

2021年度

帰国生入学試験

【 基礎学力検査 】

[英語] 問題

1. 問題および解答用紙は試験開始の合図があるまで開かないでください。
2. 解答はすべて解答用紙の所定の欄に記入してください。
3. 受験番号および氏名は解答用紙の所定の欄にそれぞれ記入してください。
4. 試験終了後、解答用紙を問題の上にふせて置いてください。
5. 回収するのは解答用紙だけです。問題は持ち帰ってください。
6. [英語]の問題は1ページから5ページまでです。

I 次の英文を読み、設問に答えなさい。

(* のついた語句には本文の最後に注があります。)

Tulips, pretty little flowers with vivid colors, are very popular all over the world. They are very beautiful, but there is nothing special about them. However, you may be a bit surprised to learn that the flower has a very unique, dramatic history.

Today many people think that tulips come from *the Netherlands, but actually, that is not true. No one is sure where the first tulips came from, but one thing is clear; it was not from the Netherlands. The first wild tulips probably grew thousands of years ago somewhere between Northern China and Southern Europe. As far as we know, tulips were first imported to the Netherlands from *the Ottoman Empire (now Turkey) in the 1590s.

Rulers in the Ottoman Empire, called *sultans, were fascinated by tulips. From the late fifteenth to early eighteenth centuries, ①tulips were the symbol of wealth and high social position in the Ottoman Empire. People held special festivals to celebrate tulips. There was a special law to control the access to the flowers. Most people were not allowed to grow, buy, or sell them. Passion for tulips in the Ottoman Empire was so great that even a historical era is named after them; it is called the Tulip period, or the Tulip era.

So, how did tulips travel a long way to the Netherlands? A *Dutch ambassador at the Ottoman Empire was so fascinated by the flower that he decided to send several samples to his *botanist friend, Carolus Clusius, in the Netherlands. He planted the tulip *bulbs and found that they were strong enough to survive the severe climate of the country. More importantly, tulips were different from any other flowers in Europe at that time; their unique shape, soft and delicate lines, and vivid colors were very exotic-looking. ②It didn't take long before tulips became widely popular in the Netherlands and became a major status symbol of the era.

At that time, merchants in the Netherlands were very rich from trading with other countries. However, tulips were very difficult to get and many wealthy people wanted them, so the tulip bulbs became very expensive. At first only wealthy merchants could get them. But in 1630 a new business began: ③tulip trading. Traders bought tulip bulbs and sold them at a much higher price to other people. It seemed an easy way to make money fast.

For some tulips with unique *patterns, merchants would pay very high prices. Because of this, the prices of the flower bulbs increased sharply. ④Semper Augustus, a unique type of tulip with a striped, multi-colored pattern, was a good example. In the 1620s, it was 1,000 *guilders, and in the 1630s, it was 5,500 guilders for a single bulb. ⑤That 【 the money / was / much / a rich merchant / in / by / as / as / earned 】 a year! The huge price rise of the

tulip bulbs didn't end there. Everyone was borrowing money to buy tulip bulbs. Ordinary farmers and workers *risked their livelihoods to buy them. You may be surprised that one man traded his farmhouse for three tulip bulbs in 1633. By the first month of 1637, the prices of a single *Semper Augustus* doubled; it was sold for 10,000 guilders. That was more than the cost of a large, gorgeous house with a garden in Amsterdam. At that time, homes in that city were one of the most expensive in the world.

To everyone's surprise, the prices of the tulip bulbs kept growing. It seemed that the price would only go up and that the passion for tulips would continue forever. Suddenly, however, this tulip boom reached its peak and the market for tulips crashed. By the end of the year 1637, prices began to fall and never came back. Imagine that you bought a bulb for 10,000 guilders yesterday, but it is worth nothing today! ⑥This led to a *financial crash and panic all over the country. The lives of ordinary people were destroyed. They lost everything: their money, their homes, their lands, and their farms.

