

2024年度東京海洋大学海洋生命科学部・海洋資源環境学部  
私費外国人留学生特別入試学力検査問題《外国語（英語）》（1／3）

受験番号 \_\_\_\_\_

氏名 \_\_\_\_\_

Read the article below and answer the questions in the following pages.

The COVID-19 pandemic has influenced the business and education worlds (0) \_\_\_\_\_ many ways. From school age to work retirement age, almost everyone has been affected. Let us look at the world of business.

Undoubtedly the largest impact has been the switch to having employees working remotely at least some weekdays. For businesses, long accustomed to (1) \_\_\_\_\_ all their employees in one location, with direct supervision by managers, this has been a major challenge.

(2) \_\_\_\_\_ remote working requires, of course, a stable broadband internet connection and all of the necessary computer equipment in the remote location. Any technical failure or a break in the connection can cause major problems for workers logging into their company databases or holding meetings on platforms such as Zoom. Remote connections also present challenges to security measures.

The upside for most employees is the reduction in stress that results (3) \_\_\_\_\_ long commutes on crowded trains, especially with the potential spread of the virus in crowds. Workers can sleep a bit longer, take a little more time getting ready to start work, dress casually, and avoid irritating coworkers in the elevators at the office. Perhaps the most positive advantage is not having their work interrupted by constant phone calls during the day.

The downside is being stuck at home all day. If they have children who are also at home all day, then they have to deal with their own work and their children's demands. And (4) \_\_\_\_\_ their previous complaints about "the office," they miss the camaraderie of friends at work and going out to lunch together.

Even when restrictions are eventually lifted and in-office work becomes more common, there is another issue to consider: how (5) \_\_\_\_\_ days a week should people go to the office? Already there is speculation that employees will want at least one day a week away from the office. The leading candidate according to informal surveys is Wednesday. On the other hand, working at home is just too lonely for the majority, so employees probably will want to come to their offices at least once in a while, for the camaraderie. While it is hard to predict exactly how things in the workplace will change, it is safe to say that there will not be a full return to the previous "normal."

J. M. Vardaman et al., *Japan's Dilemmas and Solutions*, TSURUMI SHOTEN, 2023, 14-15. (一部改変)

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私費外国人留学生特別入試学力検査問題《外国語(英語)》(2/3)

※ 解答はすべて解答用紙に書きなさい

受験番号 \_\_\_\_\_

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1. Circle the appropriate words below to fill in the blanks (1)-(5) in the article. The first one (0) is already done as an example. [15 points]

- (0) at / in  
(1) have / having  
(2) Accomplishment / Accomplishing  
(3) from / of  
(4) in spite / despite  
(5) many / much

2. Match the words (underlined in the article) on the left with the definitions on the right. The first one is already done as an example. [15 points]

- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 0) <u>a</u> retirement | a. the act of withdrawing from active working life   |
| 1) _____ supervision   | b. the act of guessing possible answers to a question without having enough information    |
| 2) _____ measures      | c. the state of something becoming smaller in size, amount, or degree                      |
| 3) _____ reduction     | d. the act of watching a person or activity to make sure that everything is done correctly |
| 4) _____ camaraderie   | e. a feeling of trust and affinity among a group of people                                 |
| 5) _____ speculation   | f. a set of actions for achieving something  |

3. Circle T (True) if the sentence is true to the article. Circle F (False) if the sentence is not true to the article. [10 points]

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| 1) The working generation was more affected by the COVID-19 pandemic than school children.               | T / F |
| 2) A proper communications environment is one of the necessary conditions for remote work.               | T / F |
| 3) The increase in the stress caused by long commutes on crowded trains is beneficial to remote workers. | T / F |
| 4) Most employees who are at home all day must have their children help them with their work.            | T / F |
| 5) Unofficial surveys suggest that many people would choose Wednesday as their remote work day.          | T / F |



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4. The article discusses the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on business. What impact do you think the pandemic has had on education? Write your opinion in English with using examples to support your opinion. The essay should have 10 to 12 lines, using normal-size handwriting. [60 points]

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