

英 語
(問 題)
2006年度

注 意 事 項

1. 問題冊子および記述解答用紙は、試験開始の指示があるまで開かないこと。
2. 問題は2-8ページに記載されている。試験中に問題冊子の印刷不鮮明ページの落丁・乱丁および解答用紙の汚れ等に気づいた場合は、手を挙げて監督員に知らせること。
3. 解答はすべて解答用紙の所定欄にHBの黒鉛筆またはHBのシャープペンシルで記入すること。
4. 解答用紙の所定欄(2か所)に受験番号および氏名を、マーク解答用紙の所定欄(1か所)には氏名のみを記入すること。
記述解答用紙の所定欄の受験番号は正確にでないに記入すること。読みづらい数字は採点処理に支障をきたすことがあるので、注意すること。

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5. マーク欄ははっきり記入すること。また、訂正する場合は、消しゴムででないに、消し残しがないようよく消すこと(砂消しゴムは使用しないこと)

マークする時	● 良	○ 悪	○ 悪
マークを消す時	○ 良	○ 悪	○ 悪

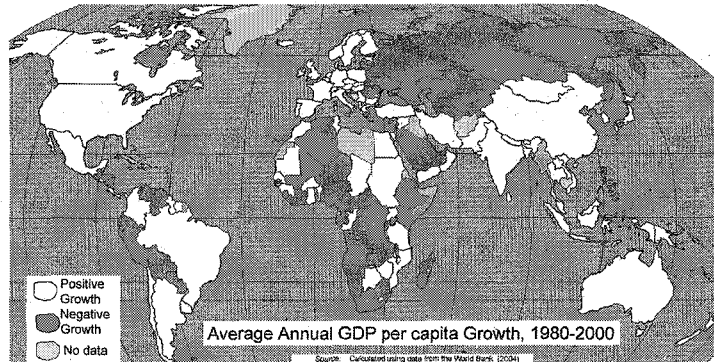
6. 試験終了の指示がでたら、すぐに解答を止め、筆記具を置くこと。終了の指示に従わず解答を続けた場合は、答案のすべてを無効とするので注意すること。
7. 試験終了後、問題冊子は持ち帰ること。
8. いかなる場合でも、解答用紙は必ず提出すること。

READING SECTION

All answers must be indicated on the MARK SHEET.

I Answer the questions below after reading the following passage.

① For the first time in history, we have the opportunity to end extreme poverty in the world's most desperate nations. Currently, more than eight million people around the world die each year because they are too poor to stay alive. Our generation can choose to end that extreme poverty by the year 2025.



② The map shows countries in the world in relation to their Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during the twenty-year period between 1980 and 2000. As many as forty-five countries experienced negative growth in GDP per capita. It is also illuminating to divide the world's economies into the following six categories, depending on their per capita income in 1980.

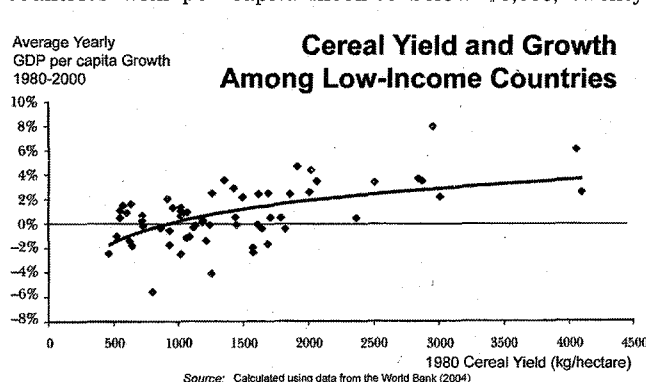
- All low-income countries
- Middle-income oil exporters
- Middle-income post-communist countries
- Other middle-income countries
- High-income oil exporters
- Other high-income countries

The biggest problem with economic decline is indeed in the poorest countries, especially, but not only, in sub-Saharan Africa. Another observation is that, except for oil-exporting and ex-Soviet countries, all high-income countries and most middle-income countries achieved economic growth. The only growth failure among high-income countries occurred in Saudi Arabia, an oil-exporting country. Among the middle-income countries, the vast proportion of growth failures was in the oil-exporting and post-communist countries. In the rest of the middle-income countries, twelve out of fourteen enjoyed positive economic growth.

