



次の英文は、イギリスの小さな村とロンドン (London) を舞台にした、リサ (Lisa) と絵本作家 (a writer of picture books) メアリー (Mary) の出会いから始まる物語です。これを読んであとの問いに答えなさい。

Mary was a writer of picture books. She lived alone and her life was simple*. Every morning she worked, and in the afternoon she [①] her flowers in the garden*. There were a lot of beautiful flowers there.

One rainy* day Mary saw a girl who was standing in front of the garden. Mary gave her a smile and asked, “Do you like flowers? What’s your name?”

“My name is Lisa. I like flowers,” answered Lisa. Mary said, “I’m glad to see you.” They talked about flowers. They had a wonderful afternoon. “You can come again, Lisa. I think we will become good friends,” said Mary.

After that day Lisa often came to Mary’s garden and talked with Mary. Mary knew Lisa’s parents were very busy and Lisa couldn’t see them during the day. When Lisa felt alone, she usually came to Mary’s garden after school and looked at the flowers. Lisa and Mary talked about a lot of things. They became good friends, but one year later Lisa heard ②sad news. She ran to Mary’s house and said, “My family will move to London. I don’t want to leave this village.” They hugged* each other* without saying a word.

Twenty years later, in London

Lisa was working as a nurse* and her husband*, Tom, was working as a taxi driver*. They had a daughter*, Emily. Lisa wanted to help sick people. She had too many things to do in the hospital and always worked hard, so she was very tired.

She worried about her work and her daughter. She wanted to be with Emily more, but she didn’t have enough time. She thought Emily was alone too much.

Because Lisa was very busy, she began to feel unhappy* and to lose hope*. She began to say to herself*, “ [③] It this a good life?”

One day Emily said to Lisa, “Mom, I found a nice picture book in a shop. The picture was so beautiful. I want that book.” Usually Emily didn’t ask Lisa to buy anything, so Lisa bought it for Emily the next Saturday.

In the evening Lisa read the picture book to (あ). It was a warm story between a girl and a woman, and there were many beautiful pictures of flowers in the book. On one page the girl talked with the woman in the garden.

“What do you want to be?” asked the woman.

“I don’t know, but I want to be like flowers.

Flowers always give people hope, and flowers make people happier,”

answered the girl.

When Lisa saw the picture of this page, she suddenly remembered. “This is Mary’s garden!” Twenty years ago they said the same thing in the garden. Lisa looked at the first page and she found the author’s words* there. “This book is for my dear friend, (い).” Then Lisa remembered those kind words (う) said to her on that rainy day.

A little later Lisa said to herself, “④I will be like flowers. I will be a person who can give hope to people around me.” Lisa hugged Emily, and then Emily gave a smile back to Lisa.

simple 質素な garden 庭 rainy 雨の hug ～を抱きしめる each other お互い nurse 看護師
husband 夫 taxi driver タクシー運転手 daughter 娘 unhappy 不幸せな hope 希望 say to
herself 心の中で思う author’s words 作者の言葉

(1) 文中の [①] に入る最も適切な英語を, 次のア～エのうちからひとつ選び, その記号を書きなさい。

ア looked like イ waited for ウ fell down エ took care of

(2) 文中の下線部②sad news は具体的にどのようなことですか。その内容を日本語で簡単に書きなさい。

(3) 文中の [③] に入る最も適切な英語を, 次のア～エのうちからひとつ選び, その記号を書きなさい。

ア What life should I have? Should I become a doctor?

イ Can I be a good nurse? Am I a good mother for Emily?

ウ Is this a good job? Does Emily want to be a nurse?

エ What makes Emily happy? Do I need much money?

(4) 本文の内容に合うように, 文中の (あ) ~ (う) に入る最も適切な登場人物の名前を英語で書きなさい。

(5) 文中の下線部④I will be like flowers について, Lisa はなぜこのように思ったのですか。その理由を述べている次の文の _____ に適切な日本語を入れて, 文を完成させなさい。

花は人に希望を抱かせ, そして _____ ので。