

外国語（英語） 601 その1

第1問 次の英文を読んで、下の問い（問1～2）に答えなさい。

The last days of my childhood were also the last days of the village. I belonged to that generation which saw, by chance, the end of a thousand years' life. The change came late to our Cotswold valley, didn't really show itself till the late 1920s; I was twelve by then, but during that handful of years, I witnessed the whole thing happen.

Myself, my family, my generation, were born in (1)a world of silence; a world of hard work and necessary patience, of backs bent to the ground, hands massaging the crops, of waiting on weather and growth; of villages like ships in the empty landscapes and the long walking distances between them; of white narrow roads, damaged by horses and cartwheels, innocent of oil or petrol, down which people passed rarely, and almost never for pleasure, and the horse was the fastest thing moving. (2)Man and horse were all the power we had. But the horse was king, and almost everything grew around him. His eight miles an hour was the limit of our movements, as it had been since the days of the Romans. That eight miles an hour was life and death, the size of our world.

This was what we were born to, and all we knew at first. Then, to the scream of the horse, the change began. The brass-lamped motor-car came coughing up the road, followed by the noisy coach; the solid-tyred bus climbed the dusty hills and more people came and went. (3)Chickens and dogs were the early sacrifices, falling beneath the wheels. The old folk, too, had strokes, faced by speeds beyond comprehension. Then scarlet motor-bikes began to appear in the village, on which your youths roared like rockets up the two-minute hills, then spent weeks making repairs and adjustments.

問1 下線部(1)を、この文章の内容をふまえて簡潔に日本語で説明しなさい。

(1) _____

問2 下線部(2), (3)を、それぞれ適切な日本語に訳しなさい。

(2) _____

(3) _____

外 国 語 (英 語) 601 その2

第2問 次の英文を読んで、その内容を、句読点を含め100字以内の日本語で要約しなさい。

In 1751, Swedish botanist Carolus Linnaeus came up with the novel idea of using flowers as clocks. Morning glories open their trumpetlike petals around 10 a.m., water lilies at 11 and so on through evening primroses and moonflowers. A full array of these blossoms, planted in a circle, could indicate the time. It was a whimsical notion. But some 250 years later, scientists are seriously interested in the timekeeping mechanisms of nature.

From cockroaches to humans, these internal clocks influence far more than our sleep. Heart attacks are more common in the morning. Women tend to go to labor in the evening. Severe breathing difficulties prevail at night. Even our responses to medicines may depend on when we take them.

Nature has devised internal clocks for a simple reason: they aid survival. “The early bird really does get the worm,”—thanks to a silent wake-up call before dawn. A mimosa plant spreads its fernlike leaves during the day to create the maximum surface area for photosynthesis, then folds them up at night to reduce water-vapor loss. It’s not a mere response to light. In humans, the master clock in the brain orchestrates the timing of a host of physiological processes, from the release of hormones to the timing of sleep and wakefulness.

In humans, the master clock in the brain orchestrates a series of biological events that unfolds in sequence. In the hours before breakfast, the body releases digestive enzymes gradually to be ready for the first meal. Temperature and blood pressure rise in preparation for the day's demands. This helps explain the morning increase in the heart attacks. Cells reproduce at set times. Hormones rise and fall—many of them according to a predetermined schedule.

第3問 次の日本文(1)のすべてと、(2)の下線部とを、それぞれ英語に訳しなさい。

- (1) 英国に着いて最初に目につくのは庭ではない。通りを車で抜けるとき、窓辺という窓辺に色とりどりの花に満ちたフラワーボックスを見て、私たちは驚嘆の声をあげるのだ。

- (2) わたくしたちは言語の問題を追究してゆくには、考察と論議との長い積み重ねが必要だと考える。ことばの学問の専門家である言語学者だけでは、現在の言語の問題には答えられない。空気や水の汚染の問題が、例えば化学者だけで解決できないものであるのと同じである。こうした主題は、あらゆる方面の人々の英知と意思とによって解明されることを求める。