③ The economic declines in the oil-producing and post-communist countries reflect very unusual circumstances. The oil-rich states are, of course, not impoverished countries, but instead are middle-income and high-income countries where the economic activity depends overwhelmingly on oil exports. These economies rise and fall in line with the "real" price of oil, that is, the price of oil relative to the price of imports such as machinery and consumer goods. The real price of oil soared during the 1970s, leading to the massive growth in living standards of these economies, but during the 1980s and 1990s, the oil price fell sharply, leading to a collapse of living standards. If there is a lesson here, it is that an economy dependent on a single product (or a small number of products) for export is bound to experience high volatility as the relative price of the product fluctuates in world markets. Since the price of oil is highly unstable, the real income of the oil economies has similarly been highly volatile.

④ The economic decline in post-communist countries is even more of a special case. These countries have experienced a one-time decline in GDP per capita as they changed over from a failed communist system to a market economy. Even in the case of the strongest of the so-called transition economies—the Czech Republic, Hungary, and Poland—there was a period of sharp reduction in GDP per capita for a few years as old heavy industries linked to the Soviet economy declined or disappeared in bankruptcy and new sectors took time to develop. The result was what economists called a transition recession. By the late 1990s, the post-communist countries had resumed economic growth, but from a lower GDP per capita than before the Soviet collapse.

⑤ Poor countries have a significant chance of falling into a poverty trap. Out of the fifty-eight non-oil countries with per capita incomes below \$3,000, twenty-two (or 38 percent) experienced an outright decline.



Yet the thirty-six other countries enjoyed economic growth. How is it that some very poor countries escaped the ravages of the poverty trap while the rest did not? Comparing those countries that made it and those that did not, the success stories show certain common characteristics. The most important determinant, it seems, is food productivity. Countries that started with high cereal yields per hectare, and that used high levels of fertilizer input per hectare, are the poor countries that tended to experience economic growth. As the graph shows, countries that began with very low yields are the countries that tended to experience economic decline between 1980 and 2000.

⑥ The biggest difference between Africa and

Asia is that Asia has had high and rising food production per capita during recent decades, whereas Africa has had low and falling food production per capita. The Asian countryside is densely populated, with a relatively extensive road network that can carry fertilizers to the farms and farm output to the markets. Farmers use fertilizers and irrigation, and food yields are high. Donor agencies gave plenty of support to the development of new high-yield varieties in Asia. Under these conditions, Asian farmers were able to adopt high-yield crop varieties that produced the famous Green Revolution of rising food production per farmer. The African countryside is much less densely populated, with an absence of roads to transport fertilizers and crops. Farmers do not use fertilizers on food crops, and depend on rainfall rather than irrigation. Donors have failed to adequately fund the scientific efforts toward improved varieties appropriate for African conditions. In these much harsher circumstances, Africa's farmers were not able to benefit much, if at all, from the Green Revolution development of high-yield varieties of food crops.

⑦ There are other tendencies apparent in the data. The Asian countries that experienced growth started in 1980 with better social conditions: higher literacy, lower infant mortality, and lower total fertility rates. They were, therefore, less prone to fall into a demographic trap of rapidly rising populations pressing on a limited amount of farmland. Once again, the Asian peasants were somewhat better off than their African counterparts. Another tendency is that poor countries with larger populations seem to have done better than poor countries with smaller populations. The larger populations probably increased the size of the domestic markets, making them more appealing to foreign and domestic investors. Perhaps it was easier to introduce key infrastructure, such as roads and power supplies, in countries with larger populations, since these infrastructure networks are characterized by high initial costs of construction that are more easily financed by larger and more densely populated economies.

⑧ Another reason for persistent poverty is the failure of government. The very poor are often disconnected from market forces because they lack the necessary human capital—good nutrition and health, and an adequate education. It is vital that social expenditures directed at human capital accumulation reach the poorest of the poor, yet governments often fail to make such investments. Economic growth enriches many households, but is not taxed sufficiently to enable governments to increase social spending proportionately. Or even when governments have the revenue, they may neglect the poorest of the poor, especially if those groups are part of ethnic or religious minorities.

