

1 Answer questions (1) ~ (5).

(1) Choose the phrase that best represents the purpose of the following passage.

Twitter wants to curb\* what the company calls “potentially harmful or offensive” tweets\*. The social media company announced Wednesday it has released a feature that can detect a mean\* tweet and prompt a user to be sure they really want to send it. “People come to Twitter to talk about what’s happening, and sometimes conversations about things we care about can get intense, and people say things in the moment they might regret later,” the company said in a blog post. “That’s why in 2020, we tested prompts that encouraged people to pause and reconsider a potentially harmful or offensive reply before they hit send.” The prompt says: “Want to review this before tweeting?” Users can then decide whether to send, edit or delete the tweet. Twitter did not specify\* what would be considered “potentially harmful or offensive.”

注) \*curb: reduce

\*tweets: short messages sent to Twitter

\*mean: unkind

\*specify: explain in detail

- a. To detect tweets that people care a lot about
- b. To examine how people review their tweets
- c. To explain how Twitter gets more people to send tweets
- d. To explain how Twitter plans to prevent harmful tweets

(2) Which of the four sentences below makes the best summary for the following passage?

Sixty years after Alan Shepard became the first American in space, everyday people are on the verge\* of following in his cosmic footsteps.

Jeff Bezos' *Blue Origin*\* used Wednesday's anniversary to kick off an auction for a seat on the company's first crew spaceflight — a short Shepard-like hop\* launched by a rocket named New Shepard. The Texas liftoff\* is targeted for July 20, the date of the Apollo 11 moon landing.

Richard Branson's *Virgin Galactic* aims to kick off tourist flights next year, just as soon as he straps into his space-skimming, plane-launched rocketship for a test run from the New Mexico base.

And Elon Musk's *SpaceX* will launch a billionaire and his sweepstakes\* winners in September. That will be followed by a flight by three businessmen to the International Space Station in January.

“We've always enjoyed this incredible thing called space, but we always want more people to be able to experience it as well,” NASA astronaut Shane Kimbrough said from the space station Wednesday. “So I think this is a great step in the right direction.”

注) \*on the verge of: likely to begin very soon

\*Blue Origin: the name of a rocket

\*Shepard-like hop: a short trip named after the first American in space

\*liftoff: the upward movement from the ground by a rocket

\*sweepstakes: a type of lottery

- a. More people may be able to enjoy traveling in space in the near future.
- b. Space companies are finding it difficult to make money from space travel.
- c. Space tourism will most likely not take off any time soon due to low demand.
- d. The International Space Station will eventually be shut down.

(3) Choose the answer that best describes the purpose of the following passage.

Legend has it that in the 1970s, a boat captain spotted\* a green banana peel floating above a sinkhole about 50 miles off the coast of Florida. That sinkhole is now known as the Green Banana.

A sinkhole is a hollow place in the Earth in which water collects. The Green Banana sinkhole starts about 160 feet below the ocean's surface and goes another 265 feet down. Scientists think it formed thousands of years ago. Sea levels were low then, exposing porous\* rock. Over the years, rain dissolved\* the rock and carved a hole in it. Since then, sea levels have risen and covered the hole with water.

注) \*spotted: saw

\*porous: full of holes

\*dissolved: mixed with the ocean water and became part of it

- a. To explain how green bananas are often found in the same areas as sinkholes
- b. To explain how legends can be very useful in explaining sinkholes
- c. To explain how sinkholes help scientists better understand rising sea levels
- d. To explain how the Green Banana sinkhole was formed

(4) Choose the sentence that fits the blank and is the best topic sentence.

\_\_\_\_\_ It wants younger people to enter the profession. It has a new plan to pay older farmers to retire. Some older farmers could get up to \$140,000 in cash if they retire. One of the reasons the government wants older farmers to retire is to protect the environment. Older farmers use more traditional methods to farm their land. These methods are not as environmentally friendly as they should be. The UK's farming minister believes younger farmers are more open to "green" methods. He said: "A fresh perspective can make a world of difference." He added that older farmers were "standing in the way of change".

