

I 次の英文を読んで、下の問いに答えなさい。

(星印(*)の付いた語には本文の後に注があります。)

I once showed my mother a photograph taken of me by a professional photographer. Instead of commenting on the glamorous pose and makeup, she said, “One of your eyes is smaller than the other.” Then she turned to me and gripped my chin as she examined my face. “It is,” she pronounced. “Your left eye is smaller.” For a while after, whenever she saw me, she inspected my eye and repeated her concern. During that time, I too became (1) with my left eye. My mother’s perspective had become my own.

(2) When else does a slight imperfection — a pimple*, for example — become the most prominent feature on your face? When you’re looking in a mirror. A mother who focuses on her daughter’s appearance — often on the Big Three: hair, clothes and weight — is regarding her daughter in the same way that she looks at herself in a mirror. (3), the more this seemed to account for some of the best and worst aspects of the mother-daughter relationship: Each tends to see the other as a reflection of herself. It’s wonderful when this means caring (4) deeply, being interested in details and truly understanding the other. But it can cause frustration when it means examining the other for flaws in the same way that you examine yourself.

The mirror image is particularly apt during the teenage years. At this age, a girl may spend hours in front of a full-length mirror, searching her reflection for tiny imperfections that fill her with dread. And it is typically also at this age that she is most critical of her mother. The teenage girl criticizes her mother just as she scans her own mirror image for imperfections.

Part of a mother’s job is to make sure all goes well for her children; for a daughter, that often means helping her improve her appearance. But there is a double irony here. From the mother’s point of view, the person you most want to help, protect and advise is often the one least likely to welcome your help,

protection and advice. From the daughter's perspective, the person whom you most want to think you're perfect ⁽⁵⁾ is the one most likely to see your flaws — and tell you about them. And when she does, your reaction is far more extreme than it would be if anyone else made the same comment.

To the daughter on the receiving end of a mother's suggestion that she get a better haircut, wear a different dress or lose a few pounds, it can seem that her mother cares only about appearance, especially if the daughter expected the focus to be on something else. For example, a woman who had just been promoted to a prominent position eagerly anticipated her mother's response when her picture appeared in the newspaper; what her mother said was, "I could see you didn't have time to cut your bangs*." It's an aargh* (you might say, a hair-tearing) moment: My mother dismisses my achievements and focuses on my appearance — even worse, how my appearance falls short. ⁽⁶⁾

But here's another way to look at it: Your mother may assume it goes without saying that she is proud of you. Everyone knows that. And everyone probably also notices that your bangs are obscuring your vision — and their view of your eyes. Because others won't say anything, your mother may feel it's her (7) to tell you.

The desire to help a daughter (or mother) look her best may be entirely selfless, but if the person you're trying to help reflects yourself, there may also be an element of self-interest. Daughters and mothers often feel that the other represents her to the world. And it's true that people tend to hold mothers (and not fathers) responsible for their children's faults. Someone who disapproves of how a young woman is dressed will often think, and may ask out loud, "How did her mother let her go out looking like that?" ⁽⁸⁾

Yet a mother's concern may have no selfish component at all; she may be worried about her daughter's health rather than, or in addition to, her appearance. That was true in the case of my mother and my smaller eye. She had read that thyroid* problems could present themselves as a difference in eye

size, and she wanted me to go to a doctor and check it out. In fact, the era of my smaller eye ended when I reported that my doctor had found that my thyroid was fine.

When a woman sees in her daughter the same worrisome characteristic that her own mother once saw in her, her reaction can be complex and confusing. One woman said that because her own mother had always been after her to get her hair off her face, tie it back, smooth it down, she determined not to bother her own daughter that way. ⁽⁹⁾ “But the ‘not saying anything’ is in itself an obsession,” she said. “Other people mention it all the time.” The child had inherited thick curly hair from her — the same hair that she had inherited from her mother. Her impulse to help her daughter gain control of her hair was intensified because she felt responsible for it — just as her mother, looking at her as a child, recalled her own struggles with the same hair.

