

# 令和6年度入学者一般選抜入学試験問題

(B日程 国際経済学部)

## 英 語

### 注意事項

- 1 試験時間は、午前10時から午前11時30分までである。
- 2 試験開始の合図があるまで、問題冊子を開かないこと。
- 3 この試験では、問題冊子（7ページ）、解答用紙2枚及び下書き用紙1枚を配付する。
- 4 試験開始の合図があつてから、解答用紙に受験番号を必ず記入すること（氏名の記入は不要）。解答用紙は2枚あるので、必ず2枚すべてに記入すること。
- 5 解答は、解答用紙の所定の欄に横書きで記入すること。所定の解答欄以外に記入した解答は無効である。
- 6 問題冊子及び解答用紙にページの欠落や印刷不鮮明な部分等がある場合は、手をあげて、試験監督者がそばに来てからその旨申し出ること。
- 7 原則として、試験時間中の途中退室は認めない。  
ただし、具合が悪くなった場合、トイレに行きたくなった場合等は、手をあげて、試験監督者がそばに来てからその旨申し出ること。
- 8 試験終了の合図があつたら直ちに筆記用具を置くこと。
- 9 試験終了の合図があつて筆記用具を置いたら、机の上に問題冊子と下書き用紙を重ねて置き、その上に表にした解答用紙を問①の解答用紙が上になるように重ねて置くこと。
- 10 試験監督者の許可があるまで退室しないこと。

※ 解答は解答用紙に書きなさい。

1 Read the following essay and answer the questions on pages 5 and 6.

### How is Japan Revitalizing\* its Rural Areas?

- 1 In Japan, many rural areas have been experiencing economic and population decline in recent years. To fight this trend, local people and governments have been taking action to revitalize\* rural areas and create new opportunities for residents and potential residents. Four main areas of revitalization\* that have displayed positive results include tourism, promotion of local industries to encourage inbound migration\*, expansion of ICT\* through better infrastructure\*, and greater use of e-commerce\*.
- 2 One approach that has been showing promise is tourism. Rural areas in Japan have unique cultural and natural features that can attract visitors. In addition, most parts of Japan have distinct agricultural and handmade\* craft industries that can be used to advance economic growth. Local governments are working to promote these attractions through campaigns and infrastructure improvements. For example, the town of Tsuwano in Shimane Prefecture\* has been successful in attracting tourists by preserving its historic buildings and making its traditional streets more tourist-friendly, leading to increased economic activity in the area. Kyoto Prefecture's Ine Town is promoting its unique boathouse\* culture by creating public-built and privately-run\* facilities to attract tourists and expand the local economy. In Mie Prefecture, special events to advertise local art and food products allow visitors and sellers to talk. They have been held to help sales of seafood harvested by *ama*, the women divers\* who practice traditional fishing.
- 3 Another path to revitalization that has helped to push growth in rural areas is through the encouraging of local-industry production and employment. The Japanese government has been providing subsidies for new farmers and encouraging young people to try farming as a career. This scheme has increased the number of new, young farmers by more than double each year compared to the number before the introduction of subsidies. In addition, the government has provided support for people who want to launch new businesses in rural areas. For instance, many prefectures took advantage of a program introduced by MEXT\* called "*Center of Community Plus*," which was established to provide opportunities for internships\*, networking, and support for starting new businesses that would shine in rural areas. Moreover, to offer further assistance, the Japanese government is promoting the export of high-quality products, such as tea, to other countries, which creates new opportunities for farmers and manufacturers and helps to advance rural economies.

- 4 In addition to the above-mentioned initiatives, local governments are using ICT to revitalize local districts and grow profits. They are working to improve ICT infrastructure and services in rural areas to attract newcomers\* from Japan's large cities. One major success story is seen on Shikoku Island. Thanks to the addition of internet service that parallels the speeds in Tokyo, Tokushima Prefecture has been able to attract a large number of branch offices. This has resulted in an increase of people, new restaurants, simple hotels, and the redevelopment\* of sleeping farms and forests.
- 5 In an area related to ICT infrastructure, Japan's investment in country-wide access to the internet means that e-commerce has provided Japanese small businesses and individuals with a never-seen-before opportunity to reach customers across the world. By making use of internet platforms\* and social media\*, Japanese businesses are expanding their reach and selling their products to customers beyond Japan's borders. This trend has led to significant economic impacts for both sales and job creation.
- 6 One example of a Japanese small business that has successfully used e-commerce to expand overseas is *Sugahara Glassworks*. The glass making company, based in Chiba Prefecture, has built a global following\* through its online store and social media presence. Its unique handmade glass products have found many customers both inside and outside Japan, and the company has seen surging growth in sales as a result.
- 7 Local governments in Japan are also recognizing the potential of e-commerce to revitalize local economies. For example, in addition to physical stores, Gifu Prefecture has developed an English section of their website to promote local products to customers outside Japan. This online shop allows small businesses and individuals to sell their products to customers overseas, helping to support the local economy, local crafts, and jobs.
- 8 These success stories demonstrate the potential for small businesses and individuals to access the global market using internet commerce. The ability to sell products in English and to use ICT to reach customers outside Japan has created new economic opportunities and jobs in communities that would not have been possible in the past. However, there are also challenges associated with e-commerce. One of these is the potential for fraud\* and other security issues associated with e-commerce. Internet-based cyber\*-attacks by overseas hackers\* have been increasing. Their numbers nearly doubled in the period between 2019 and 2022. Although there are possible minuses and dangers, the potential benefits of e-commerce in Japan are significant. By entering the global market, and at the same time taking steps to reduce risks, small businesses can expand their customer base and increase profits.

