関西学院大　2013年

〔Ⅲ〕

次の英文を読み，下記の設問(A，B)に答えなさい。

Intercultural marriages are on the rise across the globe. The problems associated with any marriage are multiple, but when two people from different cultures get married, numerous additional problems are thrown into the mix. Some decisions may be (あ)relatively simple, such as what type of food to eat, where to live, or what holidays to celebrate. Other choices will be more problematic, as the couple tries to deal with cultural differences in gender-role expectations, conflict management, emotional (い)display, values, social behaviors, childcare practices, extended family relations, and many, many more issues. As in any marriage, communication is the key to managing these challenges and finding mutually agreeable resolutions. But to achieve effective communication in a cross-cultural marriage, the couple must deal with the problem of multiple languages.

One of the first decisions will be which language the couple will use to communicate with each other. Unless each is fluent in the other’s native tongue, this decision can create issues related to identity and power, as well as complicating daily communication. In some cases, the couple may (う)resort to a third language they have in common. If, for instance, in a mixed marriage the husband is from Germany and the wife is from Spain, and neither speaks the other’s language, they may choose to use a third language, such as English or French. Power imbalances can arise from the ability of only one partner to speak the language of the couple’s country of residence. In these situations, the non-speaker may be forced to become excessively dependent on the (え)mate, which can affect self-respect and identity.

Another potential linguistic difficulty in a mixed marriage centers on determining which parent’s language to use to raise the children. If only one parent’s language is used, the culture of the other parent will be treated as less important. In many cross-cultural marriages, this problem has been solved by (お)using a “one parent, one language” strategy. This involves each parent speaking his or her native language, or another selected language, to the children. Thus, the children are raised in two languages, becoming bilingual, and the cultures of both parents are recognized and passed on.

Our discussion has focused more on the potential difficulties of an intercultural marriage than the advantages. We hope you are not discouraged by this, because these problems are easily offset by the rewards. For instance, dealing with the many difficulties can bring a cross-cultural couple closer together, resulting in greater intimacy. Additionally, sharing each other’s cultures will (か)likely broaden perspectives and create a richness that is difficult to realize when living in a single culture.

設 問

A．本文中の下線部(あ～か)の文中での意味に最も近いものを，それぞれ下記(a～d)の中から1つ選び，その記号をマークしなさい。

(あ) relatively

a．exceptionally b．comparatively c．utterly d．familiarly

(い) display

a．satisfaction b．event c．surge d．expression

(う) resort to

a．adopt b．learn c．enjoy speaking d．try to restore

(え) mate

a．children b．partner c．family d．friend

(お) using a “one parent, one language” strategy

a．becoming a single parent using another selected language

b．both parents using one and the same language

c．only one parent using his or her own native language

d．each parent using a different language from the other

(か) likely

a．preferably b．favorably c．probably d．similarly

B．次の英文(a～f)の中から本文の内容と一致するものを2つ選び，その記号を各段に1つずつマークしなさい。ただし，その順序は問いません。

a．Marriages around the world between two people from different cultural backgrounds are going down in number because people have become aware of the numerous and varied problems associated with those marriages.

b．In cross-cultural marriages, the issue of which food to eat is less complicated than that of how to look after children.

c．When each partner tries hard to communicate with the other, the choice of language for the couple to use will not create an issue of power imbalance between them.

d．If each partner is not able to speak the other’s native language, there will be no language left for them.

e．In marriages between two people from different cultural backgrounds, a good way has not yet been devised to pass down the cultures of both parents equally to their children.

f．The disadvantages of cross-cultural marriages might be discouraging, but they are readily canceled out by the benefits you may receive as a result of your efforts to get over the difficulties.