

次の英文を読んで、設問に答えなさい。

Years ago while I was editing a movie in Hollywood, the boy champion chess-player of the world, aged seven, visited Los Angeles. He was to give an exhibition at the Athletic Club, playing chess with twenty men at the same time, among them Dr. Jones, the champion of California. The boy had a thin, pale, intense little face with large eyes that stared angrily when he met people. I had been warned that he was not so friendly (1) that he seldom shook hands with anybody. He came to the (a)studio when I was working.

After his (1)(b)manager had introduced us and (c)spoken a few words, the boy stood staring at me in silence. I went on with my editing, looking at strips of film.

A moment later I turned to him. "Do you like peaches?"

"Yes," he answered.

"Well, we have a tree full of them in the studio garden; you can climb up and get some -- at the same time get one for me."

His face lit up. "Oh good! Where's the tree?"

"Carl will show you," I said, (1)referring to my assistant.

Fifteen minutes later he returned, delighted, with several peaches. That was the beginning of our friendship.

"Can you play chess?" he asked.

I had to admit that I could not.

"I'll teach you. Come to see me play tonight, I'm playing twenty men at the same time," he said. He was full of confidence.

I promised and said I would take him to supper afterwards.

"Good, I'll get through early."

It was not necessary to understand chess (2)to appreciate the drama of that evening; twenty middle-aged men looking carefully at their chessboards, challenged by an infant of seven who looked even less than his years. To watch him walking about in the center of the "U" table, going from one to another, was a drama (2).

There was something unbelievable about the scene as an audience of three hundred or more sat in raised seats on both sides of a hall, watching in silence a child pitting his brains (3) serious old men.

The boy was amazing, yet he disturbed me, for I felt (3)as I watched that (d)concentrated little face flushing red, then (4) white, that he was paying a price with his health.

"Here!" a player would call, and the child would walk over, study the board a few seconds, then suddenly make a move or call "*Checkmate!" And a murmur of laughter would go through the audience. I saw him *checkmate eight players in rapid succession, (4)which brought (e)laughter and applause.

And now he was studying the board of Dr. Jones. The audience were silent. Suddenly he made a move, then turned away and saw me. His face lit up and he waved, (5) that he would not be long.

After checkmating several other players, he returned to Dr. Jones, who was still deeply concentrating. "Haven't you moved yet?" said the boy impatiently.

The Doctor shook his head.

"Oh come on, hurry up." The boy, it seemed, was very hungry.

Jones smiled.

The child looked at him fiercely. "You can't beat me! If you move here, I'll move there! And if you move this, I'll move that!"

He named in rapid succession seven or eight moves ahead.

"We'll be here all night, so let's call it a draw." The Doctor gave in.

(注) *Checkmate!: (チェスで)詰み!

*checkmate: 詰ませる

- A. 下線部(1)'referring to my assistant'の意味に最も近いものをア～エから一つ選び、その記号をマークしなさい。
- ア. supporting him to my assistant
 - イ. judging him as my assistant
 - ウ. hiring him as my assistant
 - エ. introducing him to my assistant
- B. 下線部(2)'to appreciate'の意味に最も近いものをア～エから一つ選び、その記号をマークしなさい。
- ア. in order to appreciate
 - イ. intending to appreciate
 - ウ. for the purpose of my appreciation
 - エ. so that he might appreciate
- C. 下線部(3)と最も近い用法で用いられている'as'を含む英文を次のア～エから一つ選び、その記号をマークしなさい。

- ア. It is not so difficult as you might think.
- イ. Leave it as it stands.
- ウ. His criticisms, as I remember, were highly esteemed.
- エ. Just as he was speaking, there was a big earthquake.

D. 下線部(4)と最も近い用法で用いられている'which'を含む英文を次のア～エから一つ選び、その記号をマークしなさい。

- ア. He asked the question which he felt needed asking.
- イ. The apples, which were bought only yesterday, have all been eaten.
- ウ. His wife was very intelligent, which was a source of great pride to him.
- エ. The concert, which I heard last week, was excellent.

E. このエピソードの結末として最も適当なものを次のア～エから一つ選び、その記号をマークしなさい。

- ア. 少年はジョーンズ博士の引き延ばし作戦にいらいらして負けそうになった。
- イ. ジョーンズ博士はねばって見たが、ついに負けた。
- ウ. 少年は負けそうになったので引き分けにしようと言った。
- エ. ジョーンズ博士は引き分けに甘んじた。

F. 空所(1)～(5)に入れるのに最も適当な語句をそれぞれア～エから一つずつ選び、その記号をマークしなさい。

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| (1) ア. as | イ. but | ウ. now |
| エ. and | | |
| (2) ア. of itself | イ. for itself | ウ. in itself |
| エ. by itself | | |
| (3) ア. against | イ. among | ウ. for |
| エ. before | | |
| (4) ア. failing | イ. draining | ウ. fainting |
| エ. drawing | | |
| (5) ア. asking | イ. claiming | ウ. indicating |
| エ. objecting | | |

G. 下線部(a)～(e)の単語の最も強いアクセントのある音節の母音が、ア～エの単語の最も強いアクセントある音節の母音と同じものをそれぞれ一つずつ選び、その記号をマークしなさい。

- (a) 'studio'

- ア. nuclear イ. stubborn ウ. supreme
エ. humility
- (b) 'manager'
ア. impatient イ. various ウ. manuscript
エ. maple
- (c) 'spoken'
ア. applause . coconut ウ. prolong
エ. monotonous
- (d) 'concentrate'
ア. comprise イ. continental ウ. product エ. pronoun
- (e) 'laughter'
ア. caution イ. embassy ウ. gravely
エ. masterpiece