

小論文 問題

60 minutes

Write in English in the space provided on the separate answer sheet.

(This question sheet will *not* be collected. You may use it for drafts.)

I. Choose *two* of the following questions (15% x 2)

(Students are expected to answer in one paragraph for each question)

(1) (Japanese History / World History)

What was the main purpose of Commodore Perry's expedition to Japan in 1853? How was the Japanese political system affected by this incident?

(2) (World History)

In what century did the Boston Tea Party occur? What was the cause and effect of this historic incident?

(3) (Politics and Economics)

Characterize a republican form of government. Your description must include the following words: monarch, democracy, the United Kingdom.

(4) (Politics and Economics)

According to Karl Marx, what is the cause of wealth inequality in a capitalist society?

(5) (Biology / Geography)

Briefly describe the process of photosynthesis. Why is it often referred to in discussing the issue of global warming?

(6) (Japanese literature)

Describe the characteristics of the *tanbiha* (aestheticism) movement in Japanese literature and give one author who belonged to this movement.

II. Choose any *one* of the following essay topics (70% x 1)

(1) The spread of the internet and increasing media diversification have created new spaces for minorities, shared interest groups, and other often underrepresented communities to form networks of support and activism. However, this phenomenon has also raised serious social and political challenges. Describe these challenges and discuss how we can balance the benefits and drawbacks of online networks and media diversification.

(2) Many modern societies today claim to function on the basis of meritocracy, in that success, power, and leadership are determined by individual abilities rather than race, gender, family connections, or income. However, meritocracy has inadvertently contributed to inequality as well. Discuss problems inherent to meritocracy with reference to fields such as education and politics.

(3) Since April 2019, the Japanese government has implemented new policies that seek to bring around 340,000 foreign blue-collar workers with special skills in 14 fields (such as agriculture, construction, nursing care, and food services) over the next five years as these industries face a serious labor shortage. While some in the business community welcome the new regulations, there are others who oppose them due to a variety of concerns. Discuss the pros and cons of the new visa regulations.