I once said to my sister, “Mom always told me my hair was too long. Did she ever annoy you about your hair?” “Yes,” my sister replied. “She always told me it was too short.” This made us laugh. Then my sister added, “The funny thing is, her hair never looked good. Remember how it always stuck out on one side?” I did indeed; we laughed some more. But then I realized with embarrassment that I often told my mother that her hair didn’t look good — and volunteered to fix it.

Then a picture came to my mind, a precious memory from my mother’s last years: I am standing behind my mother facing her bedroom mirror, combing her hair and smoothing it down. She is so small compared with me. The impulse to protect and care for her floods over me. Recalling that image, I understood at last that her fussing over my appearance really could have been, all along, a gesture of love.

(注)

pimple: a small raised red spot on the skin

bangs: hair cut straight across the forehead

aargh: an expression of annoyance, dismay, embarrassment or frustration

thyroid: 甲状腺(の)

1. 空所(1)に入る最も適切な語を次の中から1つ選び、記号で答えなさい。
(A) disliked (B) fascinated (C) preoccupied (D) satisfied
2. 下線部(2)の perspective と同じ意味を表す3語からなる表現を本文中から選び、英語で答えなさい。
3. 空所(3)に、次の語を最も適切な順に並べかえて入れると、4番目にくる語は何になりますか。その語の記号で答えなさい。ただし、文頭にくる語も小文字で示してあります。
(A) thought (B) it (C) more (D) I (E) about (F) the
4. 下線部(4)の this の内容を、日本語で説明しなさい。
5. 下線部(5)の the person whom you most want to think you're perfect は、具体的には誰を指しますか。本文中の英語1語で答えなさい。
6. 下線部(6)を日本語に訳しなさい。
7. 空所(7)に入る最も適切な語を次の中から1つ選び、記号で答えなさい。
(A) hope (B) obligation (C) pleasure (D) suggestion
8. 下線部(8)(引用符“ ”の内部)を日本語に訳しなさい。

9. 下線部(9)の after her の代わりに使える表現として最も適切なものを, 次の中から 1 つ選び, 記号で答えなさい。

- (A) imitating her (B) letting her
(C) looking for her (D) pushing her

10. 次の中から, 本文の内容と合っていないものを 3 つ選び, 選択肢の順に記号で答えなさい。

- (A) Few people think that mothers are to be blamed for their children's problems.
- (B) The author was worried about her smaller eye because her mother said the same thing about it again and again.
- (C) The author believes that her mother might have paid attention to her appearance in order to pretend to love her.
- (D) Just because a mother says nothing about her daughter's hair, that does not mean that she does not care about it.
- (E) The author used to comment on her mother's hair.
- (F) The author's mother stopped being critical of her smaller eye when she learned that it had something to do with health.
- (G) Mothers and daughters perceive each other as if looking into a mirror.

Ⅱ 次の英文を読んで、下の問いに答えなさい。

(星印(*)の付いた語には本文の後に注があります。)

If I was going to change how I felt about my stage fright, I had to change the words I was using to describe it. I mentioned all this to an old mate, and together we came up with a better word than “scared” or “nervous” to describe the adrenaline* rush we all get when out of our comfort zones. For years, this has helped me embrace the changes that come with life. But last year, something happened to make me realize the idea was worth (1).

I was taking my five-year-old son, Connor, to the orientation day at his new school. We were walking along — I was carrying him on my shoulders — and he seemed happy enough as he hung onto the back of my head.

He chatted away, asking the questions that are so important to a five-year-old: “Where do they keep the video games?”; “Do they have cable TV?”; “Where do I go to buy ice candy?”

Then we turned the corner and Connor froze in mid-sentence. He saw the imposing school gates and the noisy groups of older children. I felt his little hands grip my hair, and he became very quiet.

He whispered, “Dad, it’s all funny in my stomach, and I feel a bit shy.” I asked if he was afraid. “No!” he said, “I’m not scared. I’ve just got ‘newfeeling’.”
(2)

Newfeeling! This word I’d made up years earlier and had talked about with Connor was helping him cope with the biggest day of change in his young life so far. I was over the moon.

