

次の英文 A～E は全体でひとつづきになっています。これを読んで次の(1)～(5)までの問いに答えなさい。それぞれの問いに対して、答えをイ～二の中から一つ選びなさい。

A

①The beauty of flowers has been considered a general truth for as long as people have been leaving records of what they found beautiful. ②The Egyptians made sure that the dead had flower blossoms with them on their after-death journey; these blossoms have been found in the pyramids, miraculously preserved. ③(1)_____ ④There may be a few more, but not many. ⑤On the other hand, mountains were considered ugly until just a few centuries ago, and forests were thought of as the horrible dwelling place of the devil.

(1) 次の(a)～(c)は、下線部(1)に入るべき文を順不同に並べたものです。意味の通った文章とするのに最も適切な並べ方を選びなさい。

- (a) It seems that flowers were considered objects of beauty by all the great ancient civilizations.
 (b) These few things include the sunrise, the human face and form, and flowers.
 (c) This agreement about the beauty of flowers is remarkable when you consider that there are few things in nature whose beauty people have agreed upon for such a long time.

- イ. (a)–(b)–(c) ロ. (a)–(c)–(b)
 ハ. (b)–(a)–(c) ニ. (c)–(b)–(a)

B

①According to Jack Goody, an English anthropologist who has studied the role of flowers in most of the world's cultures, the love of flowers is almost, but not quite, shared everywhere in the world. ②One place where it is not shared is Africa. ③In fact, in most of Africa, flowers traditionally play almost no part in religious practices or everyday social activities. ④Africans seldom grow flowers, and images of flowers seldom appear in African art or religion. ⑤One possible explanation for the absence of a liking for flowers in Africa is ecological. ⑥The environment of Africa does not offer a lot of flowers, or at least not a lot of fancy ones. ⑦There is a limited range of flower species on the African continent compared to Asia or even North America. ⑧What flowers one does encounter on the African plain, for example, tend to bloom and then vanish in the dry season.

(2) B の内容に最も近い文を選びなさい。

- イ. Africans tend to notice flowers when celebrating historic occasions.
 ロ. Flowers are universally loved by all people and cultures in the world.
 ハ. The role of flowers in Africa may be affected by the environment.
 ニ. There is a highly diverse range of flower species on the African continent.

C

①Does the African example demonstrate that an appreciation for the beauty of flowers is actually case by case, or culture by culture? ②If so, why have so many different peoples felt this appreciation in so many different times and places? ③It is likely that the African case is the exception that proves the rule. ④In other words, the fact that there are so few cultures where flowers are not appreciated proves that the appreciation of flowers is a general truth across cultures. ⑤Or it could be that the love of flowers is something all people share, but they cannot

feel this attraction unless they are living in the right environment.

(3) C の内容として最も不適切な文を選びなさい。

- イ. Many people from different cultures and historical periods have appreciated the beauty of flowers.
- ロ. The African example is not common to most countries in the world.
- ハ. The ways African people use flowers differ from case to case.
- ニ. There are not many cultures in the world where the beauty of flowers is not appreciated.

D

①Let's say that, like bees, we are born with a natural attraction to flowers. ②It is obvious that it is good for bees to be born liking flowers, but what benefit could such an attraction offer people? ③Some scientists have proposed an interesting answer. ④Their proposal has not yet been proven, but it is as follows: the human brain developed so as to make us good at finding food. ⑤The presence of flowers reliably indicates where food may be found. ⑥People who were attracted to flowers, and who could distinguish among them and remember where they had seen them, would be much more successful than others at finding food. ⑦Recognizing and recalling flowers helped humans get to the fruit of these flowers, in the same way that if you know exactly where the blackberry plants flowered last month, you have much better chance of getting the blackberries this month before anyone else does.

(4) D の内容に最も近い文を選びなさい。

- イ. A country with a greater diversity of flower species has more available food.
- ロ. Humans' attraction to flowers may be the result of learning to survive.
- ハ. People have a natural ability to recognize and recall the names of flowers.
- ニ. There is a direct connection between success and the appreciation of flowers.

E

①Another point to consider is that perhaps our feelings toward flowers are deeply connected to our sense of time. ②Maybe there is a good reason why we find the passing beauty of a flower so moving, why we can scarcely look at a flower in bloom without thinking ahead to the very future when that bloom will no longer exist. ③Here is one point where we are different from bees because, of course, insects look at a bloom without thinking about the past or the future, whereas humans look at a blossom and have complicated thoughts about beauty and the passage of time. ④Perhaps it is (5)_____.

(5) E を締めくくる文として下線部(5)に入る最も適切な文を選びなさい。

- イ. because human beings are so symbolic by nature that they are able to look at flowers differently from the insect world
- ロ. human nature that will one day allow us to recognize the symbolic nature of flowers and thus better appreciate their importance and beauty
- ハ. the human ability to pass time that has contributed most greatly to the centuries-old practice of cultivating flowers
- ニ. the loveliness of a flower together with its symbolic meaning that accounts for its lasting attraction to humans over the centuries and today.