It is said that this 'Tulip Bubble' was the first recorded financial ⑦bubble in history. Since it is one of the most famous market bubbles of all time, there are many interesting stories about it. ⑧The most famous one is probably about a sailor. Surprisingly, the sailor was put in *prison after eating a tulip bulb! The poor sailor thought it was an onion and ate it by mistake. The "onion" was, in fact, a *Semper Augustus* tulip bulb. At that time, the bulb had the value of more than enough money to prepare food for a whole ship's crew members for 12 months!

According to some recent research, however, the financial crash was not as big as people thought. Even if the damage was not so serious, the story of "Tulip Bubble" surely gives us an important lesson: *Greed is bad and chasing prices can be dangerous.

Today, tulips are for everyone, not just for the rich. That is good news for the Dutch as they make hundreds of millions of dollars a year from tulip sales to ordinary people all over the world.

注)

the Netherlands : オランダ

the Ottoman Empire (now Turkey) : オスマン帝国 (現在のトルコ)

sultan(s) : 絶対君主 Dutch ambassador : オランダ大使 botanist : 植物学者

bulb(s) : 球根 pattern(s) : 柄・模様^{がら} guilder(s) : ギルダール (オランダの旧貨幣単位)

risk(ed) one's livelihood(s) : 生計の手段を危険にさらす financial : 財政の、金融の

prison : 刑務所 greed : 欲深いこと

問1 下線部①の具体例として述べられていないものをア～エから一つ選び、記号で答えなさい。

- ア Most people in the Ottoman Empire could not get tulips.
- イ People celebrated tulips at a special festival.
- ウ There was a law to limit the access to tulips.
- エ The Ottoman Empire was named after tulips.

問2 下線部②の理由として最も適切なものをア～エから一つ選び、記号で答えなさい。

- ア オスマン帝国のオランダ大使がトルコから持ち帰り、国中に広めたから。
- イ ある植物学者が、オランダの厳しい気候条件に合わせて改良を加えたから。
- ウ 当時のヨーロッパでは他に見られないような、珍しい色や形状をしていたから。
- エ その繊細な美しさから、高い地位の象徴として人々に愛されたから。

問3 下線部③の説明として最も適切なものをア～エから一つ選び、記号で答えなさい。

- ア Rich merchants in the Netherlands imported tulip bulbs from other countries.
- イ Wealthy people bought tulip bulbs and traded them for more expensive ones.
- ウ Many farmers planted tulips in order to sell them at a much higher prices later.
- エ It was a way to earn money quickly by getting tulip bulbs and selling them to others.

問4 下線部④に関して、本文の内容と一致しないものをア～エから一つ選び、記号で答えなさい。

- ア It was a kind of tulip with unusual patterns.
- イ It had a striped pattern and many different colors.
- ウ In the 1620s, its value was more than 5,000 guilders per bulb.
- エ By January 1637, its bulb cost more than a large house in Amsterdam.

問5 下線部⑤が「それは、裕福な商人が一年に稼ぐお金と同じくらい多かったのだ。」という意味になるように、【 】内の語(句)を並べ替えなさい。

問6 下線部⑥の具体的な内容として最も適切なものをア～エから一つ選び、記号で答えなさい。

- ア The prices of the tulip bulbs continued growing.
- イ The tulip market survived after the tulip boom reached its peak.
- ウ The tulip prices began to fall and never came back.
- エ The value of the tulip bulbs went up to 10,000 guilders.

Ⅱ 次の英文を読み、下線部を英語になおしなさい。

There is too much light in many cities around the world. It comes from street-lights, building lights, and advertising lights for stores and other businesses. From a distance you can see the glow of many cities in the night sky.

Too much light can make seeing stars harder. ①もし星をはっきり見たければ、人々はより光の少ない場所へ行かなければならない。 Observatories, a building for scientists to watch the planets and the stars, are usually located in low-light areas. For example, the California Institute of Technology built its observatory on Palomar Mountain in the 1930s. ②この場所は、とても暗くて科学者たちが非常に遠くの星を見ることができたので、選ばれた。 But over the years many cities have been built up in southern California, and ③それらの都市から来る光のために、夜の空は以前より明るくなってしまった。 The Palomar Observatory has tried to work with local governments to reduce the light so that they can continue their important work.

【以下余白】