(3)
No one loves change. I’m a pharmacist* turned copywriter turned comedian turned wine writer turned author and speaker, and I still find change very challenging. If you ever hear anyone proudly say, “Change never scares me! I am The Change Master,” point at them and say, “That’s a lie!” But having changed careers so many times, I’ve ended up becoming a student of what it

takes to change.

It all comes down to two important facts:

1. Life *is* change. Get this and you're halfway there. I'm not saying "life is full of change" or "change is such a big part of life." No. Life *is* change. When I was young, I always thought that life was about collecting enough wealth so you could sit down with your wife and two kids and everything would be just wonderful. But I learned fact No. 1 by making the mistake covered in fact No. 2.

2. When you refuse to change, you don't hold onto the past but lose the future. You can't get a new girlfriend until you stop hanging onto the old girlfriend. I couldn't throw myself into comedy until I resigned from my advertising job. Flexible or stuck? The choice is yours.

⁽⁴⁾We tend to seek patterns and love certainty. When we're trying something ⁽⁵⁾different, one part of our brains releases adrenaline that gives us sweaty palms and a tight feeling in our guts. It's such a shame that the only English words we have for describing this are negative. Some people call it fear or nerves, and some call it knots in the stomach. Sadly, for some of us, it's "that thing that stops me learning a language/starting a business/phoning that girl."

That's why I prefer "newfeeling"—it's neutral. In the same way that walking outside on a hot day makes you feel "hot," when you go out of your comfort zone you get "newfeeling." It's up to you if "hot" and "newfeeling" are good or bad.

To explain the real importance of choosing the right word, I'll quote the philosopher Wittgenstein: "The limits of one's language are the limits of one's world." ⁽⁶⁾The number of ways you can talk about something determines the number of ways you can think about it, and that determines how you feel about it. So change the word, change the meaning, and change the feeling.

On his first day of school, Connor told himself he didn't feel "scared"; he just had "newfeeling." Because we often talked about this at home, he knew this was a normal and natural thing to feel.

Every single time I go on stage, I stand at the back of the room and say to myself, “Marty, you are not scared; you have newfeeling.” This doesn’t make the adrenaline go away, but it lets me see it as a normal — not frightening — thing.
(7)

(注)

adrenaline : アドレナリン(副腎髄質ホルモン)

pharmacist : someone who prepares and sells medicines

1. 空所(1)に入る最も適切な語を次の中から1つ選び、記号で答えなさい。
(A) avoiding (B) fearing (C) flying (D) sharing
2. 下線部(2)の ‘newfeeling’ について、筆者の息子はなぜこの語を使ったのか、その理由として最も適切なものを次の中から1つ選び、記号で答えなさい。
(A) Because he forgot the word “afraid.”
(B) Because his father hated the word “newfeeling.”
(C) Because he didn’t want to be negative.
(D) Because he wanted to show his talent for making a new word.
3. 下線部(3)の over the moon の意味として最も適切なものを次の中から1つ選び、記号で答えなさい。
(A) very angry (B) very happy (C) very lonely (D) very scared
4. 下線部(4)はどういうことを言っていますか。The choice の内容を明らかにして日本語で説明しなさい。
5. 下線部(5)の文を次のように言い換えるとすれば、()の中にはどのような語が入りますか。本文から最も適切な1語を選び、英語で答えなさい。
We usually don’t want to () .

6. 下線部(6)を日本語に訳しなさい。

7. 下線部(7)の adrenaline の代わりに使える語として最も適切なものを次の中から1つ選び、記号で答えなさい。

(A) anxiety (B) limits (C) naturalness (D) passion

Ⅲ 次の[A][B]に答えなさい。

[A] 次の文を読んで、下の問いに答えなさい。

The number of Japanese students studying overseas has been (ア). According to an Education Ministry report, the number of students traveling abroad for higher education in 2007 was just 75,156; this is the third consecutive* year in which the figure has declined. It appears as though ambition has gone missing from today's youth, and they have been turning increasingly inward*.