- a. The government in the UK doesn't want to lose its farming traditions.
- b. The government in the UK wants to change its farming industry.
- c. The government in the UK wants to help farmers earn more money.
- d. The government in the UK wants to hire more retired farmers.

(5) What is the main purpose of the study described in this article?

In a new paper published in the journal *Science*, a pair of researchers explain how they accidentally stumbled upon\* what appears to be evidence of a mass shark extinction some 19 million years ago. The event dramatically reduced shark populations, leading to a huge drop in population numbers as evidenced by a reduction of fossils\* in ocean sediment\*. Over 90% of shark fossils suddenly disappear in the open ocean fossil record around that time, with over 70% of shark species completely vanishing.

注) \*stumbled upon: found

\*fossils: parts of dead animals or plants that have turned into rock

\*sediment: stones and sand that are carried into water by wind and water

- a. To explain how sharks lived with dinosaurs millions of years ago
- b. To explain how shark populations have increased over millions of years
- c. To give evidence that many species of shark disappeared in the past
- d. To record the millions of species that have disappeared over time

[出典]

- (1) “Twitter to Point Out Mean Tweets Before They Are Sent”, May 6, 2021, Voice of America, [https://www.voanews.com/a/silicon-valley-technology\\_twitter-point-out-mean-tweets-they-are-sent/6205526.html](https://www.voanews.com/a/silicon-valley-technology_twitter-point-out-mean-tweets-they-are-sent/6205526.html)
- (2) “60 Years Since 1st American in Space: Tourists Lining Up”, May 5, 2021, Voice of America, [https://www.voanews.com/a/science-health\\_60-years-1st-american-space-tourists-lining/6205488.html](https://www.voanews.com/a/science-health_60-years-1st-american-space-tourists-lining/6205488.html)
- (3) “Mystery of the Sea”, Rebecca Mordechai, April 8, 2021, TIME for Kids, <https://www.timeforkids.com/g56/mystery-sea-2>
- (4) “The Reading / Listening - Farming - Level 3”, Breaking News English, <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2105/210524-farming.html>, 一部改
- (5) “A cataclysmic die-off nearly wiped out all sharks 19 million years ago”, Mike Wehner, June 6, 2021, BGR, <https://bgr.com/science/shark-extinction-event-history/>

2 Read the following article and answer questions (1) ~ (5).

著作権の関係で問題文は掲載できません。

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[出典]

“Ramadan”, April 6, 2021, British Council,  
<https://learnenglish.britishcouncil.org/general-english/magazine-zone/ramadan>

- 注) \*Ramadan: an important religious festival for Muslims  
\*fast: stop eating for a certain period of time  
\*crescent: the shape of the visible part of the moon when it is less than half full  
\*lunar: relating to the moon  
\*glimpse: brief look  
\*polar: extreme north and south  
\*Mecca: a city in Saudi Arabia  
\*exempt: not required to  
\*dates: a kind of dried fruit  
\*mosques: large buildings where Muslims pray  
\*meditation: spending time thinking quietly  
\*Qur'an: the most important book in the religion of Islam

- (1) In which of the following paragraphs does the author explain why the start and end dates of Ramadan can change?
- Paragraph 1
  - Paragraph 2
  - Paragraph 3
  - Paragraph 5
- (2) In which of the following paragraphs does the author describe the meal eaten during Ramadan after the sun goes down?
- Paragraph 2
  - Paragraph 4
  - Paragraph 5
  - Paragraph 6

- (3) In which of the following paragraphs does the author give several examples of people who are not required to fast during Ramadan?
- Paragraph 1
  - Paragraph 3
  - Paragraph 4
  - Paragraph 7
- (4) According to the article, what is the main reason for fasting during Ramadan?
- To enjoy looking at the crescent moon
  - To improve your daily routines
  - To lose weight and purify your body
  - To practice being a better person
- (5) What is the main purpose of this article?
- To describe what food is eaten during Ramadan
  - To encourage the reader to take part in Ramadan
  - To explain the advantages and disadvantages of fasting
  - To introduce the background and customs of Ramadan



