

次の英文を読み、空所に入る最も適切なものを A～G からそれぞれ1つずつ選びなさい。繰り返して選ぶことはできない。

¶1 ①A huge ice corridor has been discovered on Saturn’s biggest moon, Titan. ②The icy streak was [1] much of the moon — making it over 4,000 miles in length. ③“This icy corridor is puzzling, because it doesn’t fit with any surface features nor measurements of the subsurface,” Caitlin Griffith, lead author of the study about the discovery, said in a statement. ④Titan is the only object in the solar system other than Earth that is [2]. ⑤But unlike our home planet, on Titan the rain is *methane, which fills the huge lakes that exist on the moon’s surface. ⑥The source of methane on Titan is unclear, however. ⑦It is [3] comes from *evaporation at the polar lakes, but this does not account for most of what scientists observe. ⑧Finding out where the methane comes from is challenging, because the view of Titan’s surface is [4] its thick atmosphere.

¶2 ①That changed, however, when NASA’s Cassini spacecraft visited Saturn and its moons. ②Over the mission, Cassini flew over Titan many times, using various measurements — including radar and *infrared instruments — to give scientists a look at this unusual moon. ③Previously, it had been suggested that lakes beneath the moon’s surface could be [5], with ice volcanoes pumping it into the atmosphere. ④Griffith, from the University of Arizona, and her team were [6] ice volcanoes by analyzing images from Cassini. ⑤Their method allowed them to look at weak surface features that could be [7] ice and organic materials. ⑥This is when they came across the ice corridor — findings of which were published in *Nature Astronomy*. ⑦Researchers say the presence of the ice corridor raises the question of whether volcanic processes were involved in its formation — however more research will be needed to understand this unusual feature.

*methane : メタン *evaporation : 蒸発 *infrared : 赤外線の

(中央大)

- A. caused by
- B. found to stretch over
- C. known to have liquid rain
- D. looking for
- E. blocked by
- F. supplying the methane
- G. thought that some of it