愛知教育大　2013年

Ⅲ

次の英文を読んで，以下の問に日本語で答えよ。

Although our numbers have become immense, we’re not spread evenly across the face of the planet. There are now 6.8 billion of us as of 2009 ―― a doubling since the 1960s and four times as many as just a century ago. As a result, more and more places on the globe are becoming extremely crowded, especially cities along the coastlines where people keep settling in greater densities. Yet a full city today can mean an empty village or town across the country, or on the other side of the world. Our growth has taken place in surprising ways.

The human population continues to expand by more than 200,000 people every day. This is the equivalent of a ‘new’ Paris or ‘new’ Hong Kong being created each month. (1)With more than one billion teenagers in the world today just now reaching their most fertile years, we can expect the boom in births to continue for decades to come. The latest \*UN estimates have the global population reaching 9.2 billion by the middle of this century. (2)Even that huge number may be too small, however, since it’s based on the assumption that family sizes will drop throughout developing regions ―― an assumption that is in no way guaranteed to hold true. After significant progress from the 1970s on, family planning efforts have failed in many areas in recent years, leading to population explosions in dozens of countries in the Middle East, Africa, and elsewhere.

Some of the worst predictions of a generation ago ―― global famine, widespread resource exhaustion ―― have not come to pass on a global scale. Yet from the crowded streets of Lagos and Mumbai (Bombay), to the \*suburban sprawl of the United States, to disappearing tropical forests around the world, the harmful effects of more people than the planet can comfortably support are apparent almost anywhere we look.

Not all countries grow in the same way, of course. Virtually all of the expected population increase in the near future will come in developing countries, while (3)the population of the more developed countries would be declining slightly, were it not for large-scale migration. In much of Europe, where explosive growth started with the industrial revolution two centuries ago, and in Korea and Japan, and elsewhere, national populations have stabilized or are starting to decline. This brings challenges of its own, as successively smaller generations struggle to care for and support their elders.

(4)These problems are tiny in comparison to the stresses of rapid population growth in the developing world, where the great majority of the growth continues to occur. Already in parts of Africa, the Middle East, South Asia, and Latin America, rapid population increase is contributing to severe poverty, environmental damage, political instability, or war.

(5)Humanity is also on the move as never before. More than 3 percent of the global population ―― over 200 million people ―― live outside their country of birth, and uncounted millions more have moved, or been moved, within their home borders. A great deal of this movement is forced, either by economic pressures or, increasingly, by damage to the environment or human conflict ―― both of which are made worse by rapid population growth.

Our impact upon our planet grows larger by the day. Indeed, every environmental issue we face is \*intensified by global population, the increasing consumption of the wealthy, and the growing desperation of the poor. If we are to preserve the biological wealth of our planet and increase the well-being of its people, we must first understand our own population \*dynamics.

\*注 UN 国連 suburban sprawl 郊外への街の広がり

intensify 強化する dynamics 変遷の型

問1 下線部(1)を訳せ。

問2 下線部(2)について，何故そう言えるのか。その理由を簡潔に説明せよ。

問3 下線部(3)を訳せ。

問4 下線部(4)について，何故そう言えるのか。その理由を簡潔に説明せよ。

問5 下線部(5)について，主な理由を2つ挙げよ。