The Japan-U.S. Educational Commission's executive director believes that while youth of the past were filled with ambition to explore, 今の若者は日本の生活が快適過ぎて、あえて外の世界で冒険する必要はないと思うのだろう。⁽¹⁾ He also suggests that 3年次に就職活動が開始、学費値上がり、インターネットの普及、⁽²⁾ など複数の要因が現状を引き起こしたのではないか。

A former president of a university in Tokyo (イ) the lack of response from young people despite many opportunities for scholarships, saying that the ratio of applicants to scholarship openings is 1:1. 若者はお金があっても、なかなか海外に出たがらない。⁽³⁾ (ウ), he does not believe that this is the result of an inward-looking nature among youth: The problem is environment. Japanese universities try to fence in students so that they can fill their campuses to capacity, and instructors hate to let go of talented students.

(注)

consecutive : 連続した

inward : 内向きな

1. ア, イ, ウに入る最も適切な語を選び、記号で答えなさい。

ア. (A) dropping (B) disappearing (C) increasing (D) widening

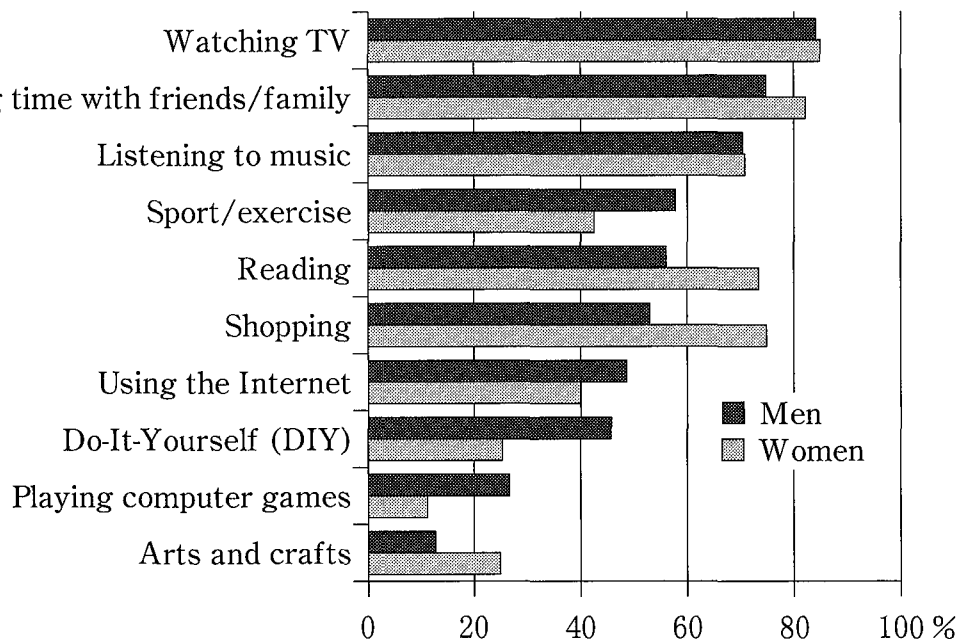
イ. (A) appreciates (B) comments (C) praises (D) regrets

ウ. (A) However (B) Instead (C) Otherwise (D) Therefore

2. 空所A～Fに指定の語数からなる最も適切な英語を入れて、下線部(1)～(3)の英訳を完成させなさい。ただし、文頭にくる語は大文字で始めなさい。

- (1) Youth today are not inclined to go out of their way to (A [2 語]) in the outside world because they find their lives too (B [1 語]).
- (2) Factors (C [2 語]) the job-hunt beginning in their third year of college, increased tuition, and the spread of the Internet have (D [1 語]) the current state of affairs.
- (3) (E [2 語]) they have money, young people (F [1 語]) the desire to go abroad.

[B] 下のグラフは、イギリス人の余暇の過ごし方についての統計調査結果(2006～2007年)です。(1)(2)それぞれで与えられた語句をすべて用いて、各文10語程度の英文でこのグラフについて説明しなさい。ただし、語形は変化させてもかまいません。



- (1) watching TV, leisure
- (2) reading, shopping