

英 語

問題 I 次の英文を読み、以下の設問に答えなさい。

According to a recent study, laughter and joy may not be unique to humans. Ancestral forms of play and laughter existed in other animals long before they did in humans. Jaak Panksepp, a professor of psychobiology at Washington State University and the author of the study, says, “Human laughter has ⁽¹⁾robust roots in our animal past.”

While humans are the only creatures that tell jokes, it’s long been suspected that some animals like to laugh. In his 1872 treatise, *The Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals*, Charles Darwin pointed out that “very many kinds of monkeys, when pleased, utter a ⁽²⁾reiterated sound, clearly analogous to our laughter.” In an experiment Panksepp had performed earlier, he found that when chimpanzees play and chase each other, they make noises ⁽³⁾strikingly like human laughter, and that dogs have a similar response.

Panksepp notes that children who are too young to laugh at verbal jokes tend to ⁽⁴⁾shriek and laugh during rowdy play. Panksepp found in his recent study that when young rats are playing, they also make sounds — they chirp, although people can’t hear them. These chirps are ultrasonic sounds, 5 for the human ear. Researchers must use special electronic receivers that convert the chirps to sounds that humans can hear. Rats also chirp when they are playfully tickled by researchers. During the experiment, it was discovered that rats are especially ticklish in the area around the back of the neck, which is also the area young rats tend to nip each other during chases and play.

According to Panksepp, the chirps resemble our giggles, and are a

primitive form of laughter. Rats who have been tickled before seem to bond socially with their human ticklers. The animals seek out ⁽⁶⁾ specific human hands that had tickled them previously and seek to be tickled more.

In studying laughter, scientists have focused mostly on related issues — humor, personality, health benefits, social theory — rather than laughter itself. New research, 7, shows that circuits for laughter exist in very ancient ⁽⁸⁾ regions of the human brain. The capacity to laugh appears early in childhood, as anyone who has tickled a baby knows. As ⁽⁹⁾ humans have incorporated language into play, we may have developed new connections to parts of our brains that evolved before the cerebral cortex, the outer layer associated with thought and memory. In separate experiments, scientists have scanned subjects' brains with magnetic resonance imaging as they took part in ⁽¹⁰⁾ [laugh, that, them, made, activities]. The two types of humor — verbal and non-verbal — ⁽¹¹⁾ lit up different parts of the brain. Non-verbal, physical humor apparently appeals to some of the brain's more “primitive” parts.

Indeed, some scientists say that other mammals, just like humans, are capable of many feelings. “The recognition by neuroscientists that the brain mechanisms underlying pain, pleasure and fear are the same in humans and other mammals ⁽¹²⁾ underscores our similarity to other species and is extremely important,” said Tecumseh Fitch, a psychology lecturer at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. Science has traditionally held that humor is exclusively a human ⁽¹³⁾ trait, and many scientists believe that more research is required before the rats' chirping sounds can be considered real laughter. Panksepp believes that, through a study of laughter in rats, the human sense of humor can be more fully understood.

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1. 下線部(1)の本文中での意味に最も近いものを、次の①～④から1つ選び、その番号を解答用紙の にマークしなさい。

- ① different ② strong ③ slight ④ important

2. 下線部(2)の本文中での意味に最も近いものを、次の①～④から1つ選び、その番号を解答用紙の にマークしなさい。

- ① repeated ② retrieved ③ required ④ refrained

3. 下線部(3)の本文中での意味に最も近いものを、次の①～④から1つ選び、その番号を解答用紙の にマークしなさい。

- ① respectably ② arguably
③ amazingly ④ questionably

4. 下線部(4)の本文中での意味に最も近いものを、次の①～④から1つ選び、その番号を解答用紙の にマークしなさい。

- ① giggle ② scream ③ smile ④ weep

5. 空所 に入れるのに最も適切なものを、次の①～④から1つ選び、その番号を解答用紙の にマークしなさい。

- ① too far high-pitched ② high-pitched too far
③ far high-pitched too ④ far too high-pitched

6. 下線部(6)の本文中での意味に最も近いものを、次の①～④から1つ選び、その番号を解答用紙の にマークしなさい。

- ① accustomed ② favorite
③ particular ④ usual

7. 空所 に入れるのに最も適切なものを、次の①～④から1つ選び、その番号を解答用紙の にマークしなさい。

- ① therefore ② in contrast
③ as a consequence ④ what is more

8. 下線部(8)の本文中での意味に最も近いものを、次の①～④から1つ選び、その番号を解答用紙の にマークしなさい。

- ① areas ② cells ③ connections ④ systems

9. 下線部(9)の本文中での意味に最も近いものを、次の①～④から1つ選び、その番号を解答用紙の にマークしなさい。

- ① human use of language is very effective
② humans can use language when playing games
③ humans are now able to use verbal jokes
④ human languages have been developed to play with others

10. 下線部(10)の[]内の語を並べかえた場合3番目にくる語を、次の①～④から1つ選び、その番号を解答用紙の にマークしなさい。ただし、[]内の語がすべて次の①～④に含まれているわけではありません。