⑨ A further possible reason for continued poverty in the midst of growth is cultural. In many countries, women face extreme cultural discrimination, whether or not those biases are embedded in the legal and political systems. In South Asia, for example, there is an overwhelming number of case studies and media reports of young women within the household not having enough to eat, even when there is enough to go around. The women, often illiterate, are poorly treated by in-laws and lack the social standing, and perhaps the legal protection, to ensure their own basic health and well-being. In short, there are numerous possibilities for the persistence of poverty even in the midst of economic growth, and only a detailed analysis of particular circumstances will allow an accurate understanding.

⑩ When countries get a foot on the ladder of development, they are generally able to continue the upward climb. All good things tend to move together at each step: higher capital stock, greater specialization, more advanced technology, and lower fertility. If a country is trapped below the ladder, with the first step too high off the ground, the climb does not even get started. The main objective of economic growth for the poorest countries is to help them gain a foothold on the ladder. The rich countries do not have to invest enough in the poorest countries to make them rich; they only need to invest enough so that these countries can get their feet on the ladder. After that, the self-sustaining power of economic growth can take hold.

[Adapted from Jeffrey Sachs, *The End of Poverty* (2005)]

(1) Choose the best way to complete these sentences about paragraphs ① to ⑩.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 In paragraph ① the writer suggests | 2 As reflected in the map, paragraph ② says |
| 3 In paragraph ③ the writer suggests | 4 In paragraph ④ the writer demonstrates |
| 5 As discussed in paragraph ⑤, the graph shows | 6 In paragraph ⑥ the writer explains |
| 7 In paragraph ⑦ the writer demonstrates | 8 In paragraph ⑧ the writer shows |
| 9 In paragraph ⑨ the writer demonstrates | 10 In paragraph ⑩ the writer suggests |
- A how Asian agriculture outperformed African agriculture, contributing to the former's extraordinary growth.
- B how gender discrimination can be a factor in the persistence of poverty.
- C how governments may contribute to the continuing problem of poverty by failing to provide economic help to disadvantaged social groups.
- D how, in post-communist countries, the change to a market economy led at first to recession, followed by fresh economic growth stimulated by the development of new industries.
- E how oil-producing countries benefited from a large increase in the price of oil in the last decade of the twentieth century.
- F how the nations of the world can be divided into six groups according to their fertility, literacy, and infant mortality rates.
- G that, among low-income countries, high grain yields in 1980 were associated with significant economic growth over the following two decades.
- H that an increase in the range of products a country exports will tend to promote economic stability in that country.
- I that East Asia and Western Europe differ greatly in their levels of investment in the poorest countries.
- J that it is likely to be easier to build transportation and energy networks in countries with larger populations.
- K that no high-income country in Western Europe or East Asia failed to achieve economic growth in the last two decades of the twentieth century.
- L that the problem of severe poverty in the poorest nations of the world can be overcome within the next twenty years.
- M that what the poorest countries really need from the rich countries is assistance that will allow them to start on the road toward economic self-sufficiency.

(2) Choose the FOUR statements that do NOT agree with what the passage says.

- A Although poor countries are capable of some economic growth, they will continue to require massive amounts of aid from rich countries.
- B Among the post-communist nations, the three which have gone through the change to a market economy most successfully are Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic.
- C Around two-thirds of the countries with a per capita GDP of less than \$3,000 experienced economic decline during the final decades of the twentieth century.
- D Crop irrigation and the use of fertilizers have been much more common in Asian than African low-income countries.
- E In order for significant progress to be made within poor countries, efforts should be made to improve the conditions of the poorest of their poor.
- F Many, but by no means all, of the poorest countries that experienced economic decline are found in sub-Saharan Africa.
- G More money is needed for scientific research into specific types of crops suitable for the agricultural conditions encountered in Africa.
- H Poor countries with larger populations have generally fared better economically than those with smaller populations.
- I The lack of an adequate infrastructure is a major reason for the inability of nations in South Asia to produce enough food.
- J The only middle-income countries to experience economic decline between 1980 and 2000 were either oil-producers or those that formerly had communist governments.