9 The issue of failing rural economies is a serious one. Strategies being taken by local and central governments and businesses have begun to demonstrate economic growth throughout Japan's countryside. With vision, support, and government and private sector cooperation, once declining communities are seeing concrete results from their efforts. Continued work in these directions is necessary to ensure that rural Japan will see a brighter economic future.

References:

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\*revitalizing : revitalize の動詞形

\*revitalize : (再) 活性化する

\*revitalization : revitalize の名詞形

\*inbound migration : 他の都道府県からの移住や転居

\*ICT : 情報通信技術 (information and communication technology の略)

\*infrastructure : 生活や産業活動の基盤となっている施設、社会基盤、インフラストラクチャー

\*e-commerce : インターネットなどを通じて商品やサービスを取引する行為、電子取引

\*handmade : 手製の、手作りの

\*prefecture : 県

\*boathouse : 舟屋

\*privately-run : 民営の

\*diver : 水に潜る人

\*MEXT : 文部科学省 (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology)

\*internship : (大学生などの) 実務研修、インターンシップ

\*newcomer : 新しく来た人、新参者

\*redevelopment：再開発、再建

\*platform：情報配信やビジネスを行うための基盤、プラットフォーム

\*social media：ソーシャルメディア、SNS（LINE や Instagram などのサービス）

\*following：信奉者、支持者

\*fraud：詐欺

\*cyber：コンピューターに関係した、インターネット上の

\*hacker：他人のネットワークに不法侵入して情報を盗み取ったりプログラムを破壊したりする人、ハッカー

From the choices A to D, choose the most appropriate answer to the questions below.

- (1) Which of the following has the closest meaning and can best replace the first sentence in paragraph 2?
  - A. One approach that has ensured positive results is tourism.
  - B. One approach that has guaranteed popularity is tourism.
  - C. One approach that is likely to be successful in the future is tourism.
  - D. One approach that is the most efficient is tourism.
  
- (2) The word “distinct” in paragraph 2 is closest in meaning to which of the following?
  - A. advanced
  - B. common
  - C. outstanding
  - D. traditional
  
- (3) Which of the following can replace the word “shine” in paragraph 3?
  - A. emphasize
  - B. expect
  - C. light
  - D. succeed
  
- (4) Which of the following revitalization policies is NOT mentioned in paragraph 3?
  - A. Companies were encouraged to move to rural areas to create new job opportunities and organize networking events.
  - B. Financial aid is being provided for young people planning to become new farmers.
  - C. Some local governments were using a national program to encourage new businesses.
  - D. The export of Japanese products is being promoted by the government.
  
- (5) Which of the following is the closest in meaning to the word “sleeping” in paragraph 4?
  - A. calm and relaxing
  - B. happy and peaceful
  - C. poor and broken
  - D. quiet and idle

- (6) The word “surging” in paragraph 6 is closest in meaning to which of the following?
- A. decreased
  - B. ranked
  - C. rising
  - D. stable
- (7) Based on the information provided in paragraph 6, what is implied about Sugahara Glassworks Company?
- A. It has become the largest producer of glass products both in the domestic and foreign markets.
  - B. It has completely changed its production system through online technologies.
  - C. It has established a global presence through the effective use of social media.
  - D. It has expanded its customer base primarily in foreign countries.
- (8) Which of the following best describes the purpose of paragraph 8?
- A. to emphasize that there are fewer benefits of e-commerce than the potential security dangers
  - B. to emphasize the risks of e-commerce such as fraud, security issues, and internet-based attacks by hackers
  - C. to help us understand that the potential dangers of e-commerce are growing and will likely affect business growth in rural Japan
  - D. to show us that e-commerce can support the revitalization of rural areas if companies take care to avoid security risks
- (9) Which of the following is NOT implied by the author in paragraph 9?
- A. It is important to have strategies to develop rural areas.
  - B. It is not easy to revitalize rural areas in Japan.
  - C. Revitalization strategies have not contributed to economic growth in rural areas.
  - D. The public and private sectors should work together to see concrete results.
- (10) Which of the following is NOT mentioned in the essay as a reason for increased economic growth?
- A. an increase in the number of foreign companies
  - B. cooperation between public and private sectors
  - C. the export of high-quality Japanese products
  - D. the redevelopment of sleeping farms and forests

2

Write a paragraph between 120 and 150 words in English to answer the following question. (語数を記入する必要はありません。)

**Question:** What is important for human happiness? Write about two things that are important for human happiness. Explain why they are important.