

1 次の英文を読んで、あとの問いに答えなさい。[5070205]

Long ago a *king lived in a small country and he was becoming old. One day he thought that he needed to find the next king. He wanted to find the best person to make his country better.

The king called all the young people in the country to the *palace. He said, "I will *choose the next king from you." The people there were surprised. He said, "I am going to give a *seed to everyone of you today. I want you to *plant it, give water to it and come back here six months from today with the *plant which will come from it. Then, I will look at the *plants and choose the next king."

It was exciting to the young people. *Joe was one of them. He went home and *planted it in *a pot very *carefully. Every day he gave water to it and watched it. After about two weeks some of the young people began to talk about their plants which came from their *seeds. Joe was sad to hear that. But he thought he needed more time and waited. Three months *passed, but Joe still didn't get any in his pot. He knew that his seed died.

Six months passed and the day came. Joe said to his mother, "I am not going to take my pot to the palace. People say the king will be *angry and *punish me when he looks at it." "What's wrong? I know you did the best thing you could. You must go and show it."

When Joe got to the palace, he was surprised to see the beautiful plants everyone brought *except him. When they saw his pot, they *laughed at him.

Then the king came. He walked around the room and said, "I'm very glad to see your plants. They show what kind of person you are." Then, he looked at a boy who had a pot with no plants and told him to come to the *front. Everyone worried about him.

The king said to the people, "Listen to me. Six months ago I gave everyone here a seed. But the seeds that I gave all of you *were boiled and I knew no plants came from them. All of you except this boy have beautiful plants now. That means you did something to

get them. Look at his pot carefully. Can you see the plant in his pot? You can't! But this is the plant I wanted from the next king."

(注) king 王様 palace 宮殿 choose 選ぶ seed 種 plant ～を植える plant 植物 plants plant (植物) の複数形 Joe ジョー (人名) planted plant (～を植える) の過去形 pot 鉢 carefully 注意して seeds seed (種) の複数形 passed ～が過ぎた angry 怒って punish ～を罰する except ～以外の laughed at ～を笑った front 前 were boiled ゆでられていた

(1) 本文の内容と合うように、次のア～オの英文に続けるのに最も適切なものを、それぞれ1～4の中から一つ選び、その番号を書きなさい。

ア The king called all the young people to the palace

- 1 because he wanted them to find the next king to make the country better.
- 2 because he wanted them to work together to make the country better.
- 3 because he wanted to give seeds to them and see their beautiful plants.
- 4 because he wanted to choose the most wonderful person to be the next king.

イ When the young people planted the seeds from the king and about two weeks passed,

- 1 Joe was sad and stopped giving water to his seed.
- 2 some young people showed their plants to the people in the country.
- 3 Joe gave water to his seed but he couldn't get any plants.
- 4 Joe was sad to know that his seed died.

ウ The king was very glad to see the plants the young people brought

- 1 because the plants were useful and he found who was the best to be the new king.
- 2 because from the plants he knew that many of them could be the new king.
- 3 because the plants made the palace beautiful and it was good for the country.
- 4 because he found the best person to be the new king brought plants with flowers.

エ When the king told Joe to come to the front,

- 1 all the people in the room thought it was important for the king to punish him.
- 2 all the people in the room thought the king was angry.
- 3 all the people in the room thought the king found the next king.
- 4 all the people in the room thought the king was interested in Joe's pot.

オ All the young people except Joe got the plants

- 1 because they carefully planted the seeds the king gave.
- 2 because they gave water to the seeds every day.
- 3 because they did not use the king's seeds.
- 4 because they knew how to plant the seeds better than Joe.

(2) 次の英文が本文の内容と合うように, [ア]~[ウ]に入る最も適切な語を, 下の語群の中からそれぞれ一つ選び, その番号を書きなさい。

After six months there was [ア] in Joe's pot and he thought it was [イ] for him to be the king. When he said he did not want to go to the palace, his mother told him to go. She knew he did [ウ] he could.

語群 1 everything 2 no 3 interesting 4 most 5 nothing 6 hard

(3) 下線部 the plant I wanted from the next king の中の the plant とは何をたとえているのか, 日本語で答えなさい。

解答はこちら↓

