

2025 年度 国際経営学科

# 英 語

〔自己推薦 A O (A)〕 14-J 1

## 注 意

1. 監督者の合図があるまで問題冊子は開かないでください。
2. 解答はすべて解答用紙のきめられた箇所に記入してください。

**Read the passage and answer the questions that follow.**

A wide variety of creatures are kept as pets in Japan. Such animals may impact the natural environment ⑨ (abandoned/after/owners/by/no/who/can/them/manage/being/longer). People must be cautious about having these creatures as pets.

Keeping wild animals as pets simply because they have a cute appearance is highly problematic. For instance, raccoons, which are native to North America, were imported into Japan in large numbers as a result of a popular anime series in the 1970s.

However, ( ② ) their adorable looks, raccoons can be aggressive and they have ended up propagating across the nation after being abandoned by people who were incapable of controlling them or escaping from their owners. Raccoons now devour agricultural products and live in the attics of people's houses, causing serious damage.

Invasive species may drive out native species and disrupt ecosystems. Once established, they are difficult to ④ eradicate. It needs to be recognized that keeping them as pets without careful consideration can have a serious impact on ecosystems.

In recent years, Asian small-clawed otters from Southeast Asia have become popular. Their cute appearance has gone viral on social media, giving the impression that they can be kept as pets even in apartments. The emergence of cafes where visitors can interact with otters has also contributed to the trend.

However, otters have strong jaws and sharp teeth that they use to eat fresh fish and shellfish. They actively move around in group, on land and in watery environments. It is difficult for ordinary people to provide them with their natural habitat, and specialized keepers and veterinarians take care of them in zoos.

As long as there is demand for the otters and they can be sold at a high price, suppliers continue to emerge. Authorities in Southeast Asia have cracked down on the smuggling of otters destined for Japan. Consumers' casual desire to keep them as pets can be said to have resulted in the poaching and smuggling of rare animals.

A wide variety of creatures, including amphibians and fish, are traded extensively, including through online sales. Both sellers and buyers need to confirm where the

creatures come from and whether there are any legal problems with carrying out transactions for them.

Wild animals are different from dogs and cats, which have adapted to life with human beings. People who are not sure about whether a specific creature can be kept as a pet are advised to refer to the Exotic Pet Guide on the website of WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature) Japan.

For example, regarding little owls, which are popular to keep as pets, the website provides an explanation from an expert saying they can be aggressive and sensitive, and cannot be described as an easy animal to keep as a pet.

There was a case in which a python caused turmoil after it escaped from an apartment. It is important to keep in mind that having and caring for a living creature involves responsibility.

Adapted from: Editorial of the Japan News by the Yomiuri Shimbun, (2024, May20), Wild Animals As Pets: Casually Keeping Such Creatures Can Impact Ecosystems, <https://japannews.yomiuri.co.jp/editorial/yomiuri-editorial/20240520-187181/>.

**For Q1~Q8, write the letter (a, b, c, or d) of the best answer on the answer sheet.**

Q 1 . Racoons are originally from \_\_\_\_.

- a . Japan
- b . North America
- c . Southeast Asia
- d . Europe

Q 2 . Choose the best phrase to fill the gap at ( ② ).

- a . following to
- b . according to
- c . owing to
- d . contrary to

Q 3 . What is true about racoons?

- a . They sometimes have positive effects on people's living.
- b . They eat up agricultural products.
- c . They look so aggressive.
- d . They have not propagated in Japan.

Q 4 . The word ④ eradicate has the same meaning as \_\_\_\_.

- a . foster
- b . preserve
- c . eliminate
- d . promote

Q 5 . What is true about Asian small-clawed otters?

- a . They are imported into Japan because of popular anime series.
- b . They become quiet in land environments.
- c . They are protected by Japanese government.
- d . They are sold at a high price.

Q 6 . The little owls \_\_\_\_.

- a . adapted to life with human beings.
- b . are not suitable for breeding.
- c . are introduced by Japanese social medias as aggressive animals.
- d . can be kept as pets even in apartments.

Q 7 . What can you infer from the passage?

- a . The suppliers of Asian small-clawed otters are increasing due to trend in Japan.
- b . There are many invasive species forced out by Japanese government.
- c . Asian small-clawed otter is a kind of herbivore.
- d . Japanese monkey is a kind of invasive species.

Q 8 . What is the main point of the passage?

- a . In Japan, the government prohibits people to keep wild animals as pets.
- b . Abandoned pets become aggressive.
- c . People must consider the legality before buying imported animals.
- d . People must keep in mind that owing pets entails responsibility.

**For Q9, write the answer on the answer sheet.**

Q 9 . Put the words, ⑨ (abandoned/after/owners/by/no/who/can/them/manage/being/longer), correct order.

**For Q10, write your answer on the answer sheet.**

Q10. Write an essay of at least 150 words explaining an animal you would like to keep as a pet. Give reasons to support your answer.