えないように注意すること。
4. 解答時間は、100分である。

1 次の英文を読んで以下の各問に答えなさい。(40点)

- [1] My father began spending his time in prison — for a crime it later turned out he did not commit — not long after his twenty-eighth birthday. I was three years old. Shortly after he went to prison, my mother took me to see him. He had written her a letter asking for books. In addition, he requested a new pair of shoes: he was playing a lot of basketball in the prison yard to keep his head clear. He also asked her to bring my favorite book along. On the ride out to the prison, I held a box of brand-new black sneakers tightly to my heart, thinking of many important things to tell him.
- [2] I remember very little of our lives then, but that visit has the razor-sharp clarity and foggy blanks of a fever dream. We pulled into the broad prison parking lot and stepped out to face the gray front of a building lined with small windows. Mother lifted her hand against the bright sunlight, then pointed to a figure in one of the barred openings. Was it my father? She lifted me onto the roof of the car, and I held the shoe box over my head and shook it up and down. I thought I saw the man wave back.
- [3] In the waiting room, the guard called our names in flat tones, never looking us in the eye. He led us through a series of thick heavy doors and down long hallways to the visiting room. Once we were inside, I saw something soften in his face. “Sit right here, Miss,” he said. Mother lifted me onto a plastic chair, and my feet stuck out in front of me. I stared at the toes of my tennis shoes, which were marked in large letters: LEFT, RIGHT.
- [4] I sat still until a door in the far wall opened, and a large number of men came in. Out of the mass of giant shapes, my father stepped forward. His familiar eyes, nose, and mouth eased my fears, and I felt safe. He smiled and reached for me across the tabletop full of names and dates scratched into it, and despite the no-touching rule, the guard said nothing. When he took my hand, all the news I had rehearsed in the car flew out of me. I was surprised by the dry warmth of his skin, his white teeth, and the way he waited a little before speaking.
- [5] Our conversation was simple; he read me stories from the book that he had asked my mother to bring along, his voice ranging from bass* to falsetto* as he acted out the dialogue. I told him what I had eaten for lunch, and in the silence that followed I remembered the brand-new sneakers, greatly relieved that I had something to give him. “Look what we got you,” I said, and then hurriedly opened the box myself. I smiled as big a smile as I could and sat quietly while he admired them. “Beautiful shoes!” he said. “I’m going to beat them all.”

[6] At the end of the hour, the guard rested one hand on his gun, stood straight, and called the time. I panicked. I looked to my father for a sign — he would tell the man we weren't ready — but his eyes were wet, and he was silent. I turned to the stranger by the wall and tried to smile. ⁽⁶⁾ "Daddy," I asked, leaning my cheek on the table and looking at the guard, "Is that the nice man you told me about?"

[7] The guard seemed to nod at me, in what passed for kindness in that place perhaps, then turned away slowly and gave us a few extra minutes. Once we were given the extra time, we could think of nothing more to say. It was a relief when the guard said, "Time's up." ⁽⁷⁾

[8] In the noise of chair legs and hurriedly said goodbyes, we could speak again. "Hey, what do you want for Christmas?" my father asked. I stopped in the doorway and looked at his large dark figure. I wanted *him*. But his voice was trembling and filled with sadness, and I knew I should ask for something he could give. ⁽⁸⁾

"Something purple," I told him. It was my favorite color then.

[9] I still have the letter he wrote me that night from the prison: "It may take a long time, but I'll try to get you something purple. Here's the best I can give you right now." At the bottom of the page is a necklace with a carefully drawn purple star. ⁽⁹⁾

Adapted from "Flower Childhood" by Lisa Michaels, published in *The New York Times Magazine* (May 12, 1996)

*bass : 低い声

*falsetto : 高い声(裏声)

問 1 下線部(1)の理由について、最も適切なものを次の選択肢の中から一つ選び、記号で答えなさい。(2点)

- a. He wanted to play basketball to make friends with other prisoners.
- b. He wanted to play basketball to avoid being disturbed by troubling thoughts.
- c. He wanted to teach other prisoners how to play basketball.
- d. He wanted to practice basketball because he wanted to get more exercise.