3 次の英文の要旨を、句読点も含め 80 字以内の日本語でまとめ、解答欄に書きなさい。

Italy's iconic symbol that attracts thousands of tourists a year was the result of an engineering screw-up\*. Yes, you read that right. The architects of the Leaning Tower of Pisa didn't want the building to lean. Yet the accidental tilt\* ultimately launched the building into fame, even classifying the structure as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

The construction of the tower began in 1173 as part of a grand cathedral project to flaunt\* the wealth and military victories of Pisa. The full complex, known today as the the Piazza dei Miracoli (or the Square of Miracles), included a cathedral, baptistery\*, cemetery and bell tower, which we now call the Leaning Tower of Pisa. That single tower wasn't planned to be more significant than its neighboring buildings, but its architectural oops\* made it unique.

Problems arose shortly after construction began on the white marble bell tower. Perhaps, the site itself may have been the root cause of the problem. The ground beneath the tower was composed of clay, fine sand and shells from the Arno and Serchio rivers that frame the city of Pisa. By the time the builders finished the second of eight stories in 1178, the tower's foundation had begun to settle unevenly. As a result, the tower started to tilt toward the south.

Shortly after, Pisa fought wars against Genoa, Lucca and Florence\*. The conflicts caused a halt\* in construction for almost 100 years. The century-long delay allowed the foundation of the bell tower to settle further and prevent any likely collapse.

According to Smithsonian Magazine, the tower took approximately 200 years to build from start to finish, with several work stoppages\*. While working on the eighth floor of the tower, builders angled the story to the north to counterbalance\* the tower's southern drift. However, this too proved to be a failure as the additional weight caused the structure to tilt even farther. After the tower was completed around 1370, the drift continued.

[出典]

“The Leaning Tower of Pisa Wasn’t Supposed to Lean”, Donna Sarkar, March 14, 2021, Discover magazine,  
<https://www.discovermagazine.com/planet-earth/the-leaning-tower-of-pisa-wasnt-supposed-to-lean>

注) \*screw-up: big mistake

\*tilt: lean

\*flaunt: display with pride

\*baptistery: 教会の洗礼場

\*oops: mistake

\*Genoa, Lucca and Florence: イタリアの都市ジェノバ、ルッカ、フィレンツェ

\*halt: stop

\*stoppages: delays

\*counterbalance: balance with an equal weight

4 Read the passage, and explain the main point in your own words. Write your answer in English within 30 words.

We do Genius Hour\* in the classroom because human motivation does not come from the teacher telling students what they must learn and then rewarding them with smiley faces and good grades. Indeed, according to Daniel Pink and educational researchers like Alfie Kohn, rewards have an adverse\* effect on motivation. Teachers know that student motivation is enhanced when autonomy\*, purpose and mastery are present in the classroom. Motivation comes with autonomy, when students are entrusted with choice and the freedom to make decisions regarding their learning; purpose, when students have a reason for learning what they choose to learn; and mastery, when students are given enough time to actually master and become an expert on what they are learning. It's true for adults in the workplace, and it's true for young people in the classroom.

[出典]

Denise Krebs, Gallit Zvi. *The Genius Hour Guidebook Fostering Passion, Wonder, and Inquiry in the Classroom*. Routledge, 2020, PP.4, 一部改, Permission conveyed through Copyright Clearance Center, Inc.

注) \*Genius Hour: the name of a classroom activity

\*adverse: harmful

\*autonomy: making your own decisions independently

5 Describe the picture below in English within 50 words.



[出典]

“フィジーでの栄養士活動について”, 佐野 亜衣子, August 7, 2017,  
[https://world-diary.jica.go.jp/sanoaiko/cat1184/post\\_1.php](https://world-diary.jica.go.jp/sanoaiko/cat1184/post_1.php)

6 Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Write your answer in English within 50 words.

School textbooks should be replaced by tablet computers.