

[1] 次の英文を読み、設問に答えなさい。

As we look at the world and ourselves, we do it through a set of filters. Think about what a filter is. A filter is a mechanism that lets some things flow in, but screens other things out. Depending on what the filter is made up ( a ), it can also alter whatever is looked at or passes through it. Sunglasses are a good example of a visual filter. Obviously, however, we are not talking here about some physical apparatus that we can put on and take off, like a pair of glasses. In fact, the filters we are talking about are not really visual in nature; they are ( b ) and are mental, emotional, verbal, and perceptual in nature. Through them, we process and assign a weight and meaning to every event in our lives. Some things flow in, others are screened out, but everything is affected. Our filters affect not just what we "see," but what we "hear" and believe.

Now, since we trust ourselves to be honest and since we think we don't lie to ourselves, we tend to believe that our filtered perceptions are an accurate depiction of reality. Whatever passes through the filter, accurate or not, is what we tend to believe. As a result, if and when our filtered perceptions lie, we get (A) suckered. We walk around believing that an upside-down world is the real one. So here is a warning: When it comes to any of your untested and unchallenged perceptions, you should be afraid, very afraid. You could very well be seeing your self in a distorted light.

I say that because our perceptual filters have the unfortunate tendency of being highly sensitive to the negatives, while screening out the positives. It is just (1) human nature.

(2) All of us are subject to distorting the truth or missing the truth, particularly when we are dealing with a situation in which we are physically or emotionally threatened. For example, research shows that a person being held at gunpoint will fixate, not surprisingly, on the weapon, as opposed ( c ) a door or some other opportunity for escape or safety. Why? Because negatives invariably scream louder than positives and the more extreme the negative, the louder it screams. We tune into the negatives, the threats, and the problems because we are programmed to protect ourselves, so if someone or something is perceived to threaten us (a gun, in this case), that threat can and will drown out all other events and inputs. The fear of the weapon (B) galvanizes your attention, completely overwhelming and excluding any other data. The building could have fallen down around you and you wouldn't have known it. Such is the power of the human mind when it becomes fixated on a

negative.

Let's move to a more likely scenario, (3) one that may be much closer to home. In your life right now, there may be lots of people who believe in and encourage you. Your "supporting cast" may number in the hundreds, yet I'd be willing to bet that if you have even one or two critics, those "noisy" few can command your full attention, often drowning out the effects of all of the positive input. Why? Because it (d) to be rejected, criticized, and attacked and we pay attention to pain. As with the robber's pistol, your filters are (C) sensitized to painful threats and you see those threats to your self-concept more vividly and memorably than you see anything else. Just as importantly, (4) they linger: Those negatives tend to stay with you for years. Think about an actor on the stage: hundreds of adoring fans can be respectfully and adoringly rapt in their attention, yet one (D) heckler can dominate the performer's entire experience and memory of the night.

1. 本文中の下線部 (A) (B) (C) (D) にもっとも近い意味の表現を各語群から一つ選びなさい。

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|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| (A) 1. excited    | 2. deceived      | 3. relaxed        | 4. worried       |
| (B) 1. occupies   | 2. discloses     | 3. escapes        | 4. nullifies     |
| (C) 1. made sense | 2. made sensible | 3. made sensitive | 4. made sensuous |
| (D) 1. actor      | 2. opponent      | 3. robber         | 4. supporter     |

2. 本文中の空所 (a) (b) (c) (d) を埋めるのにもっとも適切な語を各語群から一つ選びなさい。

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|-----------------|------------------|---------------|------------|
| (a) 1. for      | 2. in            | 3. of         | 4. with    |
| (b) 1. internal | 2. philosophical | 3. scientific | 4. visible |
| (c) 1. by       | 2. for           | 3. of         | 4. to      |
| (d) 1. hurts    | 2. pays          | 3. seems      | 4. takes   |

3. 本文中の下線部 (1) において著者が考える human nature を具体的に表す例としてもっとも適切なものを一つ選びなさい。

- (1) When a gun is pointed at you, the most important thing is to keep quiet. You may think it would be better to cry out loud to seek for help, but such an action could anger your attacker. It is really important to shut your mouth in such a situation.
- (2) Researchers in marketing found that some consumers actually gave positive evaluation to seemingly terrible products. Conversely, it was also found that some excellent products were given negative responses.
- (3) There is a tendency among professional actors to pay more attention to

their adoring fans than to those who are not very interested in dramas. Those actors seldom try to get new fans to go on with their job for many years to come.

- (4) A Japanese student studied at a university in the U.S. Most of his fellow students there were nice to him, but there were a few who behaved in a rude manner. In spite of the fact that those terrible people were only a handful, he ended up forming a bad image of America.

4. 本文中の下線部(2)を日本語に訳しなさい。

3. 本文中の下線部(3)が表す内容を, one が指す内容を明らかにし, 日本語で説明しなさい。

5. 本文中の下線部(4)が表す内容を, they が指す内容を明らかにし, 日本語で説明しなさい。

[2] ( ) 内に与えられた語句を正しい語順に並べかえなさい。

(1) If (his rescue, for, not, had, it, been), the little girl would have been drowned.

(2) Don't (awful, day, me, of, remind, that).

(3) I (look, thinking, at, cannot, of, without, the picture) my friends in Kyushu.

(4) She was (always, her classmates, of, by, ill, spoken).

(5) Who (this hour, us, be, can, ringing, at) of the morning?

(6) Please (me, is, call, convenient, when, you, it, on, for).

(7) (I, it, not, yesterday, that, until, about, was, heard) the accident.

(8) (should, have, you, lent, not, such, the, money, to, a person).

(9) It (is, is, that, too, not, much, he, to, say) a walking dictionary.

(10) What (whether, you, your, important, or, is, is, best, do) not.

[3] 次の日本語を英語に訳しなさい。

人間は、主に教育と学習によって、世代から世代へと文化を伝達するが、しかし他の動物と同じように、自分の生存を確保する[確実にする]ために、いくつかの生得的な反応を与えられている。

・生得的な: innate, inborn, built-in, preprogrammed, natural