椙山女学園大　2012年

第５問

次の英文を読み，設問に答えよ。

Many Japanese people have fond memories of graduation trips to Kyoto, the ancient capital famous for its cultural traditions and historic sites. No city is seen as being more Japanese than Kyoto. Yet Kyoto has a great number of overseas visitors and non-Japanese residents. This is an increasingly common Kyoto sight: foreign tourists (1)poring over guidebooks in front of Kyoto Station, wondering where they want to visit first and which method of transportation to take. Other non-Japanese people take photos of their friends and loved ones. Yes, Kyoto is increasingly becoming an international city.

Not too long ago, the Japanese government announced a policy to boost the country’s tourist industry and to make Japan a ‘tourism nation’. The project comprises a variety of measures that aim to increase domestic and international tourism, both inbound and outbound. As a first step, the government established the Japan Tourism Agency (JTA) on October 1, 2008. The JTA is developing various tourism-related initiatives with the goal of attracting ten million international visitors annually to Japan. One such initiative, the Visit Japan Campaign, publicizes Japan’s tourist attractions abroad.

Another important initiative is to put up multilingual signs around the country. In Kyoto, many signs already give information and directions in four languages ―― Japanese, English, Chinese, and Korean. These four languages are becoming standard languages for people working in the tourist industry. The official website of the JTA itself appears in Japanese, English, Chinese, and Korean.

Most signs at railway stations are written in these four languages. These multilingual signs can now be found not only in Kyoto but also in Tokyo, Osaka, and other big cities.   
 21 , simple pictures, or pictograms, are added to help those who don’t understand any of the four languages to find elevators, (2)restrooms, exits, and so on. Pictograms can be said to be a truly universal language.

While traveling, we sometimes need more cash, and the ATM is the most convenient way to get money. 22 , overseas visitors often find the Japanese banking system old-fashioned and frustrating, with shorter banking hours than they are used to, more time-consuming procedures, and, in particular, fewer easily accessible ATMs. In the past, having at last found an ATM, a tourist would be (3)exasperated to find that most of the directions were in Japanese. This particular annoyance has been decreasing as the importance of the tourist dollar becomes more widely recognized.

Is Japan really prepared for this huge number of foreign visitors? Will Japanese people be able to communicate with them in their own languages? Encounters with non-Japanese people can now occur anytime, anywhere, in all sorts of unexpected places, from the remotest countryside and the highest mountaintop to the most crowded subway platform. In other words, 30 .

問1 文中の空欄 21 ～ 22 に入れるのに最も適切なものを，①～④のうちからそれぞれ一つ選べ。

21 ① Hardly ever ② In some cases ③ As a result

④ Yet

22 ① Someday ② Otherwise ③ Then ④ However

問2 設問 23 ～ 30 の答えとして最も適切なものを，①～④のうちからそれぞれ一つ選べ。

23 What does (1)poring over probably mean?

① reading carefully ② exchanging fully ③ visiting slowly

④ writing quickly

24 What does (2)restrooms probably mean?

① restaurants ② public baths ③ toilets

④ cafés or tearooms

25 What does (3)exasperated probably mean?

① relieved ② pressured ③ out of breath ④ angry

26 According to the passage, what languages are used on the multilingual signs?

① English, French, Chinese, and Korean

② English, Russian, Chinese, and Korean

③ English, Japanese, Chinese, and Korean

④ Japanese, Thai, Chinese, and Korean

27 After arriving in Japan, what would foreign visitors most likely see?

① multilingual signs at all train stations throughout Japan

② Japanese people taking photos of themselves in front of Kyoto station

③ signs written in all the major European and Asian languages

④ none of the above

28 Based on the article, what is the author’s opinion of tourism to Japan?

① ATM’s should not be open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

② More Japanese people need to visit Kyoto to help guide foreign travelers.

③ Making travel easier for overseas visitors is a key step to support this industry.

④ The JTA needs to make pictograms in English, Chinese, and Korean.

29 Which statement is true, according to the passage?

① Foreign tourism is very important for the Japanese economy.

② The main goal of the JTA is to help domestic travel agencies.

③ More foreigners now visit Japan when they travel to China.

④ Visitors to Japan are often impressed by the new banking system.

30 Which is best for 30 ?

① people need to prepare themselves for any possibility imaginable

② most Japanese must be able to speak fluently in at least four languages

③ foreigners will not come back to Japan until the nation is thought to be safe

④ communication with foreigners may become a less common occurrence