II Read this passage from a novel set during World War II and answer the questions below. The Japanese army has entered Shanghai, and in the confusion an English boy becomes separated from his father. After taking shelter at a hospital for a few days, the boy makes his way home.

At the tram depot Jim pushed through the waiting passengers and squeezed himself on to a concrete bench with a group of peasant women carrying chickens in wicker baskets. The women's bodies reeked of sweat and fatigue, but Jim was too exhausted to move. He had walked over two miles along the crowded pavements. He knew that he was being followed by a young Chinese, probably a runner for one of Shanghai's tens of thousands of small-time gangsters. A tall youth with a dead, boneless face, oily black hair, and leather jacket, he had noticed Jim outside the greyhound stadium. Jim guessed that the youth was interested in his school blazer and leather shoes, in his aviator's watch, and the American fountain pen clipped to his pocket.

The youth stepped through the crowd and walked up to Jim. "American boy?"

"English. I'm waiting for my chauffeur."

"English ... boy. You come now."

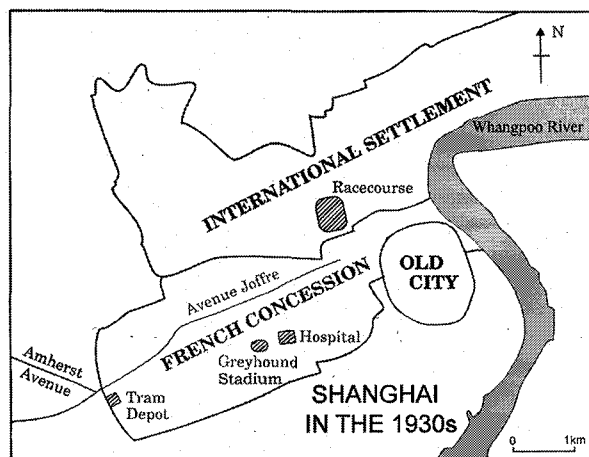
"No—he's over there."

The youth reached forward, swearing in Chinese, and seized Jim's wrist. His fingers fumbled at the metal strap, trying to release the watch-clasp. The peasant women ignored him, chickens asleep on their laps. Jim knocked away the youth's hand, and felt fingers grip his forearm. Inside his leather jacket the youth had drawn a knife, and was about to sever Jim's hand at the wrist.

Jim wrenched his arm away. Before the youth could seize him again, Jim hurled the wicker basket from the knees of the peasant woman on his right. The youth fell back, flailing with his heels at the squawking bird. The women jumped to their feet and began to scream at him. He ignored them and put away his knife. He followed as Jim ran through the queues of tram passengers, trying to show them his bruised wrist.

A hundred yards from the tram depot Jim reached the Avenue Joffre. He rested in the

padlocked entrance to the Nanking Theatre, where *Gone with the Wind* had been playing for the past year in a pirated Chinese version. The partly dismantled faces of Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh rose on their scaffolding above an almost life-size replica of burning Atlanta. Chinese carpenters were cutting down the panels of painted smoke that rose high into the Shanghai sky, barely distinguishable from the fires still lifting above the tenements of the Old City, where Chinese nationalist fighters had resisted the Japanese invasion.



The youth with the knife was still behind him, skipping and side-stepping through the crowd in his cheap sneakers. In the center of the Avenue Joffre was the police checkpoint, its sandbagged emplacement marking the western perimeter of the French Concession. Jim knew that neither the French police nor the Japanese soldiers would do anything to help him. They were watching a single-engine bomber that flew low above the racecourse.

As the plane's shadow flashed across the road

Jim felt the Chinese youth snatch his cap and grip his shoulders. Jim pulled himself away, and ran across the crowded street towards the checkpoint, ducking in and out among the bicycles.

A Chinese auxiliary in a French uniform tried to strike him with his staff, but one of the Japanese guards paused to glance at Jim. Briefly tolerating this small boy, he continued his patrol and waved him away with the butt of his rifle.