- ① laugh ② that ③ them ④ made

11. 下線部(11)の本文中での意味に最も近いものを、次の①～④から1つ選び、その番号を解答用紙の にマークしなさい。

- ① activated ② brightened ③ recurred ④ simulated

12. 下線部(12)の本文中での意味に最も近いものを、次の①～④から1つ選び、その番号を解答用紙の にマークしなさい。

- ① casts some doubt on ② puts emphasis on
③ is closely related to ④ has much to do with

13. 下線部(13)の本文中での意味に最も近いものを、次の①～④から1つ選び、その番号を解答用紙の にマークしなさい。

- ① ability ② characteristic
③ nature ④ tradition

14. 本文の内容と一致するものを次の①～④から1つ選び、その番号を解答用紙の にマークしなさい。

- ① Professor Panksepp's study has shown that primitive forms of play and laughter originated in humans, not in other animals.
- ② Charles Darwin claimed that many kinds of monkeys were able to make jokes when playing with other monkeys.
- ③ It has been reported that dogs make noises similar to human laughter when they play with each other.
- ④ Rats are often heard making noises audible to human ears when they are tickled by researchers.

15. 本文の内容と一致するものを次の①～④から1つ選び、その番号を解答用紙の にマークしなさい。

- ① Laughter studies so far have focused on laughter itself instead of related issues such as humor, personality and health benefits.
- ② Studies of laughter in rats may contribute to a better understanding of the human sense of humor.
- ③ Rats tickled very often by a researcher tend to avoid that researcher whenever possible.
- ④ It seems that non-linguistic humor affects the more evolved parts of the human brain.

問題Ⅱ 次の各英文の空所に入れるのに最も適切な語を①～④から1つ選び、解答用紙の ～ にそれぞれマークしなさい。

16. When drawing human figures, children often make the head too large for the rest of the body. A recent study offers some insights into common in children's illustrations.

- ① dispossession ② distraction
③ distinction ④ disproportion

17. Until very recent times only a very few people could read and write. In other words, most people were .

- ① ignoble ② illegal ③ illiterate ④ irrelevant

18. Once upon a time, color was for the rich. had to be painstakingly derived from plants or animals; quality was uneven and rich colors like purple were reserved for royal families.

- ① Darts ② Drawls ③ Dyes ④ Dunes

19. What may be considered polite behavior in one culture may be considered in another.

- ① regardless ② rip ③ rural ④ rude

20. Every living thing has a physical 20 that separates it from its external environment. Beginning with bacteria and the simple cell and ending with man, every organism has a detectable limit which marks where it begins and ends.

- ① attitude ② boundary ③ power ④ reaction

26. People of all ages enjoy visiting zoos. They delight in viewing creatures that they see.

- ① would otherwise never
- ② never would have had otherwise
- ③ would otherwise ever
- ④ otherwise never would

27. Modern alpinists try to climb mountains by a route which will give them a great challenge, and the more difficult it is, it is regarded.

- ① more higher
- ② the much higher
- ③ the more highly
- ④ much too highly

28. Print was so marvelously successful in providing a memory for humans and circulating ideas over space and time it dominated communication for 400 years in Europe, and longer in Asia.

- ① as
- ② that
- ③ when
- ④ which

29. In Japan, a bundle of rigid rules control students in junior and senior high schools. The rule which is hated most by the youngsters may be controls what they can or can't wear to school.

- ① the one whom
- ② that which
- ③ those who
- ④ what has

30. Nobody except you and the burglar break into the house.

① she seeing

② her seeing

③ her saw

④ her to see

問題Ⅳ 次の各英文の下線部の意味に最も近いものを①～④から1つ選び、その番号を解答用紙の ～ にそれぞれマークしなさい。

31.

Linda looks down on her classmates.

- ① delights ② deprives ③ despises ④ detects

32.

I can't put up with children shouting while I'm studying.

- ① allow ② agree ③ stand ④ wait

33.

While searching stations on the car radio, I came across a dramatic reading of part of a novel.

- ① happened to hear ② was impressed with
③ was interrupted by ④ was reminded of

34.

We stand a good chance of winning first prize in this tournament.

- ① are very likely to win ② do our best to win
③ try very hard to win ④ have difficulty winning

35.

35

He seemed ill at ease in the presence of women.

① uncomfortable

② terribly sick

③ easygoing

④ unusually happy

問題V 次の各英文中で文法・語法的に誤りのある個所を①～④から1つ選び、その番号を解答用紙の ～ にそれぞれマークしなさい。

36.

It ① is often said by Westerners that the Japanese ② are a people of ③ few word, preferring to communicate ④ as much as possible using nonverbal communication.

37.

① Whether on the street and field, children find a way to play. Organizing play ② is not a simple matter, however, ③ especially if newcomers to ④ the play are present.

38.

The pet dog sees its human owners ① as adopted parents, ② as do the cat. The reason ③ is that these humans took over from the real mother ④ and provided the necessary food and comfort.

39.

Now the olive ① has gained worldwide favor. Its success is partially a result of people ② to be more interested in good health, ③ more eager to choose natural products, and more willing to ④ pay a higher price for a higher quality product.

40.

The emergence of language, ① some time long ago in the prehistory of our species, ② made it possible the kind of social existence ③ that we take ④ for granted.