

第 1 問

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**第2問** Choose the most appropriate answer to fill in the blank from **a ~ d** for each question.

**問1** Peaches are out of ( 1 ) now. **6**

- a** harvest
- b** term
- c** sale
- d** season

**問2** My bicycle is ( 2 ) your disposal. **7**

- a** at
- b** of
- c** to
- d** with

**問3** ( 3 ) to London, she would have visited the Tower of London. **8**

- a** If she will go
- b** Had she gone
- c** Did she go
- d** She had gone

**問4** This year Christmas ( 4 ) on Tuesday. **9**

- a** appears
- b** falls
- c** sets
- d** turns

問5 Give this box to ( 5 ) wants it. **10**

- a anyone
- b someone
- c whom
- d whoever

問6 This committee ( 6 ) up of representatives from all the colleges in this area.

**11**

- a comes
- b goes
- c is made
- d is held

問7 This conclusion is based on a misunderstanding ( 7 ) makes the citizens happy.

**12**

- a by which
- b all that
- c about what
- d to which

問8 A: It makes no difference to me where I live.

B: ( 8 ). I can't stand living in a metropolitan area. **13**

- a It does to me
- b I'd like to, too
- c I don't, either
- d It makes me, though

問9 All the passengers have already boarded ( 9 ), but there is no sign of it taking off. **14**

- a the plane
- b in the plane
- c into the plane
- d on the plane

問10 The witnesses' statements ( 10 ) each other and the fact remained unclear. **15**

- a contemplated
- b confined
- c contradicted
- d conducted

**第3問** Read the following conversation and choose the most appropriate answer from a ~ d for each question.

*(Scene: a cocktail party. Speakers: two friends.)*

*Mr. A* I hear you have quite a collection of \*<sup>1</sup>matchboxes.

*Mr. B* Yes. I've traveled all over the world in search of new items for my collection.

*Mr. A* What country has provided you with the most matchboxes?

*Mr. B* Japan. Without a doubt, it has more different kinds of matchboxes than any other country in the world.

*Mr. A* I've heard that almost every shop in Japan has its own distinctive matchbox. Some of them are said to be quite beautiful.

*Mr. B* Japan's matchboxes are beautiful all right, but my most valuable trophy came from England. A solid-gold matchbox. Originally it was a birthday present to an English \*<sup>2</sup>duke from his wife.

*Mr. A* I didn't know matchboxes came that valuable.

*Mr. B* Not only is it valuable, it also has an interesting history behind it. It seems that the duke was always forgetting his matches. Since he was a heavy smoker, this caused him no end of inconvenience.

*Mr. A* I can imagine.

*Mr. B* The duke's wife thought he might be a little more careful of a solid-gold matchbox.

*Mr. A* And was he?

*Mr. B* Not at all. He was just as absent-minded with the solid-gold box as with the previous ordinary ones. Luckily, his wife kept an eye on it and \*<sup>3</sup>retrieved it every time her husband left it behind.

*Mr. A* That must have been rather \*<sup>4</sup>nerve-racking for her.

*Mr. B* Yes. She got tired of playing nursemaid to a matchbox and placed it on sale. That's when I bought it.

*Mr. A* I see. Do you have any other interesting matchboxes in your collection?

*Mr. B* I have one that almost cost me my life.

Mr. A You mean you had to fight someone for it?

Mr. B No. Nothing like that. I happened to spy an interesting-looking matchbox lying in the middle of a large street. Without stopping to think, I dashed into the street to pick it up. <sup>(5)</sup>That's the last I remember.

Mr. A You mean you were hit by a car?

Mr. B No. Worse. A truck. When I woke up, I was in an ambulance on the way to the hospital. But I was still \*<sup>5</sup>clutching the matchbox tightly in my hand.

Mr. A That was certainly an expensive matchbox.

Mr. B Yes. In some ways it cost me more than the one of solid gold. I had to spend a month in the hospital.

Mr. A Anyway, ( 6 ) you were glad to have a new matchbox for your collection.

Mr. B That's the sad part about it. I already had one just like it.

[ Source: Clark, William L. *Spoken American English (Advanced Course)* ]

Notes: \*<sup>1</sup>matchbox マッチ箱                      \*<sup>2</sup>duke 公爵                      \*<sup>3</sup>retrieve 回収する  
\*<sup>4</sup>nerve-racking いらいらさせる              \*<sup>5</sup>clutch 握りしめる

問 1 Which had the greatest variety of matchboxes? 16

- a Japan
- b England
- c The U.S.
- d Germany

問 2 What was Mr. B's most valuable matchbox? 17

- a The matchbox given to him as a birthday present
- b The matchbox he bought in Japan
- c The matchbox presented to him by a duke
- d The matchbox once owned by a duke

問3 Why did the duke's wife give a gold matchbox to her husband? 18

- a Because he liked gold better than anything else.
- b Because he asked her to buy it for him.
- c Because she expected him to pay more attention to it.
- d Because she wanted him to be proud of himself.

問4 What did the duke do with the gold matchbox? 19

- a He routinely left it behind.
- b He sold it to a collector.
- c He never used it himself.
- d He always kept it in his pocket.