問 2 次の文は、下線部(3)からわかる筆者の気持ちについて述べています。()に入る語句として最も適切なものを次の選択肢の中から一つ選び、記号で答えなさい。(3点)

The author was () because she hadn't seen her father for a long time.

- a. scared
- b. excited
- c. worried
- d. relaxed

問 3 下線部(4)について正しいものを次の選択肢の中から一つ選び、記号で答えなさい。(2点)

- a. The man in the window
- b. The man in the prison parking lot
- c. The man in the prison yard
- d. The man in front of the building

問 4 下線部(5)の them は何を指しますか。次の選択肢の中から最も適切なものを一つ選び、記号で答えなさい。(2点)

- a. The guards who are mean to him
- b. The other people in the room
- c. The police officers who caught him
- d. The prisoners he plays basketball with

問 5 下線部(6)の状況を最もよく説明している文を次の選択肢の中から一つ選び、記号で答えなさい。(3点)

- a. The girl is trying to get the guard to give them more time.
- b. The girl is trying to make sure she's not heard by others.
- c. The girl is trying to make friends with others in the visiting room.
- d. The girl is trying to urge her father to be friendly to the guard.

問 6 下線部(8)は父親のどのような心境を表していると思いますか。次の選択肢の中から最も適切なものを一つ選び、記号で答えなさい。(3点)

- a. He is eager to prove he is innocent.
- b. He is eager to leave prison.
- c. He is eager to please his daughter.
- d. He is eager to show his daughter his artistic talent.

問 7 下線部(2)の理由について本文からわかることを日本語で簡潔に述べなさい。(3点)

問 8 本文に書かれていることが、筆者がまだ3歳のときの出来事であることはどのような描写からわかりますか。その根拠となる描写を段落[2]と[3]の範囲から2つ探してそれぞれ30字以内の日本語で答えなさい。(2点×2=4点)

問 9 下線部(7)の理由を日本語で述べなさい。(3点)

問10 下線部(A)と(B)を日本語に訳しなさい。(4点×2=8点)

問11 本文のあらすじを、日本語で200字以上、300字以内で書きなさい。(7点)

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次の英文を読んで以下の各問に答えなさい。(30点)

Many parents have the idea that a baby who rarely cries is a “happy” baby. Ashlyn Blocker was that kind of baby. She never cried at birth, or when she was hungry, she wet her diaper, or her teeth were coming in. However, when neither a severe diaper rash nor a cut on the surface of her eye caused the tiniest complaint, her parents — Tara and John Blocker — realized it wasn’t happiness that kept her (1). Ashlyn could not feel pain in a normal way.

Now researchers have located a major clue about Ashlyn’s condition of being unable to feel pain. They identified two genetic changes that affect the strength of pain signals sent to the brain. “This is a gene* that, depending on how it is modified, has the ability to affect how people feel pain to a large degree,” said Dr. Roland Staud, a pain expert.

Since 2004, Dr. Staud has worked with doctors from many fields to better understand Ashlyn’s condition. They evaluated the Blocker family along with ten individuals who are able to feel pain normally. “When we found out what gene it was, we were so excited,” Tara Blocker said. “It’s really nice to be able to say, ‘This is why.’ It might be little, but to us it’s huge. Finding out more about our daughter helps us take better care of her.”

The gene in question, which is called SCN9A, contains the “message” to produce a molecule that acts like a battery to power pain-signaling nerve cells so they can generate signals. Changes that cause too much activity by that molecule lead to severe pain, whereas those that cause the molecule to not function result in being unable to feel pain.

According to Staud, “If you don’t have this gene, it’s like a soft whisper in the wind,” and he added, “Nothing much goes up the nerve, and you don’t feel anything.”

