日本女子大　2013年

Ⅱ

以下の英文は，近年急激に経済成長を遂げているブラジル，ロシア，インド，中国の女性について論じたものです。全文を読み，問1，問2，問3，問4に答えなさい。

The mention of women in emerging economies often evokes a picture of ( ア ) and poverty-stricken victims in male-dominated cultures. The problems are real and of critical importance. But educated women in Brazil, Russia, India and China ―― the BRIC economies which represent the four largest emerging markets ―― are telling a different tale of power and success.

Just as in the U.S., BRIC women are flooding into universities and graduate schools. They represent 65% of college graduates in Brazil and 57% in Russia. These figures represent more than just (イ)a tiny elite. Between 15 and 25% of young women in the BRIC are now college-educated ―― a substantial number. And they’re not just earning degrees. They are ( ウ ) with the desire to use them and have the opportunity to do so.

Childcare, for example, ( エ ) the same career challenge as in the U.S. and Western Europe; a strong network of relatives combined with inexpensive domestic help give BRIC women multiple shoulders to lean on. They do not give up their careers after they have children. Another important reason: smart companies facing shortages of skilled workers in emerging markets are designing workplaces and career models conducive to female success. For example, one global business-services firm offers work-from-home, extended maternity leaves and other options for female workers with children. (オ)These alternatives help the firm to keep its employees from quitting and going to other companies.

This is not to say that BRIC women don’t have their own distinct set of career challenges. Eldercare can sometimes blow up careers just as women reach the peak of their ( カ ). The vast majority of women surveyed ―― 81% ―― have significant duties on the eldercare front and find it more difficult to (キ)subcontract their mother-in-law than their children. Discrimination is another negative factor in emerging markets. More than half of educated women in India, 48% of their counterparts in China, and 40% of Brazilian women professionals feel they receive inferior treatment at work because they are women. Some encounter (ク)bias severe enough to make them consider scaling back their career goals or quitting altogether. In addition, commutes are long and often unsafe for women in big cities in these countries.

These barriers emphasize the fact that the challenges faced by emerging-market women can be quite different from their counterparts in developed countries. Consequently, the solutions cannot be versions of what works in the U.S. and Western Europe. These rapidly expanding countries are the growth engine of the world ―― and their educated women are helping to (ケ)power the dynamo. Considering the skills and the attitudes women bring to the table in these markets, strides they’ve already made and their potential to further drive these markets, companies in the U.S. and Western Europe might want to think about how they can similarly ( コ ) female ambition in established economies ―― and make gender, not geography, a new source of growth.

問1 上記英文の( ア )，( ウ )，( エ )，( カ )，( コ )を埋めるのに最もふさわしい語句を，それぞれa，b，c，dの中から一つ選んで，その記号を解答欄にマークしなさい。

( ア )

a laughter b liberal c life d oppressed

( ウ )

a bursting b declining

c disappearing d opening

( エ )

a does not pose b helps to meet

c includes d is concerned with

( カ )

a disaster b frustration c potential d speed

( コ )

a abandon b discourage c nature d nurture

問2 上記英文の下線部(イ)，(キ)，(ク)，(ケ)にもっとも近い内容のものをそれぞれa，b，c，dの中から一つ選んで，その記号を解答欄にマークしなさい。

(イ) a tiny elite

a children from rich families

b majority of working women in the world

c rich men and women

d small number of highly educated women

(キ) subcontract

a communicate with b hire someone to take care of

c obey d pretend to take care of

(ク) bias

a favorable treatment b prejudice

c professional skills d unusual career moves

(ケ) power the dynamo

a empower each other b fuel global economic growth

c look forward to the future d take care of the workers

問3 上記英文の下線部(オ)を日本語に訳し，解答欄に書きなさい。

(オ) These alternatives help the firm to keep its employees from quitting and going to other companies.

問4 上記英文の内容に合致するものをa～iの中から三つ選んで，その記号を解答欄の各段に一つずつマークしなさい(順不同)。一段に二つ以上マークすると無効になります。

a Both childcare and eldercare tend to be serious problems for working women in the BRIC countries, the U.S., and Western Europe alike.

b Compared with women in the U.S. and Western Europe, women in the BRIC countries are much more likely to stay home and have children after they marry.

c Educated women in India find that Indian companies do not discriminate against women.

d In the BRIC countries, eldercare business is a good career opportunity for women.

e In the BRIC countries, women, even with college degrees, have difficulty finding jobs.

f In the BRIC countries, working women rely on their parents for childcare because they cannot find inexpensive baby sitters.

g More than half of all college graduates in Brazil today are women.

h The equal treatment of women has not yet been achieved in the BRIC countries.

i There is still room for improvement in the situation for working women in the U.S. and Western Europe.