Jim joined the crowd of pedestrians moving through the checkpoint. As he guessed, his pursuer had vanished among the beggars on the French side of the barbed wire. Not for the first time Jim realized that the Japanese, officially his enemies, offered his only protection in Shanghai.

Nursing his bruised arm, and angry with himself for having lost his school cap, Jim at last reached Amherst Avenue. He pulled his shirtsleeve over the dark weals that marked his wrist. His mother worried constantly about the danger and violence in the streets of Shanghai, and knew nothing of his long cycle rides around the city.

Amherst Avenue was deserted. The throngs of beggars and refugees had vanished. Jim ran up the drive, looking forward to seeing his mother, sitting on the sofa in her bedroom and talking about Christmas. Already he assumed that they would never discuss the war.

A long scroll covered with Japanese characters had been nailed to the front door, the white cloth stamped with seals and registration numbers. Jim pressed the bell, waiting for Number Two Boy to open the door. He felt exhausted, as worn down as his scuffed shoes, and noticed that the sleeve of his blazer had been slashed from the elbow by the gangster's knife.

"⁽¹⁾Boy, hurry!" He began to say, "I'll kill you..." but checked himself.

The house was silent. There was no sound of the maids arguing over the laundry in the servants' quarters, or the clip-clip of the gardener trimming the lawn around the flower-beds. Someone had switched off the swimming-pool motor, though his father made a point of running the filter all winter. Looking up at the windows of his bedroom, he saw that the shutters of the air-conditioner had been closed.

Jim listened to the bell drill through the empty house. Too tired to reach again for the button, he sat on the steps and blew on his bruised knees. It was difficult to imagine how his parents, the nine servants, chauffeur, and gardener could all have gone out together.

There was a muffled explosion from the bottom of the drive, the coughing exhaust box of a heavy engine. A Japanese tank had entered Amherst Avenue, its crew standing among their radio antennas. They moved along the center of the road, forcing a Mercedes limousine to mount the pavement.

Jim jumped from the porch and hid behind a pillar. A high wall faced with terracotta tiles ran around the house, topped with pieces of broken glass. Gripping the tiles with his fingertips, he climbed the wall below the barred cloakroom window. After pulling himself onto the concrete ledge, he crawled on his knees through the sharp spears. During the past two years, unknown to the gardener and the nightwatchman, he had climbed the wall a score of

times, each time removing a few more of ⁽²⁾them. He lowered himself over the edge and jumped into the dark branches of the cedar tree behind the summer house.

In front of him was the enclosed and silent garden, even more Jim's true home than the house itself. Here he had played alone with his imagination. He had been a crashed pilot on the roof of the rose pergola, a sniper sitting high in the poplars behind the tennis court, an infantryman racing across the lawn with his airgun, shooting himself down into the flower-beds and rising again to storm the rockery below the flagpole.

From the shadows behind the summer house Jim looked up at the verandah windows. An aircraft overhead warned him not to run too suddenly across the lawn. Although undisturbed, the garden seemed to have darkened and grown wilder. The uncut lawn was beginning to billow, and the rhododendrons were more somber than he remembered them. Ignored by the gardener, his bicycle lay on the terrace steps. Jim walked through the thickening grass to the swimming pool. The water was covered with leaves and dead insects, and the level had fallen by almost three feet, draping ⁽³⁾a scummy curtain on the sides. Cigarette ends lay crushed on the white tiles, and a cigarette packet floated under the diving board.

Jim followed the pathway to the servants' quarters behind the house. A charcoal stove stood in the courtyard, but the kitchen door was locked. He listened for any sound from within the house. Beside the kitchen steps was the enclosed hood of the garbage compactor. A chute ran from the compressor into the kitchen wall beside the sink. A couple of years earlier, when he was only nine, Jim had terrified his mother by climbing through the chute as she arranged a dinner party menu with the houseboy.

This time there was no danger of the motor being switched on. Jim lifted the metal hood, climbed between the scythe-like blades, and edged his way through the greasy chute. The metal flap swung back to reveal the familiar white-tiled kitchen.

"I'm home! Boy!"

Jim lowered himself onto the floor. He had never seen the house so dark before. He stepped through the pool of water around the refrigerator and entered the deserted hall. As he climbed the staircase to his mother's bedroom the air was stale with the smell of strange sweat.

