春期講習　フレッシャーズ講座　新高1生英語　レベルチェック [解答時間:20 分、計 14 問]

辞書を使用しないで解いてください。

東アジアの若者の近眼問題に関する次の英文を読んで、後の問いに答えなさい。

According to a study published recently, nearly nine out of ten young adults in East Asian cities are *shortsighted and have to wear glasses or use contact lenses. The problem is not a new one. But in the past, scientists believed that the cause of the problem was (1). In other words, (2)it was thought that poor eyesight was something passed on to East Asian children by their parents. Another theory was that shortsightedness was caused by the *tendency of Asian children to study (3) and spend more time reading and writing than children in the West.

But new research suggests that the problem has a much simpler cause, (4)namely, a lack of sunlight. *Exposure to the sun's rays is believed to (5)stimulate the production of a chemical called dopamine inside the eyes. The eye works best when it is shaped like a *sphere. If the eye becomes even a little bit sausage-shaped, the lens cannot focus properly without the help of glasses or contact lenses. This research, published recently in *The Lancet*, the world's leading medical journal, clearly shows that bright light entering the eye causes dopamine to be released, and that dopamine keeps the eye ball-shaped, helping to prevent shortsightedness.

This research is sure to be something that will worry all those who care for children in East Asia. The average primary school pupil in Singapore, where up to nine out of ten young adults are shortsighted, spends only about 30 minutes outdoors every day. (6), Australian children spend an average of three hours a day in the sun. Only 10% of Australian children of European origin are shortsighted. The (7)figure in Britain, which has much less sunshine than Australia, is still only about 35%. In sunny Africa it is almost zero — in the range of 2% to 3%.

The highest number of shortsighted young adults in the world are found in the cities of Taiwan, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore and South Korea, where between 80% and 90% are affected.

The problem has nothing to do with how much time the child actually spends reading or watching television. As long as they get outside for part of the day, it doesn't seem to matter how much time they spend studying or playing computer games, which doesn't seem to damage their eyes. The children who are at most risk are the ones who never spend time outside.

Every country (8). In the United Kingdom, the National Trust has started a new campaign called "50 Things To Do Before You're 11 3/4". The Trust is concerned that children who do not have the opportunity to experience the natural world have emotional or (9)psychological problems later in life. But although the campaign is (10) to the problem of eyesight, it should encourage British children to spend more time in the sun, and so improve their eyesight too. The National Trust owns lots of country parks and mountain areas where people can go hiking and camping. When children visit the parks, special National Trust Rangers will meet children and challenge them to try some of the activities on the "50 Things To Do" list. Here are some examples of the challenges on the list: climb a tree; catch a fish with a net; catch a big beetle; make a mud slide; eat wild blackberries; hunt for fossils; watch the sunrise; go for a walk at night; grow something and eat it; light a fire without matches and cook a meal on it.

Some of these activities have been popular with Boy Scouts since they were founded in 1908. But some of the challenges are very modern, including the new sport of 'geocaching' in which people use the

maps on their smart phones to find ‘treasure’ hidden outside by other players. This game is now very popular in the United Kingdom.

Without realizing it, the National Trust is helping to improve British children’s eyesight by encouraging them to spend time outside. East Asian countries will have to (11)come up with ways of encouraging children to spend more time in the sun if they want to protect their eyesight.

註 *shortsighted 近視の *tendency 傾向 *exposure 露出、さらすこと *sphere 球体

1. 空所(1)に入る最も適切な語句を選択肢から選びなさい。
   A. general B. generated C. genetic D. gender

2. 下線部(2)の it と同じ用法のものを選びなさい。
   A. She is in trouble. It is a pity we should be able to do nothing for her.
   B. She didn’t phone me. It was Mike that she phoned last night.
   C. We keep the copy machine in the lounge. It is mainly used by the students.
   D. Long time no see. It has been a decade since I saw you last.

3. 空所(3)に入る最も適切な語句を選択肢から選びなさい。
   A. hardly B. harder C. less D. lately

4. 下線部(4)の意味として最も適切なものを選択肢から選びなさい。
   A. naturally B. that is to say C. it is said D. rather

5. 下線部(5)の意味として最も適切なものを選択肢から選びなさい。
   A. encourage B. prevent C. interrupt D. transform

6. 空所(6)に入る最も適切な語句を選択肢から選びなさい。
   A. Even so B. Similarly C. By contrast D. In fact

7. 下線部(7)を日本語に訳す場合に、最も適切な訳語を選択肢から選びなさい。
   A. 数字 B. 人形 C. 姿 D. 図形

8. 空所(8)に入れるのにふさわしくなるよう、以下の語句を並べ替えなさい。
   and decide / out of doors / their children / will have to look / to have / spend more time / how to encourage parents / carefully at the research

9. 下線部(9)の意味として最も適切なものを選択肢から選びなさい。
   A. financial B. physical C. intellectual D. mental

10. 空所(10)に入る最も適切な語句を選択肢から選びなさい。
    A. very similar B. closely related C. completely relevant D. not directly connected

11. 下線部(11)の意味として最も適切なものを選択肢から選びなさい。

A. bring over　　B. suggest　　C. reflect on　　D. promote

12. 第 1、2 パラグラフの内容と一致するものを選択肢から一つ選びなさい。

A. Few Asian school-leavers have the problems with their eyes that are common in the West.

B. Asian children have inherited a problem with their eyes from their parents.

C. The problem with the eyes of Asian children would be solved if they spent more time out of doors each day.

D. In bright light, children find it hard to focus without the help of glasses or contact lenses.

13. 第 3～5 パラグラフの内容と一致するものを選択肢から一つ選びなさい。

A. Australian children have better eyesight simply because the weather in Australia is so much better than in Asian countries.

B. British children suffer from poor eyesight to the same extent as Asian children.

C. School leavers in 80% to 90% of Asian cities have a problem with their eyes.

D. The problem is not caused by spending too much time reading, watching television or using the computer.

14. 第 6～8 パラグラフの内容と一致するものを選択肢から一つ選びなさい。

A. In Britain, the National Trust has launched a campaign to improve young people's eyesight.

B. The National Trust believes that children who do not spend time pursuing outdoor activities and learning about the natural world may have problems later in life.

C. All the activities listed in the National Trust challenge have been enjoyed by the Boy Scouts for more than a century.

D. Asian countries should introduce a campaign similar to that of the National Trust in the U.K. to prevent their children suffering from emotional and psychological problems when they are older.

巻末の解答で受講クラスを判断してください。全14問中、正解が 6問未満の場合には、基礎英文法講座『EGGS』のレベルチェック（P.21）を行ってください。