

[1] 次の英文を読み、設問に答えなさい。

There is a well-known TV soap commercial in which two women identified as mother and daughter emerge. Both of them appear to be in their late twenties and are (a)more or less interchangeable. The advertisement then (A) the viewers to guess which is the mother and which is the daughter. One could take it to be a remarkable piece of evidence supporting the view that the differences between adults and children are (B). Although many other commercials imply (b)as much, this one speaks directly to the point. That is to say, in modern culture, people now consider it desirable that a mother should not look older than her daughter, or that a daughter should not look younger than her mother. It depends on how one considers the problem (C) this means that childhood is disappearing. In other words, without a clear concept of what it means to be an adult, there can be no clear conception of what it means to be a child. Thus, at the base of this argument, the idea of our electric information environment bringing about the disappearance of childhood can also be expressed by saying our electronic information environment is bringing that of adulthood.

The modern idea of adulthood is largely a product of the printing press. Almost all of the characteristics we (D) with adulthood are those that are (and were) either created or developed by the requirements of fully literate* culture. For example, the capacity for self-restraint, the intellectual ability to think conceptually and logically, awareness of both historical continuity and the future, a high valuation of reason and social order. As electric media push literacy aside and (c)take its place at the center of the culture, different attitudes and character types come to be valued, and a new diminished definition of adulthood begins to emerge. It is a definition that does not exclude children, and, accordingly, what results is a new arrangement of the stages of life. In the television age, there are three, instead of the traditional four — infancy, childhood, adulthood and old age. Now we have infancy at the one end and old age at the other. In between, there is what we might call the adult-child.

We may define the adult-child as a grown-up whose intellectual and emotional capacities are not yet matured and particularly not significantly different from those associated with children. Such grown-ups have always existed, but cultures differ (E) how much they encourage or discourage this type of character. In medieval times, the adult-child was an average condition, mostly because, in the absence of enough literacy, schools, and social manners, particular discipline or learning was not requirements to be an adult. For somewhat similar reasons, the adult-child is emerging as a usual condition in our culture.

As the social environment where (d) humans grow changes in its form and content — particularly in the direction of requiring no distinction between the child and the adult, the two stages of life inevitably unite into one. (Adapted.)

A 文中の空所 (A)-(E) に入る最も適切な表現を、それぞれの1～4の中から1つ選びなさい。

- | | | | | |
|-----|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| (A) | 1. challenges | 2. consideres | 3. decides | 4. unites |
| (B) | 1. happening | 2. appearing | 3. disappearing | 4. increasing |
| (C) | 1. although | 2. whatever | 3. whether | 4. altogether |
| (D) | 1. deny | 2. consider | 3. compete | 4. associate |
| (E) | 1. from | 2. with | 3. in | 4. for |

B 文中の下線部 (a)-(d) の意味・内容に最も近いものを、それぞれ 1-4 の中から1つ選びなさい。

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| (a) | 1. almost | 2. hardly | 3. always | 4. appropriately |
| (b) | 1. almost the same thing | 2. many things | 3. enough examples | 4. several differences |
| (c) | 1. produce itself | 2. replace it | 3. exchange it | 4. improve it |
| (d) | 1. human growth takes place | 2. human growth is hindered | 3. human growth comes to an end | 4. human growth improves |

C 次の (1)-(9) の英文の中から、本文の内容と一致するものを3つ選びなさい。

- (1) In our present culture, mothers must always look younger than their daughters.
- (2) It seems probable that the adult-child is the product of child abuse.
- (3) The author has proved that the difference between adult and child has disappeared because of developments in medicine.
- (4) Both of the women appearing in a soap commercial on TV are actually in their late twenties.
- (5) It is not adulthood but childhood that is now disappearing.
- (6) Due to the emergence of electric media such as television, print culture is now somewhat losing its power.
- (7) Nowadays, the stages of life can be divided into infancy, the adult-child and old age.
- (8) In medieval times adulthood was totally different from childhood.
- (9) Print culture greatly contributed to the creation of our notion of adulthood

D この文章にタイトルをつけるとしたら次のどれが最も適切か。(1)-(5)の中から1つ選びなさい。

- (1) The Stages of Life
- (2) Literacy and Print Culture
- (3) The Adult-Child
- (4) Electric Age
- (5) Unwillingness to Become an Adult

[2] (本文中の表現を参考にして) 次の日本語を英語に訳しなさい。

- (1) 二人の女性のうち、どちらが母親でどちらが娘かを当てる [推測する] のは容易ではない。 [第一段落]
- (2) 電子メディアが読み書きの能力を脇に押しやるにつれて、新しい物の考え方 [態度] が評価されるようになってきた。(時制は現在完了) [第二段落]
- (3) 子供が大人になるためには、特別なしつけと学習が必要である [要求される] と私は思う。(子供が: 不定詞の意味上の主語) [第三段落]
- (4) 社会的環境が変化するにつれて大人と子供の区別がなくなる [消えてなくなる] のは、避けがたい。 [第四段落]

[3] 次の英文が日本語とほぼ同じ意味になるように、() 内に与えられた語を並べ替えなさい。ただし、文頭に来る語も小文字になっている。

- (1) テレビを見ている間は勉強ができないので困る。
(we, work, while, the trouble, cannot, that, watching, is) TV.
- (2) 健康がすぐれず、彼は大学を中退せざるをえなかった。(2語不要)
(failing, college, compelled, he, health, him, leave, to, was).
- (3) 人が何を言おうと、自分の信念を貫き通しなさい。
(say, regardless, to, of, stick, your, what, people, convictions).
- (4) どうすべきかについて私の考えは彼と違っていた。
(what, was, my view, be, different, to, as, his, from, should) done.