His mother's clothes were scattered across the unmade bed, and open suitcases lay on the floor. Someone had swept her hairbrushes and scent bottles from the dressing table, and talcum covered the polished floor. There were dozens of footprints in the powder, his mother's bare feet whirling within the clear images of heavy boots, like the patterns of complicated dances set out in his parents' foxtrot and tango manuals.

Jim sat on the bed, facing the ⁽⁴⁾star-like image of himself that radiated from the center of the mirror. A heavy object had been driven into the full-length glass, and pieces of himself seemed to fly across the room, scattered through the empty house.

He fell asleep at the foot of his mother's bed, rested by the scent of her silk nightdress, below this jeweled icon of a small exploding boy.

[Adapted from J.G. Ballard, *Empire of the Sun* (1984)]

(1) Choose the best way to complete each of these sentences.

- 1 The passage suggests that Jim's parents
 - A are wealthy people who have lived in Shanghai for several years.
 - B are wealthy people who have only just moved to Shanghai.
 - C have lived in Shanghai for several years, but are not very wealthy.
 - D have only just moved to Shanghai, and are not very wealthy.
- 2 The passage suggests that Jim
 - A is rather brave and aggressive, and likes doing things on his own.
 - B is rather brave and aggressive, but always does what his mother tells him.
 - C is rather shy and timid, and always does what his mother tells him.
 - D is rather shy and timid, but likes doing things on his own.
- 3 The passage suggests that Jim's mother
 - A has been taken away by the Japanese army, and that the house is now empty.
 - B has been taken away by the Japanese army, leaving only the servants in the house.
 - C has gone to look for him, and that the house is now empty.
 - D has gone to look for him, leaving only the servants in the house.

(2) Choose the one way to complete each of these sentences that CANNOT BE TRUE.

- 1 The Chinese youth with the knife
 - A wears sneakers and a leather jacket.
 - B follows Jim from the greyhound stadium to the tram depot.
 - C first takes Jim's watch, and then takes his cap.
 - D makes a long cut in the sleeve of Jim's jacket with his knife.
 - E does not follow Jim through the police checkpoint.
- 2 While he is within the French Concession, Jim
 - A sits down to rest in the tram depot among a group of women with baskets.
 - B throws one of the baskets onto the floor in order to escape from the youth with the knife.
 - C stops to rest in the entrance to a cinema that has been showing a pirated movie.
 - D notices flames rising above the Old City and an airplane flying over the racecourse.
 - E is protected by a French policeman carrying a stick from a Japanese soldier carrying a rifle.
- 3 After he leaves the French Concession, Jim
 - A finds that the street where he lives is crowded with beggars, although it is usually deserted.
 - B enters the drive of his own house, and rings the doorbell expectantly.
 - C notices that the house is unusually silent, and looks up at the windows of his own bedroom.
 - D hides when he sees a Japanese armored vehicle driving down the middle of the street.
 - E climbs over the high protective wall of his own garden into a tree behind the summer house.
- 4 In the garden, Jim
 - A remembers how he had often played soldiers there.
 - B runs across the lawn when he hears an airplane overhead.
 - C notices that the grass is much longer and thicker than normal.
 - D sees that the swimming pool is no longer clean and full of water.
 - E goes along the path toward the servants' accommodation at the rear of the house.
- 5 The last part of the passage shows Jim
 - A trying to enter the house through the kitchen door, but finding it is not open.
 - B entering the kitchen through the chute of the garbage compactor.
 - C opening the door of the refrigerator, and leaving a pool of water on the floor.
 - D going out into the hall and up the stairs, where he notices a strange smell in the air.
 - E entering his mother's bedroom, and finding it in a state of disorder.

(3) Choose the best way to complete each of these sentences, which relate to the underlined words in the passage.