問5 Why did Mr. B say “<sup>(5)</sup>That's the last I remember.”? 20

- a Because he was too excited to remember what he had found.
- b Because he was involved in a traffic accident.
- c Because he had a short memory.
- d Because he lost consciousness in the ambulance.

問6 Which best fills in the blank ( 6 )? 21

- a I doubt
- b I'll bet
- c I'm afraid
- d I assure

問 7 What is the meaning of the last two sentences spoken by Mr. B? 22

- a He sincerely regretted that he had sold that matchbox.
- b The common hobby of both speakers was collecting matchboxes.
- c It was needless to explain that he had the same one.
- d In spite of his action, it turned out to be in vain.

**第4問** Read the following passage and choose the most appropriate answer from **a ~ d** for each question.

Have you ever seen a small child suddenly stop crying because a clever mother \*<sup>1</sup>diverted the child's attention away from the pain? She says to the child, "Look, there's a pretty kitty!" The child temporarily forgets about the pain while focused on the cat. This happens because human awareness has a very narrow focus. Whatever we do not focus on we do not notice.

Where you focus your attention is important in developing self-improvement and happiness. According to an international survey, most people in the world think that, in order to improve themselves, they must eliminate their weaknesses. However, research results show that this approach to self-improvement is a huge mistake. Psychology professors at Harvard University discovered that the opposite is true. Because the ability of human consciousness to focus is so narrow, if we focus only on weaknesses, we can't help but ignore our strong points.

Your focus must be more on your strong points than on your weaknesses. If so, then you can concentrate your energy on developing them to an even higher level. ( 5 ), if the focus is only on the negative side, the strengths are ignored. If positive, strong qualities are not \*<sup>2</sup>nurtured, they may eventually wither and die, like a plant that gets no water.

There is a psychologist in Europe that tried this idea out on his own daughter. She had an average IQ, not much different than other children of her age. He found that she loved board games, so he taught her how to play chess. He began to study chess himself, in order to help her improve. This technique worked very well. She soon \*<sup>3</sup>surpassed him in skill and when he took her to the local chess club, she ( 6 ) all the top players. Imagine the astonishment of the old chess club members that lost to a ten year old girl! She went on to become a world champion. Her father helped her to develop her strength to genius level!

So, this way of approaching the development of high levels of improvement in

human abilities can work also in a teacher-student relationship. Teachers often say that they have no choice but to find and correct the weak areas of their students. But the Harvard researchers point out that they are not saying to eliminate all focus on weak areas. What they are saying is that there must be a focus on both weaknesses and strengths. They say that there is too much focus on weakness and that student strengths are being ignored and thus go undeveloped. They are calling for more balance.

Try this technique out on yourself or on a friend. Focus more on figuring out how to develop strong points and much less on weaknesses. The first question to ask is, “What are my strengths?” Then, when you know what they are, you concentrate your energy on making them better! Do it now!

[ Source: Matsuo, Hideki, and Stephen Edward Rife. *Reading Compass* ]

Notes: \*<sup>1</sup>divert そらす \*<sup>2</sup>nurture 養育する \*<sup>3</sup>surpass …にまさる

**問 1** Why did the small child stop crying? **23**

- a Because the child unexpectedly noticed the mother.
- b Because the child’s attention was directed to the cat.
- c Because the child felt terribly astonished by the cat.
- d Because the child was told to stop crying.

**問 2** Which is true regarding human ability? **24**

- a Human awareness has nothing to do with concentration.
- b Human concentration is too narrow for us to feel happy.
- c Human attention has a quite limited range.
- d Human recognition needs more focus than what it seems.

問3 According to an international survey, what do people think is important for self-improvement? **25**

- a To focus on education
- b To pay attention to happiness
- c To research on self-development
- d To get rid of weak points

問4 What did psychologists at Harvard University discover? **26**

- a Reducing our weaknesses is useless for our improvement.
- b Ignoring our strengths is beneficial for our development.
- c Concentrating on our weaknesses leads to neglecting our strengths.
- d Focusing on self-improvement is a big mistake for us.

問5 Which best fills in the blank ( 5 )? **27**

- a In consequence
- b In advance
- c By all means
- d On the other hand

問6 Which best fills in the blank ( 6 )? **28**

- a won
- b hit
- c beat
- d failed

問7 How did the daughter of a psychologist in Europe become a world chess champion?

29

- a By developing her potential in something she liked doing
- b By prevailing against her father, who belonged to a chess club
- c By practicing at the local chess club every week
- d By playing chess with other children

問8 What do teachers often say about their relationships with students? 30

- a They should find a great talent in each student.
- b They have to help students overcome their weaknesses.
- c They are superior to students in a teacher-student relationship.
- d They take an aggressive attitude toward finding weaknesses in students.

問9 What is the advice from the Harvard researchers to teachers? 31

- a To remove all focus on the weaknesses of their students
- b To focus on not only the weaknesses but the strengths of their students
- c Neither to find nor correct their students' weaknesses
- d To ignore their students' strengths to concentrate on their weaknesses

問10 What is the message of this passage to the readers? 32

- a They should notice the level of both their strengths and weaknesses.
- b They should concentrate on their energy instead of their weak points.
- c They should find out and make the most of their strong points.
- d They should consult experts to develop their talent.