Ashlyn, now 11, does not have the most extreme case. Staud and his co-workers found that the genetic changes (2), but did not eliminate, sensitivity to pain. Whereas Ashlyn cannot feel what is normally a painful touch or heat or cold, she can sense warmth and feel someone’s touch or tickle, and on rare occasions, in cases of very severe illness, she has said she hurts. “This is an interesting finding for many families. Just knowing that there is a physical cause for a problem, in this case a change that causes reduced ability to feel pain, can be helpful,” said Dr. Stephen Waxman, a professor at Yale University.

Being unable to feel pain is rare, and since the first reported case in 1932, only a few other cases have been seen. Pain is a vital survival tool because it warns people of damage or possible danger. It is also a key element of emotional experiences such as being able to understand how others are feeling. Sickness and early death occur in greater rates among people who are insensitive to pain. Pain arises from both physical and emotional sources and

involves various nerves and areas of the brain. Sensations or pain come as a result of contact with an object or other sources such as heat, and a signal is generated and sent to the brain. Sometimes, as in Ashlyn's case, the signals don't get through to the (3).

For Ashlyn, that has meant many injuries over the years. She has bitten the skin off her finger, chewed her bottom lip, gotten serious burns on her hands, and broken her ankle in a bicycle accident (4) feeling any of them. Her parents have had to watch her closely to make sure she doesn't injure herself while doing the things she enjoys, such as swimming and running. They have also taught her how to look over her body for (5) of injury.

While scientists potentially could control genes to allow Ashlyn and others like her to feel pain more normally, they have to weigh the possibility that they might, in the process, set off other conditions such as epilepsy* or cause patients to feel too much pain, the researchers said.

This research into Ashlyn's condition has had another, interesting result. The findings apply to not just people who cannot feel pain but also, at least potentially, to cases in which people feel too much or constant pain. Many expect that this knowledge could ultimately lead to newer and more effective ways to treat pain. Once again, though, the idea of creating genetic treatments to block pain raises questions about whether doctors should remove a person's capacity to feel pain simply because he or she requests it.

For now, the researchers are focusing on identifying how genetic changes affect the way the body works and ways in which the body deals with the results. "It's kind of an experiment with nature that we're observing here," Staud said.

Adapted from "COM Scientists Find Genetic Clues about Pain Insensitivity" by Czerne M. Reid (<http://news.medinfo.ufl.edu/articles/from-the-lab/com-scientists-find-genetic-clues-about-pain-insensitivity/>; 2011/06/10)

*gene : 遺伝子

*epilepsy : 癲病(てんかん) : 大脳神経の過剰興奮によって生じる脳疾患

問 1 本文中の(1)~(5)に入れるのに最も適切な語句を選択肢の中から選び、記号で答えなさい。

(10点)

- (1) a. quiet b. complaining c. crying
d. nervous e. excited
- (2) a. increased b. decreased c. happened
d. caused e. bothered
- (3) a. pain b. emotion c. nerve
d. skin e. brain
- (4) a. by b. while c. nevertheless
d. without e. when
- (5) a. feeling b. signs c. sense
d. risks e. preparation

問 2 次の a~d について、本文の内容と一致する場合には T、しない場合には F を記入しなさい。(8点)

- a. Genetic changes in SCN9A can eliminate the ability to feel pain because the nerve cells produce many molecules.
- b. Any person like Ashlyn who is unable to feel pain should get genetic treatment.
- c. Persons unable to feel pain have reduced ability to understand others' feelings.
- d. Understanding why pain signals do not reach the brain could help in the discovery of new methods to treat pain.

問 3 本文の内容に沿って、以下の質問に 60 字以内の日本語で答えなさい。(6点)

Why does early death occur in greater rates among people who are unable to feel pain?

問 4 本文中の下線部分を日本語に訳しなさい。(6点)

3 次の問いに答えなさい。(30点)

近年、修学旅行の目的地として海外を選ぶ高等学校が増えてきています。あなたは、修学旅行の行き先として、国内と海外のどちらが良いと考えますか。どちらが良いかについて、理由を挙げながら、あなたの考えを150語以上、200語以内の英語で述べなさい。なお、内容も含め、文法やスペリングも採点の対象となります。