- 1 Here, (1) Boy must refer to
 - A Jim himself.
 - B the gardener or the chauffeur.
 - C the servant who usually answers the door.
 - D the youngest of the nine house servants.
 - E the youth with the knife.
- 2 Here, (2) them refers to
 - A dark branches.
 - B pieces of broken glass.
 - C terracotta tiles.
 - D the gardener and the nightwatchman.
 - E the past two years.
- 3 Here, (3) a scummy curtain means
 - A a half-empty pool.
 - B a hanging strip of cloth.
 - C a large pile of leaves.
 - D a metal ladder.
 - E a wide band of dirt.
- 4 Here, Jim's image is described as (4) star-like because
 - A he is sitting on the bed.
 - B he is very tired.
 - C his mother is a famous dancer.
 - D it is very dark in the house.
 - E the mirror is broken.

LISTENING SECTION

All answers must be indicated on the MARK SHEET.

III Listen to the opening of a lecture, which you will hear TWICE, and answer the questions below. The lecture concerns Ichikawa Fusae, who was one of the leaders of the campaign for the political rights of women in modern Japan.



House of Representatives Election
10 April 1946



Ichikawa Fusae
1893-1981



House of Representatives Debate
May 1946

[Images from *Japan: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*, Kodansha]

- In the series "Great Japanese Women of the Twentieth Century," this lecture is the
A first. B third. C fourth. D ninth. E last.
- Upon graduating from high school, Ichikawa
A began working as a newspaper reporter. B entered Japan Women's University.
C moved to Nagoya. D started to work as a school teacher.
E visited the United States.
- Together with Hiratsuka Raicho and Oku Mumeo, Ichikawa helped to found the
A Campaign for Votes for Women. B Japanese League of Women Voters.
C Japanese Mothers' Congress. D New Woman's Association.
E Women's Suffrage Center.
- Japanese women were prevented by law from taking part in political activities until
A 1890. B 1917. C 1920. D 1922. E 1924.
- When Ichikawa's Women's Suffrage League was forced to disband in the fall of 1940, it had been in existence for around
A six years. B nine years. C sixteen years. D twenty-four years. E thirty years.
- Ichikawa first became a member of the Japanese Diet in
A 1945. B 1946. C 1953. D 1959. E 1965.
- Throughout her time in the Diet, Ichikawa served as a member of
A the Communist Party. B the Democratic Party.
C the Liberal Democratic Party. D the Socialist Party.
E no political party.
- Ichikawa was elected to the House of Councillors a total of
A two times. B three times. C four times. D five times. E six times.

IV Now listen to the last part of a radio quiz program, which you will hear **ONLY ONCE**, and answer the questions below. The program is called *Junior Masterbrain*, and there are two contestants, a girl called Abigail and a boy called Brian.

- 1 Before the final round of General Knowledge questions,
 - A Abigail is leading Brian by six points.
 - B both contestants have six points each.
 - C both contestants have sixteen points each.
 - D Brian is leading Abigail by sixteen points.
- 2 The first question that Abigail answers **CORRECTLY** concerns
 - A America's oldest university.
 - B Sir Isaac Newton.
 - C the bones enclosing the brain.
 - D the writer of *The Lord of the Rings*.
- 3 Out of her five General Knowledge questions, Abigail gets the right answer to
 - A only two questions.
 - B three questions.
 - C four questions.
 - D all five questions.
- 4 The first question that Brian answers **INCORRECTLY** concerns
 - A a candlestick with seven branches.
 - B shoes with long, thin heels.
 - C Sir Francis Drake.
 - D the story of Pinocchio.
- 5 The winner of the quiz is
 - A Abigail, after a tie-breaker.
 - B Abigail, by two points.
 - C Brian, by a single point.
 - D Brian, by four points.

WRITING SECTION

Write your answer in English within the box provided on the **ANSWER SHEET**.

V In recent years the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology (MEXT) has been encouraging public elementary schools to provide English conversation lessons during the periods devoted to General Studies. This has led to widespread discussion concerning whether English should be made a compulsory subject at the elementary level.

What is **YOUR** opinion?

- Do you think that English should be made a compulsory subject from the first grade of elementary school in Japan?
- Or, do you think that English should not be taught in elementary school at all?
- Or, is your opinion somewhere between these two extremes?

Write a paragraph defending **ONE** of these three positions, giving at least one appropriate reason to support your opinion.

[以下余白]